HalpinRobbins

Ecology & Environmental Services

Ecological Impact Assessment

The Chantry, Vicarage Road, Tisbury, Wiltshire, SP3 6HY
ST 9436 2941





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

HalpinRobbins Limited was commissioned to undertake an Ecological Impact Assessment of a house with attached courtyard barns, a garage and garden at The Chantry, Tisbury, Wiltshire in support of a planning application to renovate and make alterations to the house, infill the courtyard barns, demolish and rebuild the garage and carry out landscaping and parking alterations.

The following surveys have been undertaken at the site; Extended UK Habitat Survey, Ecological Building Survey and Bat Dusk-Emergence Surveys.

The table below summarises the proposed impacts of the development and the recommended mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures.

Ecological Feature	Potential Effect	Significance in the absence of mitigation	Mitigation/Compensation and Enhancement	Residual Effect
Designated Sites	Disturbance from increases in artificial illumination.	Minor adverse impact at a local level.	Sensitive lighting plan.	Negligible.
Habitats	None.	-	-	Negligible.
Flora and Invertebrates	None.	-	Diverse mix of native species as part of landscaping.	Negligible.
Amphibians (including GCN)	Harm to common and widespread species.	Moderate adverse impact at a site level.	Sensitive vegetation clearance and storage of materials. Brash piles dismantled by hand.	Negligible.
Reptiles	Harm to common and widespread species.	Moderate adverse impact at a site level.	Sensitive vegetation clearance. Brash piles dismantled by hand. Hibernaculum constructed as enhancement.	Positive.
Birds	Harm during construction. Loss of nesting opportunities.	Moderate adverse impact at a site level.	Nesting bird check immediately prior to works. Compensatory nesting opportunities to be retained or provided. New hedgerow to be planted with native species as an enhancement.	Negligible.

Ecological Feature	Potential Effect	Significance in the absence of mitigation	Mitigation/Compensation and Enhancement	Residual Effect
Badgers	Harm during works.	Temporary moderate adverse impact at a site level.	Means of escape from construction trenches provided.	Negligible.
Bats	Disturbance to neighbouring roost. Disturbance to commuting and foraging habitat.	Moderate adverse impact at a site level.	Sensitive lighting plan. Roosting opportunities provided as an enhancement.	Negligible.
Hazel Dormice	None.	-	-	Negligible.
Other Notable Mammals	Harm during works.	Temporary moderate adverse impact at a site level.	Means of escape from construction trenches provided.	Negligible.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Purpose of Survey

HalpinRobbins Limited was commissioned to undertake an Ecological Impact Assessment of a house with attached courtyard barns, a garage and garden at The Chantry, Tisbury, Wiltshire in support of a planning application to renovate and make alterations to the house, infill the courtyard barns, demolish and rebuild the garage and carry out landscaping and parking alterations.

This report has been prepared by Beth Cross, Ecologist, Qualifying CIEEM who has three years ecological consultancy experience and holds a survey licence for bats.

The methodology used for the assessment has been designed to examine the ecology of the site based on a field survey and an appraisal of the surrounding biodiversity using data obtained from a variety of sources to meet the following objectives:

- Establish the ecological baseline of the site by describing existing habitats.
- Identify and describe all potentially significant ecological effects associated with the proposed development.
- Identify and describe the mitigation and compensation measures required to ensure compliance with nature conservation legislation and address the potentially significant ecological effects.
- Identify ecological enhancement measures appropriate to the project.

Nature conservation legislation and policies relevant to the project are provided in Appendix D.

1.2 Site Location and Description

The development site is centred upon Ordnance Survey (O.S.) Grid Reference ST 9436 2941 within the village of Tisbury in Wiltshire. The location of the site is shown at Figure 1, Appendix A.
The site comprises a house with attached courtyard barns and a garage with a landscaped garden to the west and north. The site is accessed from Vicarage Road to the south.

1.3 Proposed Development

The client is seeking planning permission for alterations to the main house, infilling courtyard barns, demolition and rebuilding of the double garage and re-configuring the parking area to the west of the house. Design plans have been provided by Richmond Bell Architects (Drawing

Numbers: 22/796/P110, 22/796/P111, 22/796/P112, 22/796/P113, 22/796/P114, 22/796/P200, 22/796/P003). Proposed plans are shown at Appendix C.

2 METHODOLOGY & LIMITATIONS

2.1 Scope and Assessment

2.1.1 Zone of Influence

The 'zone of influence' of a project is the area within which ecological features may be impacted by the proposed works. This may often extend beyond the site boundary due to the distance that certain species travel, the nature of the potentially affected habitats and the site's location in relation to important ecological sites.

For this assessment the following zones have been considered:

- 5km surrounding Statutory Conservation Designations relating to bats (e.g. Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)).
- 1km surrounding other Statutory Conservation Designations and Non-Statutory sites of importance to biodiversity (e.g. Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) and Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI).
- 1km surrounding known records of protected and notable species.
- The site and its immediate surroundings.

2.1.2 Impact Assessment

Impact assessment has been carried out based on the outline proposals provided (detailed in Section 1.3 and shown in the Proposed Plan at Appendix D) using the findings of the desk study and field surveys.

Ecological features have been scoped in and out as appropriate based on the baseline conditions of the site; i.e. what ecological features the site is likely to support, and as appropriate to the scale of the proposals.

An assessment of the potential project impacts on each ecological receptor (i.e. designated sites, protected and notable habitats and species) is provided, including the magnitude, duration and significance of the anticipated effects to each receptor. An assessment of significance has been undertaken considering the local, national and international value to ecological features as informed by the desk study.

Table 1 below includes details on how the significance has been determined.

Table 1 – General criteria for significance

SIGNIFICANCE	CRITERIA
Major	Change resulting in breaches of legislation or exceeding statutory objectives.
	Likely to impact on sites designated for national or international importance.
	Likely to affect a large-scale area or a large number of species or populations on frequent or permanent basis.
	May result in an irreversible decline or rise.
Moderate	Unlikely to cause a breach of legislation but likely to impact on a site of regional or local importance.
	Likely to affect a small number of species or populations on a permanent basis.
Minor	Likely to impact an area or feature of local interest or importance.
	Likely to have a temporary impact on a small number of species or populations or be a recoverable impact.
Negligible	Indiscernible impact predicted.

Where possible significant ecological effects will be avoided through careful design and application of the mitigation hierarchy:

- Avoidance
  Seek options that avoid harm to ecological features.
- Mitigation
  Adverse effects should be avoided or minimised through mitigation measures, either through the design of the project or subsequent measures that can be guaranteed. Mitigation is relevant for negative impacts assessed as being potentially significant (before mitigation) or where required to ensure compliance with legislation.
- Compensation
  Where there are significant adverse ecological effects despite the mitigation proposed, these should be offset by appropriate compensatory measures. Compensation is relevant for negative impacts assessed as being significant or where required to ensure compliance with legislation.
- Enhancements
  Seek to provide net benefits for biodiversity over and above requirements for avoidance, mitigation or compensation.

2.2 Desk Study

Biological records from the Wiltshire and Swindon Biological Records Centre (WSBRC) were obtained comprising protected and notable species records and Non-Statutory Nature Conservation Designations within a 1km radius of the site.

Data search results only give an indication of species presence in a location. The absence of recent records for certain species in an area may be due to low levels of biological recording

or the non-submission of records, rather than absence. Many species records are also at low geographical resolution and do not indicate their exact location and often provide little detail about abundance.

Web-based DEFRA resource Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) was consulted to identify Statutory Nature Conservation Designations within a 1km radius of the site surveyed, and for Statutory sites designated for bats within a 5km radius of the site. A search for granted European Protected Species Licences (EPSLs) within a 1km radius relating to great crested newts *Triturus cristatus*, 2km radius relating to hazel dormice *Muscardinus avellanarius* and 5km radius relating to bats was also undertaken. Additionally, a search for great crested newt presence within a 1km radius of the site confirmed via data from Natural England Class Survey Licence Returns and 2017-2019 Pond Surveys as published on the MAGIC website was undertaken. OS Maps were also used to check for ponds within a 250m radius of the site.

A review of the Wiltshire Council planning portal was undertaken in May 2023 to identify any previous applications and ecological findings relevant to the current proposals.

2.3 Extended UK Habitat Classification Survey

A field survey identifying the habitats, legally protected and notable species and the site's potential for supporting these species was undertaken. The potential for habitats to support legally protected species is important as legal protection of some species extends to the habitats they depend on, as well as the individuals themselves.

The field survey used UK Habitat Classifications (UKHab) combined with species specific field observation techniques. The UKHab Professional edition was used with a Minimum Mapping Unit (MMU) of 25m^2 and habitats were classified to level 5 where possible with all secondary codes reported as necessary. Where given, habitat measurements are appropriate and based on satellite/georeferenced maps.

The nature conservation value of ecological features that may be affected by development (ecological receptors) is adapted from the Chartered Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management (CIEEM) guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (CIEEM, 2017).

This report records the habitats, flora and fauna evident on the day of the site visit. It does not record any flora or fauna that may appear at other times of the year, and as such, were not evident at the time of the field survey. The process is not intended to produce a comprehensive list of plants and animals but to evaluate the ecological resources within the site and thus identify potential issues of ecological relevance to the proposed works.

2.4 Ecological Building Survey

The structures were inspected both externally and internally using a surveyor's ladder, high powered torch, bat detector and video endoscope where necessary to assess potential for the structures to hold nesting birds and roosting bats.

Evidence of nesting birds could include feathers, nesting material, eggs and potentially pellets. Evidence of roosting bats could include live animals, carcasses, droppings and feeding remains. A rating of between negligible and high suitability was assigned to the structures based on their likelihood of supporting roosting bats. If a bat was identified in a structure during the survey the structure was recorded as a confirmed roost (Collins, 2016).

- **Negligible:** Negligible habitat features to be used by roosting bats.
- **Low:** A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically. However, these potential roost sites do not provide enough space, shelter, protection, appropriate conditions and/or suitable surrounding habitat to be used on a regular basis by larger numbers of bats (i.e. unlikely to be suitable for maternity or hibernation).
- **Moderate:** A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status.
- **High:** A structure with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat.

Several bat species roost in very small crevices, such as the space between the roofing tiles, therefore it is possible that individual bats and bat droppings may have been missed. In addition, bird nests in concealed locations may not have been visible to the surveyor.

Identification of species based on dropping morphology is challenging and does not provide a definitive identification of species.

2.5 Bat Surveys

2.5.1 Dusk Emergence Bat Surveys

In accordance with the Bat Conservation Trust Good Practice Guidelines for Bat Surveys (Collins 2016) the house was assessed as having high potential to support roosting bats, the courtyard barns were assessed as having low potential to support roosting bats and the double garage was assessed as having negligible potential to support roosting bats. The house

was subject to two dusk emergence surveys and the courtyard barns were subject to a single dusk emergence survey during June and July 2023 to identify and characterise roosts.

Bat survey recording equipment included Anabat Walkabout, Batlogger, Canon Xa40 and Canon XA60 Infrared Cameras. Cameras used have low light level capabilities, are set up on a tripod and accompanied by at least two 96 LED infrared lamps which are directed at the building to be surveyed. Cameras and lights are powered by rechargeable power packs.

Analysis of recorded bat echolocation calls was undertaken using Analook software in Microsoft Windows. Echolocation calls were assigned to bat species by comparison of sonograms with a library of known bat calls and reference of echolocation call parameters. Where calls could not be assigned to a species, identification to genus level was made.

When assigning calls to pipistrelle species, calls with a peak frequency of 42-48KHz were assigned to common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, calls with a peak frequency of >48-52KHz assigned as Pipistrellus spp. and calls with a peak frequency of >52KHz were assigned to soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*.

Surveys were carried out at an optimal time of year (Collins, 2016) weather conditions were considered suitable for conducting robust data collection during emergence surveys with temperatures suitable for bat activity to be recorded. Bat activity was noted throughout the surveys.

Bat surveys comprised dusk emergence surveys only, and no dawn re-entry surveys. This is due to the use of Night Vision Aids (infrared cameras and lights) which made identifying access points, quiet and later emerging bats less challenging, therefore a pre-dawn re-entry survey was not considered necessary to complete the roost characterisation surveys (Bat Conservation Trust, Interim Guidance Note, May 2022).

The Preliminary Ecological Assessment assessed the house as having high roost potential i.e. the potential to support a roost of high conservation significance in the form of a maternity/breeding bat roost. However, further bat assessments, comprising two dusk emergence surveys in June and July did not identify a maternity roost and it was therefore considered that two dusk emergence was sufficient survey effort in determining whether the house supported any day roosting bat species.

2.6 Personnel

Table B1 at Appendix B provides the personnel and survey dates for the assessments carried out at the site.

3 BASELINE ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

3.1 Relevant Ecological Information from Planning Portal

A review of the Wiltshire planning portal conducted in May 2023 identified the following application of ecological relevance to the project:

Planning application PL/2021/06853, Barn West of Prospect Cottage, Hindon Lane, Tisbury SP3 6QQ. Confirmed lesser horseshoe and soprano pipistrelle bat roost and barn owl nesting site, located c.1.2km to the northwest of the site.

3.2 Designated Sites

There are no statutory designated sites within a 1km radius of the site. The Chilmark Quarries Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is located within 5km of the site (c. 2km north; and 3.3km north-east), with Annex II species of bats (greater horseshoe bat, barbastelle and Bechstein's bat) listed as their primary reason for designation, and Annex II species lesser horseshoe bat as a qualifying feature. The site is located within the Core Buffer Areas for greater horseshoe and barbastelle.

The site is located within the centre of the village of Tisbury and does not hold optimal foraging and commuting habitat for the greater horseshoe bat or barbastelle.

There are five non-statutory designated sites within a 1km radius of the site. Details are provided in Table 2.

Table 2. Nature Conservation Designations within 1km of the site. Source: WSBRC.

NAME	DESIGNATION	DISTANCE FROM THE SITE	DESCRIPTION
Place Farm Meadows	Local Wildlife Site (LWS)	c.850m east	A neutral grassland, consisting of two damp meadows either side of the road into Tisbury.
Lawn Farm	LWS	c.880m west	Fen, marsh and swamp habitat, consisting of a narrow valley with neutral grassland, flush communities and wet scrub woodland on either side of a small brook.
River Nadder	LWS	c.630m east	River habitat, consisting of a section of the headwaters on a clay substrate above the SSSI section.

NAME	DESIGNATION	DISTANCE FROM THE SITE	DESCRIPTION
Tisbury Meadow	LWS	c.930m east	Fen, marsh and swamp habitat, consisting of a small low-lying and very wet meadow.
Tuckingmill Quarry	LWS	c.850m south-west	Calcareous grassland habitat, consisting of a disused building stone quarry with areas of dry, herb-rich grassland, rock piles, and scrub woodland.

3.3 Habitats

The site is approximately 0.1ha in size and comprises 2 UK Habitat Classification types (secondary codes have been added where applicable):

- u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface
- u1b5 – Buildings

A map of the habitats within the site and associated Target Notes (TN) are provided in Figure 2, Appendix A.

3.3.1 u1d – suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface

The site includes a well-manicured garden to the north and west and a courtyard sits between the house and barns. Within the garden are non-native, heavily managed hedgerows, a water feature with no water, paved pathways, scattered trees and a heavily managed lawn.

3.3.2 u1b5– Buildings

The site includes a house with a cellar, a double garage and courtyard barns to the rear. Building descriptions for each are below:

House: The main house is currently occupied and measures c.12m in length, 6m in width and c.10m in height. The house is stone built, possibly with brick behind the facade. There are two dormers to the rear on the lower roof face and two dormers on the front face. The windows and doors are timber and metal framed. The terracotta tiled steeply pitched roof has a central apex with a gable end on its southwestern elevation. The northeastern elevation is adjoined to a neighbouring property. The loft void is c.0.8m in height and lined with insulation. The exterior has timber fascia boards. The courtyard barns adjoin the house on the northwestern elevation. A cellar is present beneath the house.

Cellar: The cellar measures c.2m in height, c.4m length and c.4m width and is used occasionally for storage. Ambient light levels are relatively high due to a window onto the roadside and there is an electric light fitting present internally. The floor is constructed of flagstone and the ceiling is constructed of timber beams filled in with polystyrene. Polystyrene has also been placed around the window to block gaps.

Courtyard Barns: The courtyard barns adjoin the house on the northwestern elevation. The courtyard barns are a mix of brick and stone built, with a mix of slate and terracotta tiled roofs. The slate section of roof has no lining. The terracotta tiled section has no lining and is open from beneath.

Double Garage: There is a double garage adjacent to the courtyard barns. The walls are constructed of timber with timber cladding on the gable ends. The roof has a moderately pitched central apex with terracotta tiles.

3.4 Flora and Invertebrates

A total of 195 records of notable plant and invertebrate species were identified within a 1km radius of the site. The site is considered to support common and widespread flora and invertebrate species.

3.5 Amphibians – including Great Crested Newt

A total of 2 records of great crested newt (GCN) was identified within a 1km radius of the site; the closest of which is located c.780m to the northeast. No waterbodies are located within a 250m radius. The site lies within the Green Zone of the GCN Risk Zones for Wiltshire (Natural England, 2022). No EPSLs for great crested newt were identified within a 1km radius of the site. The site is not considered likely to support GCN, due to a lack of nearby records and waterbodies.

The data search returned 5 records of common toad *Bufo bufo,* a UK Priority species*;* the closest of which is located c.275m to the southwest. The site has suitable terrestrial habitat for amphibian species, such as common toad. There are two ponds present within the garden, the larger pond is built-up with steep sides and therefore inaccessible to amphibians. The second pond is very small but accessible and therefore may be used on occasion by common and widespread amphibian species. It is considered unlikely to support a breeding population of amphibians.

3.6 Reptiles

A total of 15 records of reptiles was identified within a 1km radius of the site, including slow worm *Anguis fragilis*, grass snake *Natrix natrix* and common lizard *Zootoca vivipara*; the closest of which is located c.95m to the north of the site relating to slow worm.

The site is potentially connected to the location of the slow worm record 95m to the north of the site via residential gardens and therefore has the potential to support a small population of slow worm.

3.7 Birds

A total of 216 records of birds was identified within a 1km radius of the site, including species listed as UK Priority Species, such as house sparrow *Passer domesticus.*

Trees, shrubs and hedges within the garden provide suitable nesting and foraging habitat for bird species. An old bird's nest was identified within wisteria on the western gable end of the main house, indicative of woodpigeon *Columba palumbus* (Target Note 1, Figure 2). Additionally, a cupped shaped bird's nest indicative of thrush species *Turdus spp.* was identified internally on a ledge within the courtyard barns (Target Note 2, Figure 2) and bird boxes were noted on the northern elevation of the main house and within the courtyard barns (Target Note 3, Figure 2). The trees, shrubs, hedges, buildings and boxes have the potential to be used during future nesting seasons.

3.8 Badgers

A total of 35 records of badgers *Meles meles* was identified within a 1km radius of the site, the locations of which are not disclosed due to their sensitivity.

No direct evidence of badgers was identified within the site, however it is considered likely that badgers pass through the garden on occasion.

3.9 Bats

A total of 209 records of bats were identified within a 1km radius of the site. Species recorded include barbastelle *Barbastella barbastellus* (5), Bechstein's bat *Myotis bechsteinii* (1), Daubenton's bat *Myotis daubentonii* (16), Natterer's bat *Myotis nattereri* (9), whiskered bat *Myotis mystacinus* (1), brown long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus* (19), common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* (29), soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus* (24), greater horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum* (4), lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros* (7), Leisler's bat *Nyctalus leisleri* (9), noctule *Nyctalus noctula* (12), serotine *Eptesicus serotinus* (14), unidentified *Myotis* species *Myotis sp.* (16), unidentified long-eared species *Plecotus sp.*

(9), unidentified pipistrelle species *Pipistrellus sp.* (4) and unidentified bat species (23). The closest record is located c.230m/km to the south concerning lesser horseshoe, serotine, common pipistrelle and soprano pipistrelle.

A further 14 records of granted European Protected Species Licences (EPSLs) for bats were identified within a 5km radius including barbastelle, Daubenton's bat, Natterer's bat, whiskered bat, Brandts' bat *Myotis brandtii*, brown long-eared bat, common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, greater horseshoe bat, lesser horseshoe bat and serotine. The closest record is located c.300m to the south concerning lesser horseshoe bat.

3.9.1 Ecological Building Survey

The house is accessible to bats via gaps in the roof tiles and gaps under the fascia board on the northwest elevation. Potential roost features comprise wall tops at eaves, gables and around chimneys. As well as under lead flashing, roof tiles, hanging tiles and gaps within the stonework on the southwest gable. A cellar is present within the house, however it is considered likely inaccessible to bats. The courtyard barns are accessible to bats via gaps under both slate and terracotta tiles and the open nature of the terracotta section. Potential roost features of the courtyard barns are limited to beneath roof tiles. A double garage with a well-sealed roof to the west of the courtyard barns has a small hole at the apex of a gable, however the hole is covered by climbing plants. The house was assessed as having high bat roost suitability. The courtyard barns are accessed as having low bat roost suitability with the double garage likely to be of negligible suitability for roosting bats.

Table 3 below summarises any evidence of bats identified, potential roosting and access features noted and an assessment of each building's potential to support roosting bats.

Table 3. Findings and assessment of bat roost potential.

Building Reference	Findings	Bat Roost Potential
House	Access points via gaps in the roof tiles and gaps under the fascia board on the northwest elevation. Potential roost features comprise wall tops at eaves, gables and around chimneys, as well as under lead flashing, roof tiles, hanging tiles and gaps within the stonework on the southwest gable. No droppings found in cellar and appears inaccessible to bats.	High

Building Reference	Findings	Bat Roost Potential
Courtyard Barns	Access points include gaps under both slate and terracotta tiles and the open nature of the terracotta section. No droppings were found.	Low
Double Garage	Access point identified as a small hole at the apex of a gable, however the hole is covered by climbing plants. No droppings were found.	Negligible

The garden provides suitable foraging and commuting habitat for bat species; it is considered of relatively low value within the wider landscape.

3.9.2 Dusk Emergence Bat Surveys

No bats were identified roosting within the buildings surveyed, however a single unidentified bat has been identified roosting within the adjacent house (outside of the site).

Survey results are shown in Tables 4 and 5 below.

Table 4. Dusk Emergence Survey Results – 15 June 2023.

SURVEY TYPE:	Dusk Emergence					
DATE:	15 June 2023					
SUNSET TIME:	21:25					
START TIME:	21:10	**FINISH TIME:**	22:55			
LEAD SURVEYOR*:	Beth Cross	**EQUIPMENT:**	Batlogger, Anabat Walkabout, IR Cameras			
TEMPERATURE (^{o}c):	**Start:** 24.5					
	End: 20.4					
RAIN:	**Start:** Nil	**WIND (Beaufort):**	**Start:** 0-	**CLOUD (%):**	**Start:** 10	
	End: Nil		**End:** 0		**End:** 0	
Time	**Bat Species (No.)**	**Figure 3 Ref.**	**Behaviour**			

22:02	Unknown species (1)	1	Emerged from beneath barge board on the southeast elevation of the adjacent house (outside of site).
NOTES	Bat activity during the survey was considered relatively low, with occasional passes by pipistrelle, serotine, myotis and noctule bats recorded.		

*Full surveyor details, including licensing information is shown at Table B1, Appendix B.

Table 5. Dusk Emergence Survey Results – 12 July 2023.

SURVEY TYPE:	Dusk emergence				
DATE:	12 July 2023				
SUNSET TIME:	21:20				
START TIME:	21:05	**FINISH TIME:**	22:50		
LEAD SURVEYOR*:	Beth Cross	**EQUIPMENT:**	Batlogger, Anabat Walkabout, IR Cameras		
TEMPERATURE (^{O}c):	**Start:** 17				
	End: 14				
RAIN:	**Start:** Nil	**WIND (Beaufort):**	**Start:** 1	**CLOUD (%):**	**Start:** 40
	End: Nil		**End:** 0		**End:** 10
NOTES	No emergences were recorded during the survey. Bat activity during the survey was considered low, with occasional passes by common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, serotine and noctule bats recorded.				

*Full surveyor details, including licensing information is shown at Table B1, Appendix B.

3.10 Hazel Dormice

A total of 9 records of hazel dormouse *Muscardinus avellanaria* was identified within a 1km radius of the site; the closest is located c.450m to the northwest of the. An EPSL relating to the hazel dormouse was identified c.580m to the northwest of the site.

The trees, shrubs and hedges within the garden lack connectivity to the wider landscape and are therefore considered unlikely to support dormice.

3.11 Other Notable Mammals

A total of 3 records of hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*; a UK Priority species was identified within a 1km radius of the site. The garden has potential to support hedgehogs.

4 ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS, MITIGATION AND COMPENSATION MEASURES

The mitigation and compensation recommendations provided are based on the principles of established best practice guidelines set out by the Chartered Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM), the local planning authority and other relevant organisations. Where applicable, the cumulative effects potentially arising from other developments are discussed in this section.

A Biodiversity Mitigation and Enhancement Plan (BMEP) has been produced showing the measures detailed below, see Figure 5, Appendix A.

4.1 Designated Sites

4.1.1 Potential Impacts

Due to the distance of the Local Wildlife Sites from the property and the nature of the proposals, there are no anticipated impacts to these designated sites.

No bat roosts of species associated with the Chilmark Quarries SAC have been identified within the property and no barbastelle or greater horseshoe bat passes were identified the dusk emergence surveys. Proposals have some low potential to impact bats associated with the Chilmark Quarries SAC from increases in artificial illumination both during the construction and operational phases of the development; anticipated to result in a minor adverse impact at a local level.

4.1.2 Mitigation and Compensation Measures

The following mitigation measures will be incorporated to avoid, mitigate and compensate the identified impacts to bats associated with the Chilmark Quarries SAC:

- A sensitive lighting strategy will be implemented into the construction and operational phases of the development to avoid impacts to bats arising from increases in artificial illumination. The strategy will include:
  - Window privacy film will be installed on the roof lantern and skylights, which will limit internal light spill. This will ensure the roofs are not subject to increases in artificial illumination from the proposals.
  - No illumination to be directed towards the northwestern gable of the adjacent house to avoid disturbance to a known bat roost entry.
  - No illumination of any bat roost provision within the development (i.e. bat boxes in trees, see Section 5 for further details.
  - No illumination above the current lux levels to all retained hedgerows and trees to provide dark corridors through and around the site.

4.1.3 Residual Effects

The above measures will address the anticipated impacts of the proposals to bats associated with the Chilmark Quarries SAC; there are no expected residual effects.

4.2 Habitats

4.2.1 Potential Impacts

The removal of c.128m^2 of manicured lawn and shrub, a common and widespread habitat of low ecological value, is not anticipated to result in any significant impacts. The removal of c.17m of hedgerow is not anticipated to result in any significant impacts due to the isolated, non-native and heavily managed nature of the hedgerow.

4.2.2 Residual Effects

The table below shows the anticipated habitat losses and gains and an assessment of the residual effects to each habitat type.

Table 6. Habitat losses and gains. Measurements are approximate.

BASELINE		POST-DEVELOPMENT				
HABITAT	AREA	ON-SITE MITIGATION			OFF-SITE COMPENSATION	RESIDUAL EFFFECT
		Retained	Enhanced	Created		
u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface	0.1ha	0.1ha	-	-	N/A	Negligible
Notes: c.17m of hedgerow is to be removed and c.10m of new hedgerow will be planted. c.128m^2 of manicured garden lawn will be replaced by a gravel drive.						

4.3 Flora and Invertebrates

4.3.1 Potential Impacts

The site is considered likely to support common and widespread flora and invertebrate species. There are no anticipated impacts to these species.

4.4 Amphibians (including Great Crested Newt)

4.4.1 Potential Impacts

Proposals are not anticipated to impact great crested newts, however site clearance to facilitate development has potential to harm common and widespread amphibian species

such as common toad, a UK Priority species. This is anticipated to result in a moderate adverse impact at a site level. Proposals will also result in the loss c.128m^2 of potential terrestrial habitat and c.17m potential sheltering/hibernating opportunities for this species. Due to the small area affected and presence of suitable habitat nearby, this is not anticipated to be a significant impact.

4.4.2 Mitigation and Compensation Measures

The following mitigation measures will be incorporated to avoid, mitigate and compensate the identified impacts to amphibians, including great crested newt:

- Sensitive and phased clearance of hedgerow and shrub vegetation will be undertaken. A first cut of vegetation will be made to a height of c.200mm with all arisings removed; 48hrs later the remaining vegetation will be cut to ground level will all arising removed. This will be maintained up to the point of groundworks. The vegetation clearance should start in the south of the site and work towards the north, to allow any animals to move to adjacent habitat of their own accord.

- The storage of materials/waste will undertaken on areas of hard standing or bare ground. Waste should be stored in skips or removed off site as soon as possible and away from suitable retained or off-site habitat to avoid creating refuges which could be colonised by common toads. Any mounds of soil should be compacted around the base to avoid creating refuges which common toads could occupy.

- Any brash/log/rubble piles will be dismantled by hand and any common or widespread amphibian found will be left to disperse of their own accord. In the unlikely event that a great crested newt is found, works must cease immediately, and a competent ecologist will need to be contacted for further advice.

4.4.3 Residual Effects

The above measures will address the anticipated impacts of the proposals to amphibians; there are no expected residual effects.

4.5 Reptiles

4.5.1 Potential Impacts

Site clearance to facilitate development has some low potential to harm common and widespread reptile species such as slow worm, resulting in a moderate adverse impact at a site level. Proposals will also result in the loss c.128m^2 of potential terrestrial habitat and c.17m of potential sheltering/hibernating opportunities for this species. Due to the small area

affected and presence of suitable habitat nearby, this is not anticipated to be a significant impact.

4.5.2 Mitigation and Compensation Measures

The following mitigation measures will be incorporated to avoid, mitigate and compensate the identified impacts to reptiles:

- Sensitive and phased clearance of hedgerow and shrub vegetation will be undertaken. A first cut of vegetation will be made to a height of c.200mm with all arisings removed; 48hrs later the remaining vegetation will be cut to ground level will all arising removed. This will be maintained up to the point of groundworks. The vegetation clearance should start in the south of the site and work towards the north, to allow any animals to move to adjacent habitat of their own accord.

- Any brash/log/rubble piles will be dismantled by hand and any reptile found will be left to disperse of their own accord.

4.5.3 Residual Effects

The above measures will address the anticipated impacts of the proposals to reptiles; there are no expected residual effects.

4.6 Birds

4.6.1 Potential Impacts

Hedgerow removal, demolition of the double garage and conversion works to the courtyard barns has high potential to damage/ destroy the nests of wild birds, resulting in a moderate adverse impact at a site level.

4.6.2 Mitigation and Compensation Measures

The following mitigation measures will be incorporated to avoid, mitigate and compensate the identified impacts to birds:

- Works which have potential to impact nesting birds (i.e. hedgerow removal, building demolition and conversion works) must be undertaken outside of the main bird nesting season (i.e. avoiding the period March to mid-September). If works cannot be timed sensitively, a check by an ecologist for nesting birds the day before works are due to commence will be required. Any active bird nests identified will be left in situ until the young have fully fledged.

- Nesting opportunities for a variety of bird species will be retained where possible post-works. The existing bird boxes installed on the northwest elevation of the main house will be re-installed post works.

- Compensatory nesting opportunities will be created in place of existing nesting opportunities that cannot be retained. A general-purpose nest box (e.g. Vivara Pro WoodStone Nest Box 32mm) will be installed on the northwestern gable of the newly built garage. An open nest box (e.g. Vivara Blackbird FSC Nest Box) will be installed in a sheltered, shaded spot at least 2m above ground on a tree within the property. Suggested nest box designs are available from www.wildcare.co.uk or www.nhbs.com. Suggested nest box locations are shown within the BMEP, Figure 5, Appendix A.

4.6.3 Residual Effects

The above measures will address the anticipated impacts of the proposals to birds; there are no expected residual effects.

4.7 Badgers

4.7.1 Potential Impacts

Construction activities have potential to harm badgers which may pass through the site on occasion, likely causing a minor, temporary adverse impact at a site level.

4.7.2 Mitigation and Compensation Measures

The following mitigation measures will be incorporated to avoid, mitigate and compensate the identified impacts to badgers:

- During construction works, any trenches or holes left exposed overnight should be provided with a means of escape, such as a shallow sloped edge or angled board (minimum 30cm width), positioned at a maximum angle of 30°.

4.7.3 Residual Effects

The above measures will address the anticipated impacts of the proposals to badgers; there are no expected residual effects.

4.8 Bats

4.8.1 Potential Impacts

Roosting

No bat roosts have been identified within the site, however an unidentified bat was observed emerging from a northwestern gable of the adjacent house. Works to the main house have potential to disturb neighbouring roosting bats, resulting in a moderate adverse impact at site level.

Foraging/Commuting

Increases in artificial illumination both during the construction and operational phases of the development will also impact bat species and have the potential to disturb dark flight corridors used by roosting bats within the neighbouring property. These impacts are anticipated to result in a moderate adverse impact at a site level.

4.8.2 Mitigation and Compensation Measures

The following mitigation measures will be incorporated to avoid, mitigate and compensate the identified impacts to bats:

- A sensitive lighting strategy will be implemented into the construction and operational phases of the development to avoid impacts to bats arising from increases in artificial illumination. The strategy will include:

    - Window privacy film will be installed on the roof lantern and skylights, which will limit internal light spill. This will ensure the roofs are not subject to increases in artificial illumination from the proposals.
    - No illumination to be directed towards the northwestern gable of the adjacent house to avoid disturbance to a known bat roost entry.
    - No illumination of any bat roost provision within the development (i.e. bat boxes in trees, see Section 5 for further details.
    - No illumination above the current lux levels to all retained hedgerows and trees to provide dark corridors through and around the site.

4.8.3 Residual Effects

The above measures will address the anticipated impacts of the proposals to bats; there are no expected residual effects.

4.9 Hazel Dormice

4.9.1 Potential Impacts

It is not considered likely that dormice are present within the hedgerows on site. There are no anticipated impacts to dormice.

4.10 Other Notable Mammals

4.10.1 Potential Impacts

Hedgerow and grassland removal to facilitate development has potential to harm hedgehogs, resulting in a moderate adverse impact at a local level.

4.10.2 Mitigation and Compensation Measures

The following mitigation measures will be incorporated to avoid, mitigate and compensate the identified impacts to hedgehogs:

- During construction works, any trenches or holes left exposed overnight will be provided with a means of escape, such as a shallow sloped edge or angled board (minimum 30cm width), positioned at a maximum angle of 30°.

4.10.3 Residual Effects

The above measures will address the anticipated impacts of the proposals to hedgehogs; there are no expected residual effects.

5 ENHANCEMENT MEASURES

Enhancement measures are recommendations over and above the mitigation required, which aim to enhance biodiversity in line with national and local planning policy and are deemed appropriate for the site and its proposals.

A Biodiversity Mitigation and Enhancement Plan has also been produced showing the measures detailed below, see Figure 5, Appendix A.

- Enhancement measures should include planting of a diverse mix of native tree, shrub and other floral species as part of any proposed landscaping scheme.

- A reptile refuge/hibernaculum could be constructed within the garden which will comprise stone/ rock/ clean brick rubble (without cement residues), and split logs which can be placed in a pile, loosely filled with topsoil and covered with turf. See BMEP, Figure 5, Appendix A for location. An example is shown at Appendix E.

- An Eco Crevice bat box (or similar) could be affixed to a south facing elevation of a mature tree within the garden at a height of at least 3m to provide additional roosting opportunities for bat species as an ecological enhancement. Suggested bat boxes are available from wildcare.co.uk. or nhbs.com. Suggested location of bat box is provided in the BMEP, Figure 5, Appendix A.

- The newly planted hedgerow should be planted with a variety of native species beneficial to birds. Species could include hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, holly *Ilex aquifolium* and bramble *Rubus fruticosus*.

6 CONCLUSIONS TABLE

Table 7. Summary of ecological mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures for the site: The Chantry.

Ecological Feature	Potential Effect	Significance in the absence of mitigation	Mitigation/Compensation and Enhancement	Residual Effect
Designated Sites	Disturbance from increases in artificial illumination.	Minor adverse impact at a local level.	Sensitive lighting plan.	Negligible.
Habitats	None.	-	-	Negligible.
Flora and Invertebrates	None.	-	Diverse mix of native species as part of landscaping.	Negligible.
Amphibians (including GCN)	Harm to common and widespread species.	Moderate adverse impact at a site level.	Sensitive vegetation clearance and storage of materials. Brash piles dismantled by hand.	Negligible.
Reptiles	Harm to common and widespread species.	Moderate adverse impact at a site level.	Sensitive vegetation clearance. Brash piles dismantled by hand. Hibernaculum constructed as enhancement.	Positive.
Birds	Harm during construction. Loss of nesting opportunities.	Moderate adverse impact at a site level.	Nesting bird check immediately prior to works. Compensatory nesting opportunities to be retained or provided. New hedgerow to be planted with native species as an enhancement.	Negligible.
Badgers	Harm during works.	Temporary moderate adverse impact at a site level.	Means of escape from construction trenches provided.	Negligible.
Bats	Disturbance to neighbouring roost. Disturbance to commuting and foraging habitat.	Moderate adverse impact at a site level.	Sensitive lighting plan. Roosting opportunities provided as an enhancement.	Negligible.
Hazel Dormice	None.	-	-	Negligible.
Other Notable Mammals	Harm during works.	Temporary moderate adverse impact at a site level.	Means of escape from construction trenches provided.	Negligible.

7 REFERENCES

Bat Conservation Trust, Institution of Lighting Professionals (2018). Guidance Note 08/18 Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK: Bats and the Built Environment Series.

Bat Conservation Trust, Interim Guidance Note, May 2022.

CIEEM (2017) Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, 2nd edition. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

CIEEM (2021). Bat Mitigation Guidelines Beta Version, June 2021.

Collins, J (2016). Bat Surveys – Good Practice Guidelines, 3rd edition. Bat Conservation Trust.

English Nature (2002). Managing Landscapes for the Great Horseshoe Bat. English Nature, Peterborough.

English Nature (2004). Bat Mitigation Guidelines. English Nature, Peterborough.

Froglife (1999). Froglife Advice Sheet 10 Reptile Survey: An introduction to planning, conducting and interpreting surveys for snake and lizard conservation.

Natural England & Wiltshire Council (2015). Bat Special Areas of Conservation (SAC): Planning Guidance for Wiltshire. Issue 3.0 10 September 2015.

Wiltshire and Swindon Biological Records Centre. Data Search. December 2022.

8 SITE PHOTOS



Plate 1. Southeast elevation and southwest gable of the house.



Plate 2. Southwest gable and northwest elevation of the house.



Plate 3. Inner courtyard and courtyard barns.



Plate 4. Bird's nest identified on ledge in courtyard barns.



Plate 5. Well-manicured garden within the site.



Plate 6. Interior view of the cellar.



Plate 7. Double garage within the site.



Plate 8. Camera angle 1 at the darkest point.



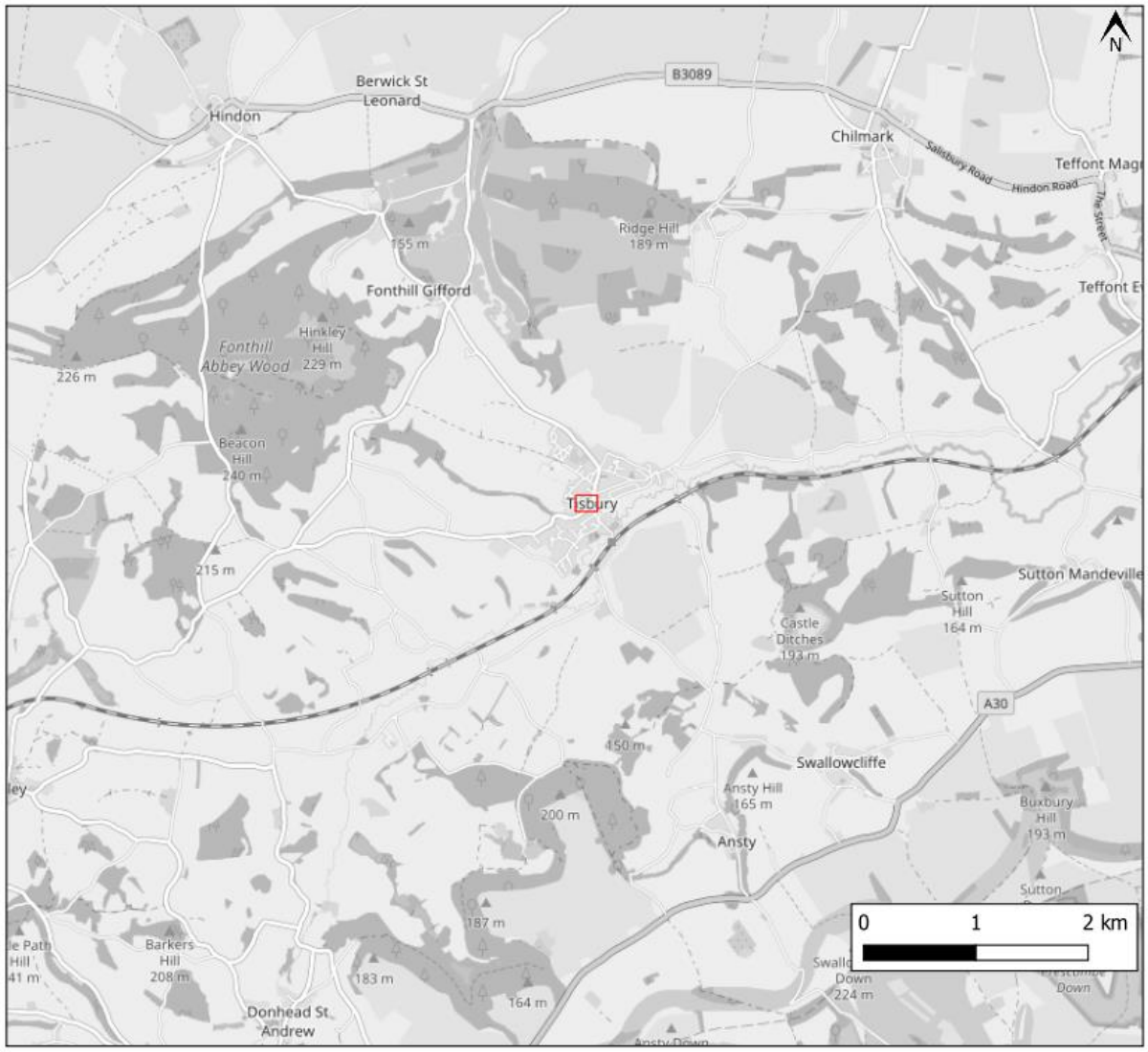
Plate 9. Camera angle 2 at the darkest point.



Plate 10. Camera angle 3 at the darkest point.

APPENDIX A – FIGURES

On following pages.



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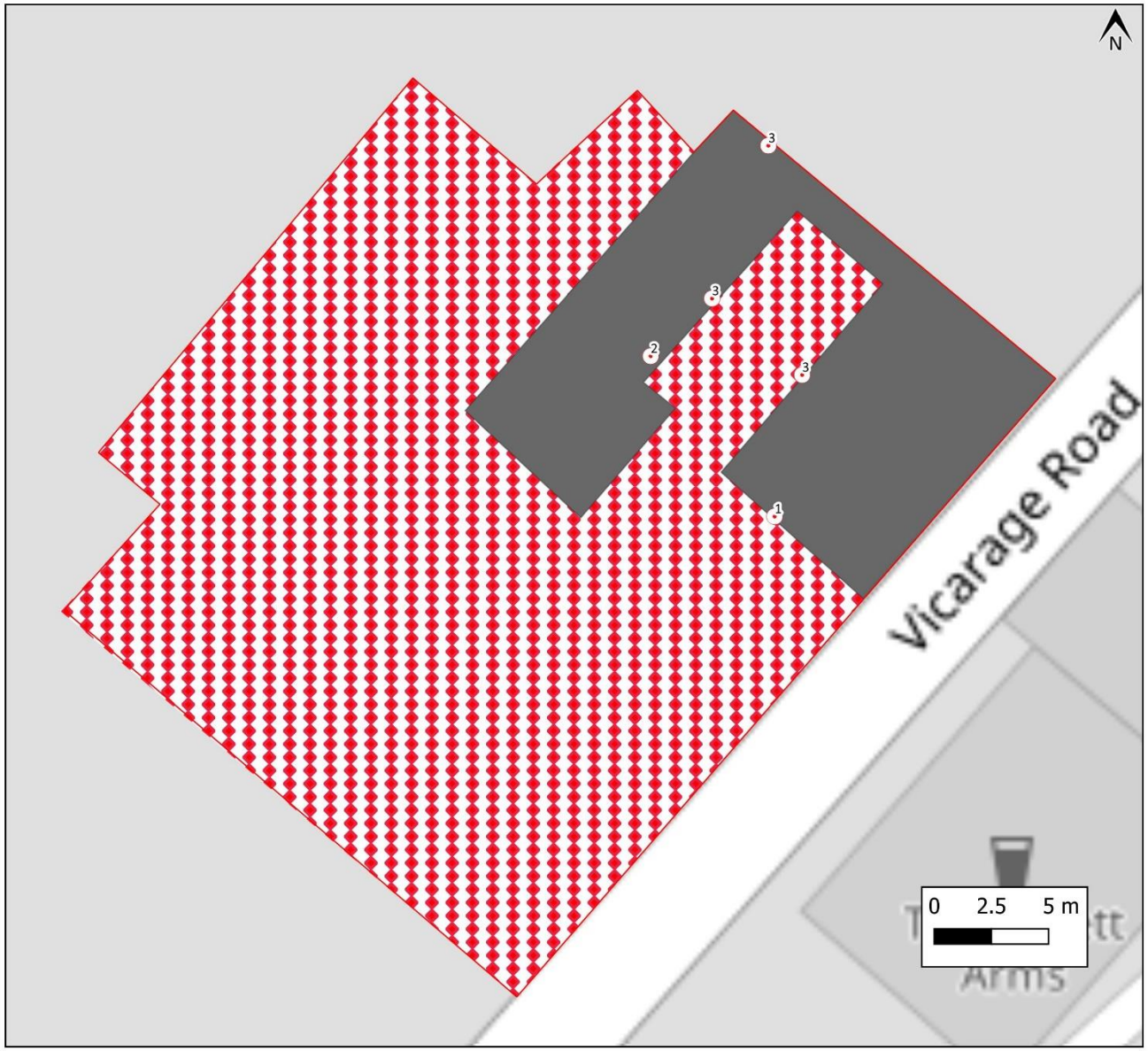
Key:

Site Location

Figure 1.
The Chantry. Ecological Impact Assessment. Site Location in Wider Landscape.

Project No.:	01/042/015/02
Date:	26/07/2023



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Key:

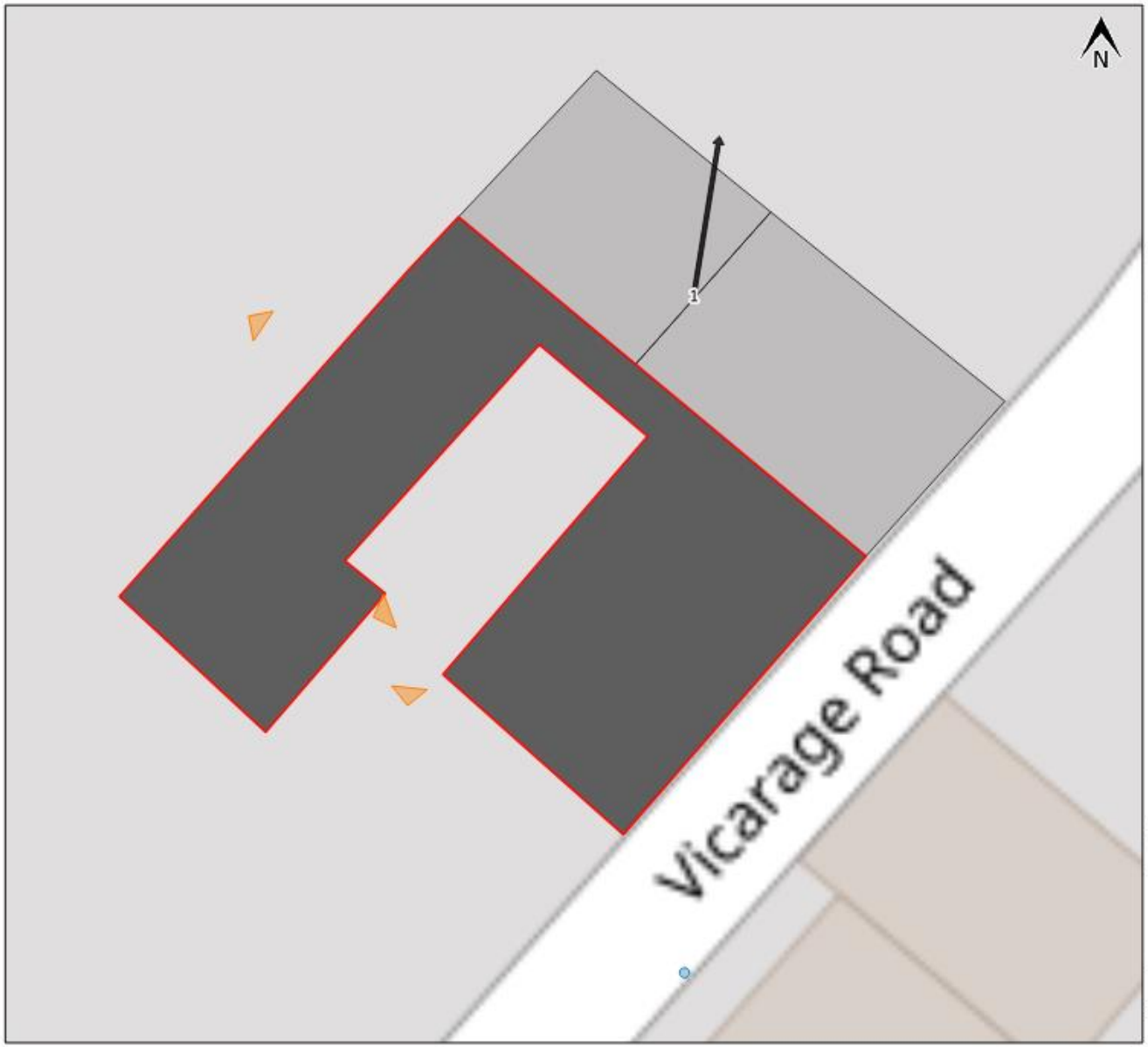
- Site boundary
- u1b5 - Building
- u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface
- Target Note

Produced using OpenStreetMap and QGIS

Target Note 1 - Old bird's nest on gable
Target Note 2 - Old bird's nest on ledge within courtyard barns
Target Note 3 - Bird boxes

Figure 2.
The Chantry. Ecological Impact Assessment.
UK Habitats

Project No.:	01/042/015/02
Date:	04/07/2023



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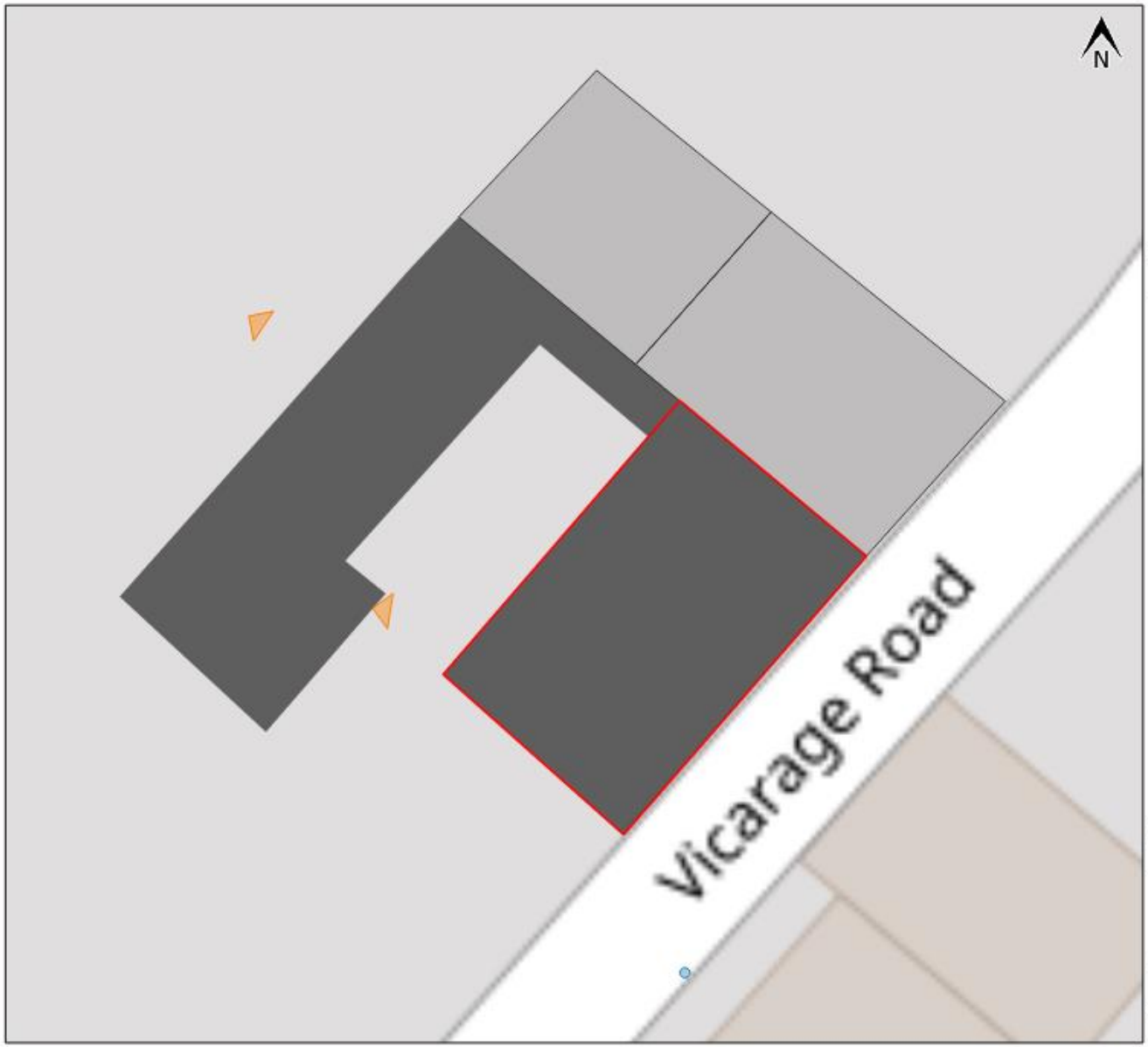
Key:

- Infrared Camera Location
- Surveyor Location
- Buildings Surveyed
- Adjacent Neighbouring Property
- Unknown Species

Figure 3.
Ecological Impact Assessment, The Chantry
Dusk Emergence Survey 1 Results
15/06/2023

Project No.:	01/042/015/02
Date:	09/08/2023



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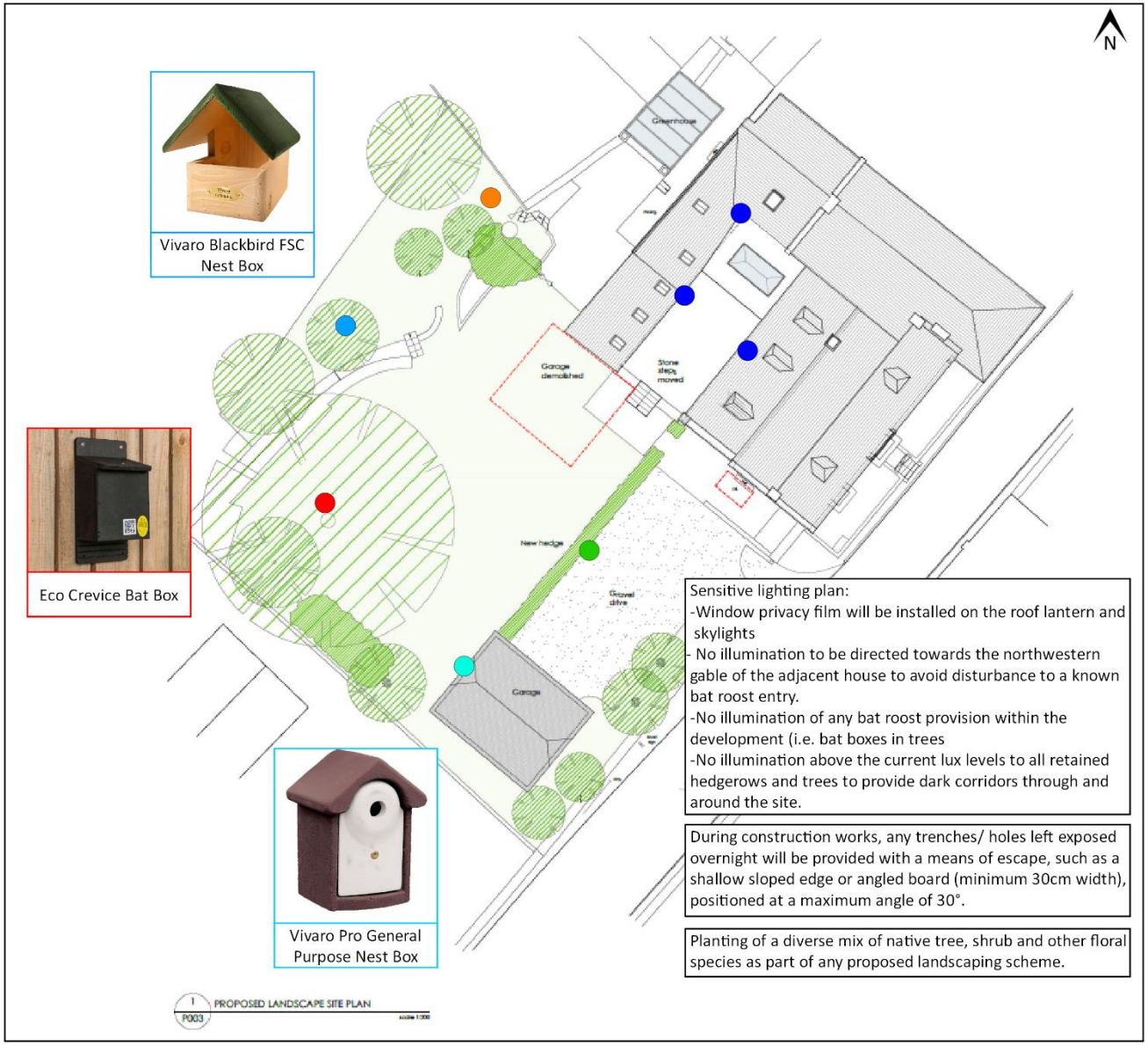
Key:

- Infrared Camera Location
- Surveyor Location
- Building Surveyed
- Adjacent Neighbouring Property

Figure 4.
Ecological Impact Assessment, The Chantry
Dusk Emergence Survey 2 Results
12/07/2023

Project No.:	01/042/015/02
Date:	09/08/2023



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Key:

- Existing bird boxes to be re-installed post works
- Vivara Pro WoodStone Nest Box 32mm (or similar) installed on the northwestern gable of the newly built garage.
- Vivara FSC Nest Box (or similar) installed in a sheltered, shaded spot at least 2m above ground on a tree within the property
- Eco Crevice Bat Box or similar affixed to the southern elevation of a large tree at a height of at least 3m as an enhancement
- New hedgerow planted with a variery of native species beneficial to birds as an enhancement
- Hibernaculum created for reptiles as an enhancement

Figure 5.
Ecological Impact Assessment, The Chantry
Biodiversity Mitigation and Enhancement Plan

Project No.:	01/042/015/02
Date:	21/09/2023

APPENDIX B – SURVEY DETAILS AND RESULTS DATA

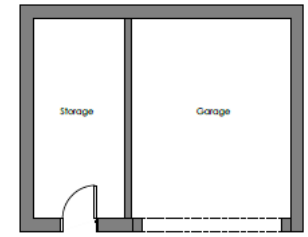
Table B1. Details of the Personnel, Dates and Types of Survey Undertaken at the Site

SURVEY	DATE	PERSONNEL
Extended UK Habitat Classification Survey	06 December 2022	Carrie White (Senior Ecologist), ACIEEM, Natural England Bat Class Licence CL18 (Level 2) 2015-12207-CLS-CLS, Natural England Dormouse Class Licence CL10a (Level 1) 2015-1192-CLS-CLS, Natural England Great Crested Newt Class Licence CL08 (Level 1) 2015-18955-CLS-CLS.
Ecological Building Survey	06 December 2022 and 26 January 2023	Carrie White/ Bethan Withey, (Senior Ecologist), ACIEEM, Natural England Bat Class Licence CL18 (Level 2) 2016-20644-CLS-CLS, Natural England Dormouse Class Licence CL10a 2019-40566-CLS-CLS, Natural England Barn Owl Class Licence CL29 - CL29/00565.
Bat Dusk Emergence/Re-entry Survey	15 June 2023	Beth Cross (Ecologist) Qualifying CIEEM member, Natural England Bat Class Licence CL17 (Level 1) 2022-10494-CL17-BAT. Miranda Maybank (Assistant Ecologist)
	12 July 2023	Beth Cross Ben Rigg (Assistant Surveyor)

APPENDIX C - PROPOSED SITE PLANS



Drawing provided by Richmond Bell Architects Ltd. Drawing number: 22/796/P003



1 P200 PROPOSED FLOOR PLAN
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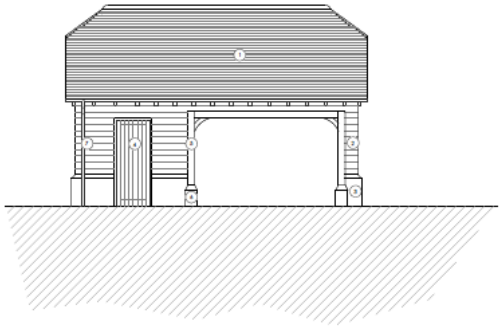

2 P200 PROPOSED NORTH EAST ELEVATION
scale 1:100

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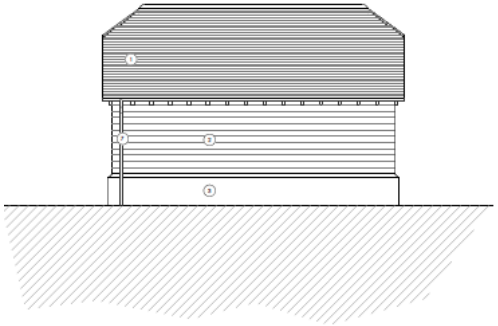
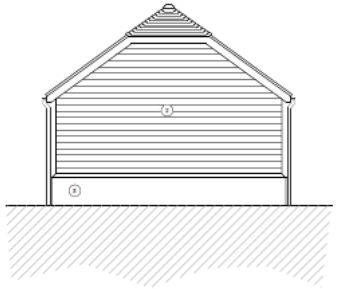
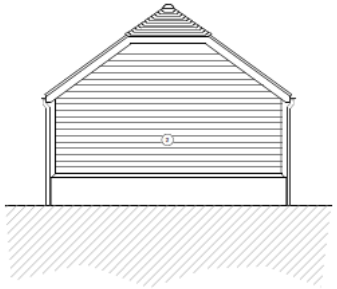
MATERIALS KEY	
1	Clay Roof Tiles
2	Horizontal Timber Cladding
3	Brick Plinth
4	Timber Door
5	Timber Posts
6	Brick Pier
7	PPC Rainwater Goods



3 P200 PROPOSED SOUTH WEST ELEVATION
scale 1:100



4 P200 PROPOSED NORTH WEST ELEVATION
scale 1:100



5 P200 PROPOSED SOUTH EAST ELEVATION
scale 1:100



PLANNING

THE CHANTRY

PROPOSED GARAGE DRAWINGS

date	client
NOV 2022	Mr. Torbet
scale	drawing no.
1 : 100 @ A3	22 / 796 / P200

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Drawing provided by Richmond Bell Architects Ltd. Drawing number: 22/796/P200



1 P114 PROPOSED NORTH WEST COURTYARD ELEVATION
scale 1:100

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PLEASE NOTE THE INFORMATION IS BASED UPON THE INDEPENDANT SURVEY INFORMATION PROVIDED. THE CONTRACTOR IS TO REPORT ANY DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THE DRAWINGS AND THE SITE CONFIGURATIONS.

KEY	
1	Existing concrete roof tiles to be replaced with clay tiles
2	New dormer to match existing
3	New glazed lantern
4	Reused metal casement window
5	New crittall doors

0 1 2 3 4 5m

	-	-	-
	DETAILS	DATE	REVISION

PLANNING

THE CHANTRY

PROPOSED NORTH WEST COURTYARD ELEVATION

date NOV 2022	client Mr. Talbot
scale 1 : 100 @ A3	drawing no. 22 / 796 / P114
	revision -

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1 P113 PROPOSED SOUTH EAST COURTYARD ELEVATION
scale 1:100

NOTES

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ALL WORK AND MATERIALS TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BUILDING REGULATIONSAND TO COMPLY WITH THE RELEVANT CODES OF PRACTICE AND BRITISH STANDARDS

PLEASE NOTE THE INFORMATION IS BASED UPON THE INDEPENDANT SURVEY INFORMATION PROVIDED. THE CONTRACTOR IS TO REPORT ANY DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THE DRAWINGS AND THE SITE CONFIGURATIONS.

KEY	
1	New conservation style rooflights
2	Existing slate roof tiles
3	Concrete roof tiles replaced with slate
4	Existing timber door fixed shut
5	New timber door
6	New aluminium glazed bifold doors
7	New glazed lantern

0 1 2 3 4 5m

DETAILS - DATE - REVISION -

PLANNING

THE CHANTRY

PROPOSED SOUTH EAST COURTYARD ELEVATION

date NOV 2022	client Mr. Torbet	
scale 1:100 @ A3	drawing no. 22 / 796 / P113	revision -

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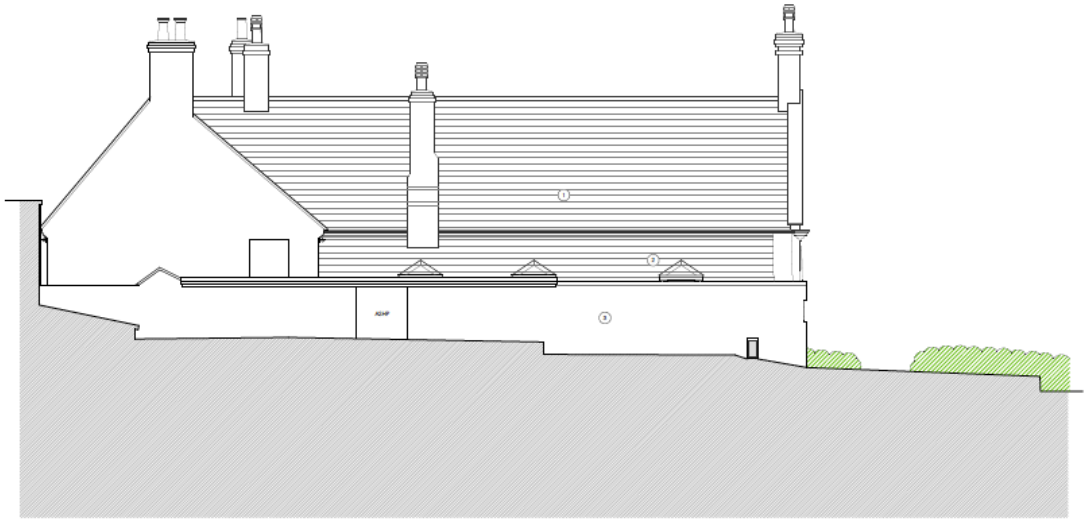

1 / P112 PROPOSED NORTH WEST ELEVATION
scale 1:100

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KEY	
1	Existing concrete roof tiles to be replaced with clay tiles
2	New dormer to match existing
3	Existing rubble stone

0 1 2 3 4 5m

DRAWN - DATE - REVISION -

PLANNING

THE CHANTRY

PROPOSED NORTH WEST ELEVATION

date NOV 2022 | client Mr. Talbot

scale 1:100 @ A3 | drawing no. 22 / 796 / P112 | revision -

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1 P110 PROPOSED SOUTH EAST ROAD ELEVATION
scale 1:100

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0 1 2 3 4 5m

	DETAILS	DATE	REVISION
	-	-	-

PLANNING

THE CHANTRY

PROPOSED SOUTH EAST ROAD ELEVATION

date	client
NOV 2022	Mr. Talbot
scale: 1 : 100 @ A3	drawing no.: 22 / 796 / P110
	revision: -

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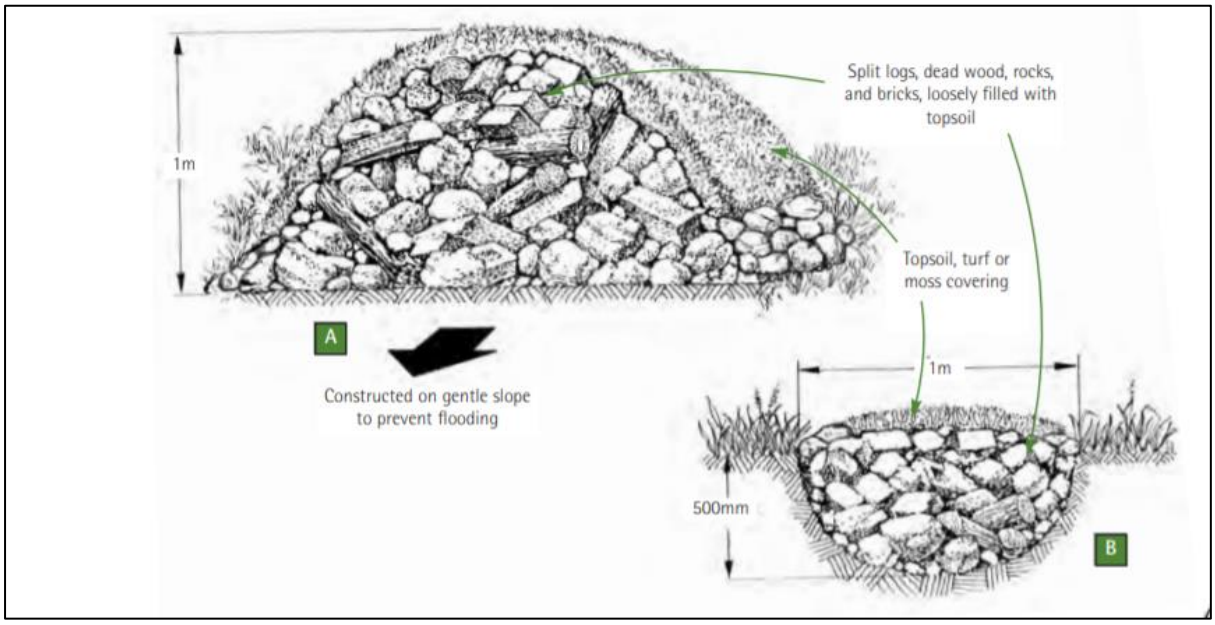
APPENDIX D - RELEVANT WILDLIFE LEGISLATION AND POLICIES

Ecological Feature	Legislation / Policy
Great crested newts	Great crested newts are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. This makes it an offence to kill or injure great crested newts or damage or destroy a place of shelter or protection. Deliberate or reckless disturbance of great crested newts which could affect the ability of any significant group of animals to survive or breed may also result in an offence.
Reptiles	Reptiles are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly kill or injure reptiles.
Birds	Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) it is illegal to take, damage or destroy the nests of wild birds whilst being built or in use. Bird species also listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) receive additional protection including protection from intentional or reckless disturbance when they are nesting or rearing dependant young.
Badgers	Badgers are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992. Under this legislation, it is an offence to kill or injure a badger, damage or destroy a sett or disturb a badger whilst it occupies a sett.
Bats	British bat species are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. This makes it an offence to kill or injure bats or damage or destroy a place of shelter or protection. Deliberate or reckless disturbance of bats which could affect the ability of any significant group of animals to survive, breed, rear or nurture their young may also result in an offence.
Hazel Dormice	Dormice are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. This makes it an offence to kill or injure dormice or damage or destroy a place of shelter or protection used by this species. Deliberate or reckless disturbance of dormice which could affect the ability of any significant group of animals to survive or breed may also result in an offence.

Ecological Feature	Legislation / Policy
UK Priority Species/ Habitats	UK Priority Species/Habitats are those that have been identified as being the most threatened and requiring conservation action.
Biodiversity Net Gain	The Environment Act 2022 and the National Planning Policy Framework require all developments to show a net gain for biodiversity.

APPENDIX E - REPTILE REFUGE/HIBERNACULUM DETAIL DETAILS



Reptile refuges on impermeable (A) and free-draining soils (B). Froglife 2001.