

Bat Survey

Coolon, Cloatley Road,
Hankerton, Wiltshire,
SN16 9LQ.

Client MSP

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Issue 1

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Non-technical Summary

Background

In February 2026, Crossman Ecology was commissioned by MSP to undertake a bat and bird survey of Coolon, Cloatley Road, Hankerton, Wiltshire, SN16 9LQ.

Proposals are to remodel and enlarge the dwelling; extended areas will occupy areas of land that are currently composed of hard-standing.

Methodology

The scoping survey was undertaken by Fairbrass Knowles, licensed bat worker (licence number 2015-12392), full member of CIEEM and experienced ecologist. The dwelling was inspected both externally and internally for any evidence of bat / bird presence, such as droppings, food remains, staining or actual bats / birds.

Results

The dwelling is a 3-bedroom 1960's bungalow constructed from faux stone and with a pitched roof clad with concrete interlocking tiles, the dwelling has been enlarged with a modern conservatory added to the front; south elevation and a small flat roof extension (that includes a single car garage) to the west elevation. The dwelling has a single and spacious loft, which during the survey showed no evidence of a bat roost. **The dwelling is assessed to provide bats with negligible roosting suitability.** The dwelling showed no evidence of nesting birds and overall, the dwelling provides birds with no significant nesting opportunities.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the following be undertaken as part of the development:

- A precautionary approach to development in relation to bats
- Fit integral bat and bird boxes.
- Exterior lighting (if planned) should be low level and not lead to the illumination of the garden or boundaries.

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1. Background

- 1.1. In February 2026, Crossman Ecology was commissioned by MSP to undertake a bat and bird survey of Coolon, Cloatley Road, Hankerton, Wiltshire, SN16 9LQ; site Ordnance Survey grid reference ST 98155 90615.
- 1.2. Figure 1 under Appendix I provides a location map.
- 1.3. The objectives of the survey were to:
 - Make an assessment of the likely presence or absence of bats
 - Identify any legislative or planning policy constraints relevant to the site
 - Determine the need for further surveys, compensation or mitigation

Site Description

- 1.4. The dwelling is a 3-bedroom 1960's bungalow constructed from faux stone with a pitched roof clad with concrete interlocking tiles, the dwelling has been enlarged with a modern conservatory added to the front; south elevation and a small flat roof extension (that includes a single car garage) added to the west elevation.
 - 1.5. The property sits within its own small plot which includes a well-managed garden, which consists mainly of lawn and hard-standing (entrance driveway / parking, patios and paths which surround the dwelling.
 - 1.6. The site occupies a rural location to the east of the main village nucleus and occupies a plot on the north side of Cloatley Road. Immediate surroundings are rural and consist of farmland, a similar sized dwelling is situated opposite, while a couple of small industrial style business premises, and a farmstead are situated to the east and west. The land directly abounding the north boundary is Cloatley Meadows Nature Reserve and includes meadows and woodland.
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- 1.7. The wider landscape is predominantly of an agrarian nature, with a complex of mainly small to medium sized mixed-use fields, which are generally divided by farm style native hedgerows. The main village of Hankerton lays to the west.

Proposals

- 1.8. Proposals are to remodel and enlarge the dwelling; extended areas will occupy areas of land that are currently composed of hard-standing.

Legislation

- 1.9. In the UK all species of bats are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) as amended and the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. Under this legislation it is a strict liability offence to injure or destroy a bat or to disturb damage or destroy the resting place of a bat. Under this legislation the UK is obliged to fully take into account bats within the planning process and the level of bat activity on-site must be fully assessed prior to the assessment the planning application.
- 1.10. In Britain all wild birds are granted legal protection under the Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981) (as amended). This legislation protects the birds, their eggs and nests whilst being built or in use.

2. Methodology

Desktop Study

Data search

- 2.1. The MAGIC website was accessed to gain information on any statutory site designations within 4 km of the site that are designated for bats.

National Planning Policy

- 2.2. National Planning Policy has been reviewed for policies that relate to nature conservation relevant to the site.

Field Survey

Bat scoping survey

- 2.3. The dwelling was methodically inspected internally and externally for any evidence of roosting bats, including actual bats, droppings, urine staining and evidence of feeding activity such as discarded insect wings and cases.
- 2.4. The dwelling was also assessed for its suitability to support roosting bats by considering several factors including whether bats can access internal and external voids within the building and whether these voids provide adequate protection and shelter for roosting bats. If the building is not confirmed as a roost, it is assessed from High to Negligible Suitability as follows;
- **High Suitability** – many roosting opportunities. Buildings tend to be old, large and rural

- **Moderate Suitability** – some roosting opportunities. Buildings tend to be old, rural with some recent maintenance
- **Low Suitability** – few roosting opportunities. Buildings tend to be modern, urban and well maintained
- **Negligible Suitability** – insignificant roosting opportunities. Buildings tend to be small, modern, urban and very well maintained.

Birds

- 2.5. The dwelling was also inspected for the presence of birds including house sparrow *Passer domesticus*. The dwelling was checked for field signs including nesting material, accumulations of droppings and/or pellets.

3. Results

Desktop Study

Data Search

- 3.1. The MAGIC website informed that there are no statutory sites within 4 km of the site designated for bats.

Planning Policy

- 3.2. National policy guidance is provided by National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, December 2024), which sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how they should be applied to planning applications;

Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

- Planning decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:
 - a) protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);
 - b) recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;
 - c) maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate;

- d) minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;
- e) preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans; and
- f) remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.

Habitats and Biodiversity

- To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:
 - a) Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity⁶⁸; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and
 - b) promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.
- When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles:

- a) if significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused;
- b) development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest;
- c) development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons⁷⁰ and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and
- d) development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate.

Field Survey

Bat scoping survey

- 3.3. Survey work was undertaken by Fairbrass Knowles an experienced ecologist, full member of CIEEM and fully licensed bat worker; licence number 12392 CLS-CLS and took place on 17 February 2026.

- 3.4. The external and internal conditions of the dwelling is described in the table below and photographic reference can be found within Appendix II.
- 3.5. A table within Appendix III; information sheets set out the criteria for the way a building is assessed for its potential to support roosting bats.

Building	Feature	Feature Description	Bat suitability
Coolon (Dwelling)	Overview	The dwelling is a basic 3-bedroom 1960's bungalow, rectangular in shape and constructed from faux stone with a pitched roof clad with concrete interlocking tiles, the dwelling has been enlarged with a modern conservatory added to the front; south elevation and a small flat roof extension (that includes a single car garage) added to the west elevation.	Negligible Suitability ☒
	Exterior	The walls of the dwelling, garage and the lower (dwarf) walls of the conservatory are all composed of well-pointed faux stone. All walls remain in good condition and provide no significant cracks or holes. Windows and doors are all modern and are all in good condition and shut tightly within their respective reveals. The conservatory is a small and modern type, octagonal in shape and fitted with uPVC glazing main walls and roof. During the survey no evidence of roosting bats was identified and overall, the exterior provides bats with no significant roosting suitability.	

Building	Feature	Feature Description	Bat suitability
	Interior	Areas of living accommodation are composed of well decorated rooms, with plaster and painted walls and ceilings. <u>Roof void</u> The dwelling has a spacious and rectangular shaped roof void, which mirrors the footprint of the original dwelling and provides a height of approximately 2.8 m. The void is constructed using a timber cut and pitch design with some additional timber trusses fitted centrally. The underside of the roof has been lined with some sort of thin boarding, while standard glass fibre loft insulation lines the floor at ceiling height. A single rendered chimney passes up through the central part of the void. The gable ends are formed of well-pointed concrete blockwork, which showed no evidence of any significant cracks or holes. During the survey it was noted that the roof void had significant amounts of cobwebbing hanging down from the ridge beam.	

Building	Feature	Feature Description	Bat suitability
		The roof void provides a straightforward layout and allowed a full and thorough examination, during which no bats or evidence of bats was identified. <u>Garage</u> The garage provides a single bay with walls of well-pointed concrete block. There is no ceiling, instead the simple timber beams which support the flat roof and the underside of the flat timber roof boards are on show. The interior is well illuminated by natural light from two good sized windows on the west elevation. The garage showed no evidence of a bat roost.	
	Roof	<u>Main dwelling</u> The dwellings original roof is a simple rectangular double pitched design and is clad with modern concrete flat style interlocking tiles and simple half round ridge tiles. All tiles are present and all appear to be well fitted with no evidence of misaligned or missing tiles. The interlocking design results in a well-sealed roof, that overall, provides no significant gaps or crevices. All the ridge tiles appear to remain well-seated in place.	

Building	Feature	Feature Description	Bat suitability
		A single chimney is located centrally along the ridge line; the chimney is constructed from the same type of faux stone that the house is built from and remains well-pointed. The lead flashings that seal the chimney to the roof all remain well fitted, with no evidence of lifting or looseness. The eaves are fitted with simple soffits which, while old remain well-sealed. The verges all remain well sealed with cement mortar. <u>Garage / extension</u> The combined garage and extension have a simple and near flat roof clad with modern style corrugated steel roof sheets. The eaves are simple timber boards fitted directly to the walls and provide no significant gaps or crevices. <u>All roofs</u> During the survey no evidence of a bat roost was identified, and the roofs are assessed to offer bats no significant roosting suitability.	

Birds

Dwelling

- 3.6. No birds were noted in association with the dwelling.

Evaluation

Bats

Habitat

- 3.7. The site is a relatively small domestic plot which amounts to approximately 1,100 m² of which the majority is taken up the dwelling, hard-standing and amenity lawn, which on its own is too small to provide bats with any significant habitat component.
- 3.8. The local and wider environs are however rural and include hedge divided fields and to the north areas of woodland (associated with Cloatley Meadows Nature Reserve), these habitats are likely to support a number of bats species, typically, common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*

Dwelling

- 3.9. During the scoping survey no droppings, staining, feeding remains or actual bats were observed.
- 3.10. The dwelling has been assessed to provide bats with **Negligible Roosting Suitability.**

4. Recommendations

- 4.1. The recommendations in the paragraphs below are provided to help ensure that wildlife and important ecological features are protected during the course of works. Recommendations also set out mitigation measures to minimise harm where this cannot be avoided and provide compensation measures to allow the proposals to meet current legislative and planning policy objectives.
- 4.2. The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006) states that a public authority must 'in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity; Conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat'.
- 4.3. Under the Government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2021) opportunities to incorporate biodiversity in and around developments should be encouraged.

Species recommendations

Bats

- 4.4. Due to the lack of evidence of roosting bats within any aspect of the dwelling and the lack of significant bat roosting opportunities, it is not considered necessary or beneficial to undertake any further survey work.
- 4.5. Due to the transitory nature of bats, there is a small possibility that bats could be encountered during demolition / renovation works; therefore, all works must proceed under a cautionary approach. Tiles and roof panels will be removed in a vertical rather than horizontal sliding motion. Soffits and masonry will be dismantled using a 'soft' approach taking care with cavity walls where present. All

site workers will be vigilant at all times and in the very unlikely event that a bat is found, then works must stop immediately and advice should be sought from Crossman Associates or Natural England (telephone number 0300 0603900).

Toolbox talk

- 4.6. Prior to the start of works it is recommended that the contractors are provided with a toolbox talk. The toolbox talk will cover basics such as bat biology and what action they should take in the event of an un-expected discovery of a bat during works. The toolbox talk should be delivered by a suitable qualified ecologist and can be conducted via a telephone call.

Exterior lighting

- 4.7. Exterior lighting should consider the possible presence of more light / urban tolerant bats and other nocturnal wildlife. New exterior lighting (if planned) should consist of a modern LED-type and should be directional and or cowled and not illuminate the garden or adjacent farmland.
- 4.8. The choice of lighting is important to minimising light spill and it is recommended that the following factors are considered to reduce the impact as much as possible;
- Narrow spectrum lights with no UV content
 - Low pressure sodium and/or warm white LED
 - Directional downlighting, illuminating downwards and below the horizontal plane to avoid light trespass.
- 4.9. A recommended exterior light unit is the Knightsbridge WALL 1LBK which is a wall mounted down lighter installed with a 2700K LED bulb which provides a beam angle of 50 degrees. Exterior lighting should be fitted with timers that prevent lights being on for more than 1 minute.
- 4.10. An information sheet on lighting can be found in Appendix III; information sheets.

Hedgehog

- 4.11. In the UK hedgehogs are listed on schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) as Amended which makes it illegal to kill or capture wild hedgehogs. Hedgehogs are also listed as a species of 'principal importance' under the Natural Environmental and Rural Communities Act 2006, which is meant to confer a 'duty of responsibility' to public bodies.
- 4.12. Excavated holes and trenches on building sites have the potential to trap wildlife including hedgehogs leading to the potential suffering and death of the animal (s) particularly if they become filled with water.
- 4.13. If during the development excavated holes / trenches are likely to be left open, then timber builders' planks should be fitted as ramps to enable any wildlife including hedgehogs a means of escape.

Ecological enhancements

Bats

- 4.14. Fit 2 number Schwegler 1FQ exterior mounted bat roost box. The 1FQ is a robust and long-lasting wall mounted bat box that provides excellent roosting opportunities for a variety of bat species which are known to roost in association with buildings, e.g. common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* and brown long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus*.
- 4.15. Once fitted the box is self-cleaning and requires no further maintenance.
- 4.16. The boxes should be fitted as high up as possible on the eastern gable of the adjacent detached garage.
- 4.17. This model is available from www.wildlifeservices.co.uk or www.nhbs.co.uk among other providers.

- 4.18. Figure 2 under Appendix I provides annotated reference to the fitment of the bat roosting boxes.
- 4.19. An information sheet on bat boxes is provided under Appendix III; Information Sheets.

Birds

House sparrow

- 4.20. Two number house sparrow boxes should be fitted below eaves on the western elevation and as far away from windows and doors as is possible. Suitable models are produced by Habibat, Schwegler and Vivara.
- 4.21. Figure 2, under Appendix I provides annotated reference to the fitting location.
- 4.22. Sparrow terraces are available from www.habibat.co.uk telephone number 01642 724626 and www.wildlifeseervices.co.uk telephone number 03339000927.
- 4.23. An information sheet on this type of nesting box is provided under Appendix III; information sheets.

5. Limitations

- 5.1. This report records wildlife found during the survey and anecdotal evidence of sightings. It does not record any plants or animals that may appear at other times of the year and were therefore not evident at the time of visit.
- 5.2. This report represents a preliminary assessment only. Recommendations and conclusions are subject to change should further findings significantly differ from those collected from the survey efforts to date.
- 5.3. The advice contained in this report relate primarily to factual survey results and general guidance only. On all legal matters you are advised to take legal advice.

6. References

Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) *Bats and Lighting in the UK* BCT

HMSO (1981) *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (and subsequent amendments)*. HMSO

HMSO (1995) *Biodiversity*. The UK Steering Group Report

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) *Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Reptiles and Amphibians* (2004) JNCC

Mitchell-Jones, A.J (2004) *Bat Mitigation Guidelines* English Nature

Mitchell-Jones, A.J, & McLeish A.P. (2012) *The Bat Worker's Manual* (4th Edition)

Multi-Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside (MAGIC)
Website at www.magic.gov.uk

Stace, C. (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles 2nd Edition*. Cambridge University Press

TSO (2012) *National Planning Policy Framework*. TSO

TSO (2006) *Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act* TSO

Appendix I – Site Figures



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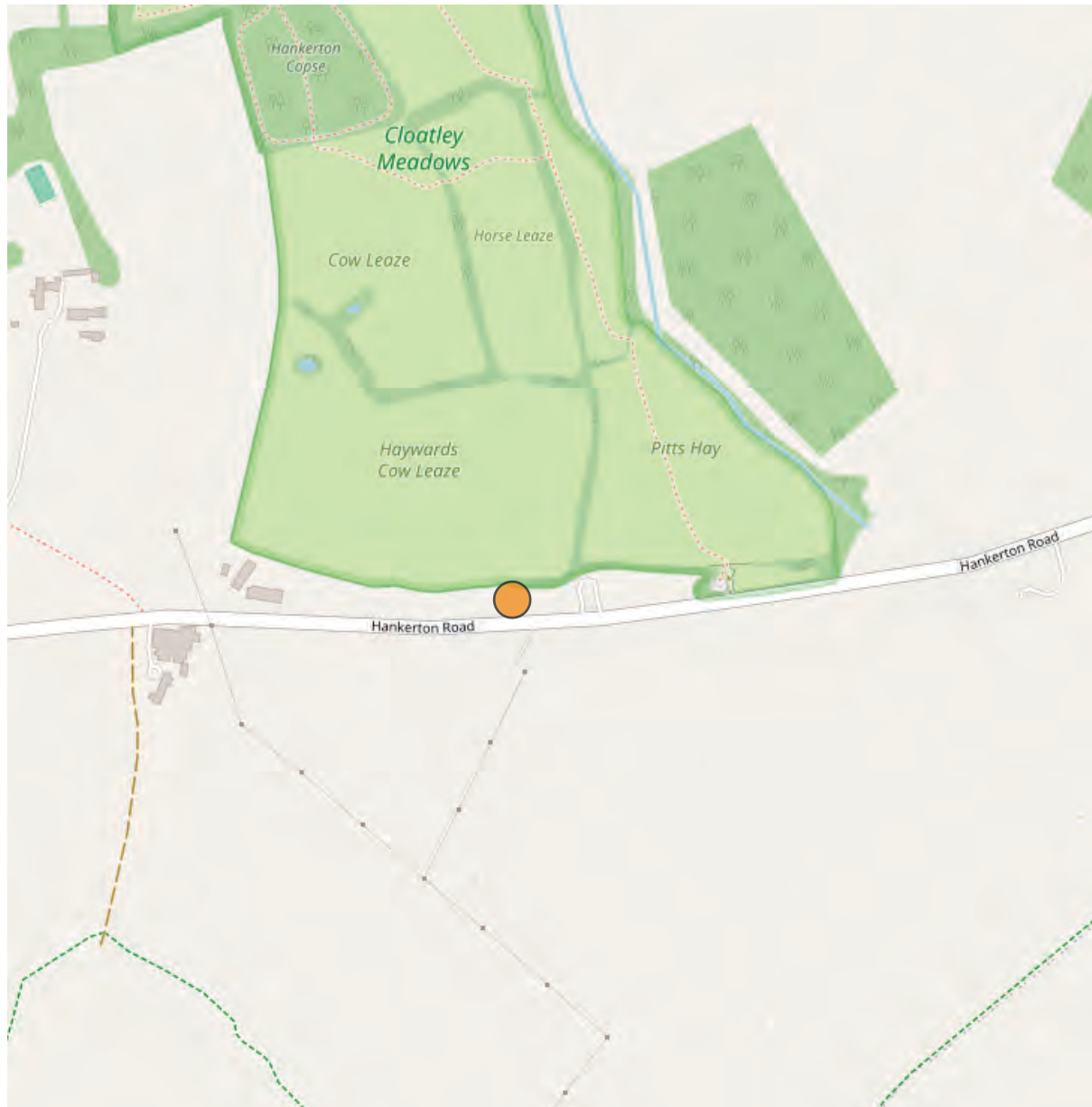
**Crossman
Ecology**
Ecological Consultants



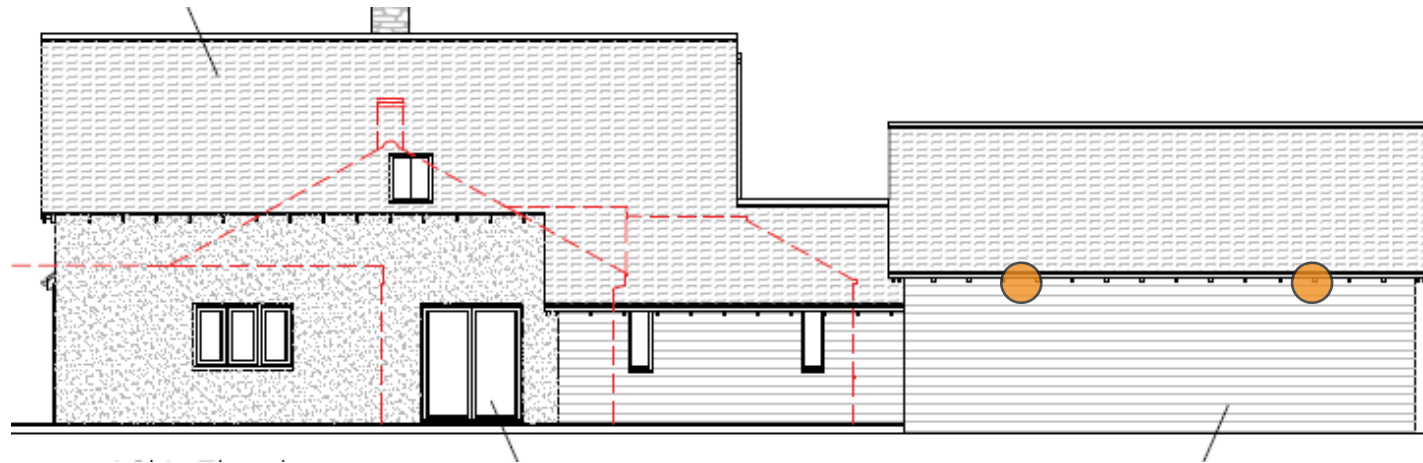
01761 233414
info@crossmanassociates.co.uk
www.crossmanassociates.co.uk



Site location

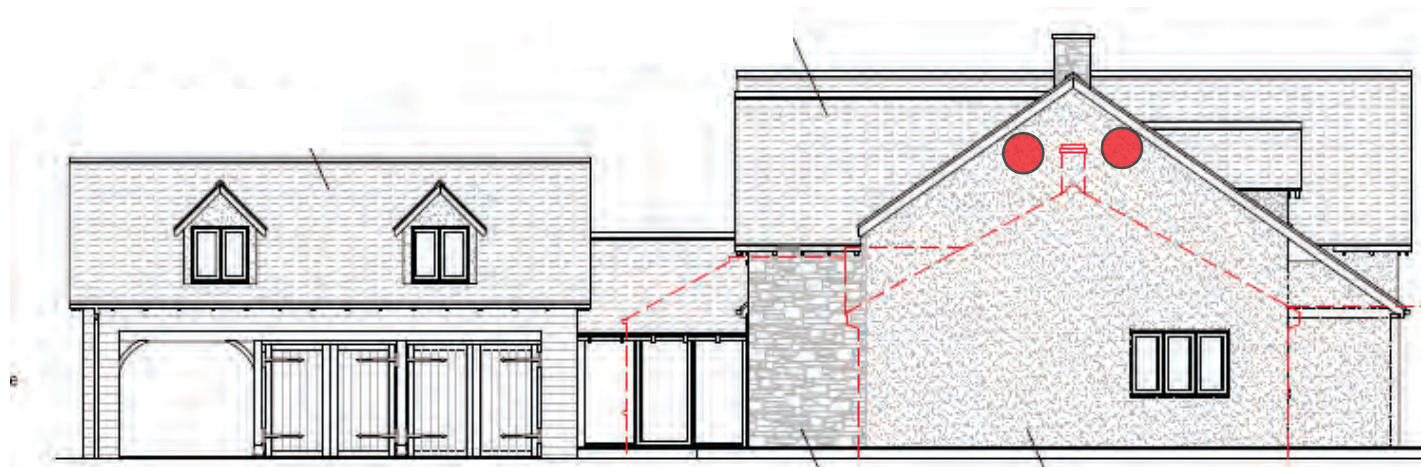


Client	MSP Design
Title	Location plan
Site	Coolon, Hankley, Wiltshire
Figure	1
Date	18 February 2026.
Scale	Not to scale



West Elevation

-  Fit 2 number integrally fitted sparrow nest boxes
-  Fit 2 number Habitat integrally fitted bat roosting boxes.



East Elevation

Client MSP Design
Title Ecological enhancement
Site Coolon, Hankley, Wiltshire
Figure 2
Date 19 February 2026.
Scale Not to scale

Appendix II – Site Photographs



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Photographs 1- 3



Photograph 1:

Front; south elevation



Photograph 2:

West elevation



Photograph 3:

Rear; north elevation and east gable.

Photographs 4 - 6



Photograph 4:

Detail; showing the eaves of the dwelling. They provide bats with no significant roosting opportunities.



Photograph 5:

Detail; showing the eaves of the garage. They provide bats with no significant roosting opportunity.



Photograph 6:

The roof of the dwelling is clad with modern concrete interlocking tiles, the tiles fit tightly and provide no significant crevices. A single chimney is present, the chimney remains in good condition, including the lead flashings, which seal well to the roof.

Photographs 7 - 9



Photograph 7:

Roof verges all remain well sealed.



Photograph 8:

The dwelling provides a spacious roof void, the void showed no evidence of a bat roost.



Photograph 9:

Garage. The garage showed no evidence of a bat roost.

Appendix III – Information Sheets



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Bat Habitat Suitably Criteria

Bat Roosting Suitability	Criteria	Survey requirement to prove likely absence
Negligible	Negligible habitat features on site likely to be used by roosting bats.	No further survey work required
Low	A building, structure or tree with one or more potential roosting sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically; however, these possible roost sites do not provide enough space, shelter, protection and/or suitable surrounding habitat to be used by large numbers of bats and are unlikely to be suitable for maternity or hibernation roosts.	One activity survey
Medium	A building, structure or tree with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to the size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habit, but is unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status.	Two activity surveys
High	A building, structure or tree 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.	Three activity surveys

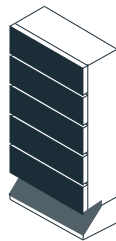
Survey requirements are taken from Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (2024), which is the recognised industry standard guidance used by local planning authorities and other statutory consultees.

Bat Tubes

Woodcrete Bat Tubes

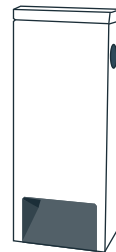
We recommend the use of woodcrete-type bat tubes that are manufactured by Habibat or Schwegler. These are a well known brands so are always accepted as a compensation measure for planning applications and Natural England Licence applications. The tubes also have a low visual impact on the development because they can be built into the exterior wall and then rendered or painted, or in the case of the Habibat, faced with brick or stone.

Recommended bat tubes



Habibat

The great advantage of the Habibat box is that it can be faced with brick, stone or render, so that it blends in and doesn't alter the aesthetic of the build.



Schwegler 1FR & 2FR

There are two similar designs that we use regularly. The 1FR is designed to be used singularly whereas the 2FR has transverse connecting holes (model shown) that allow tubes to be connected together.

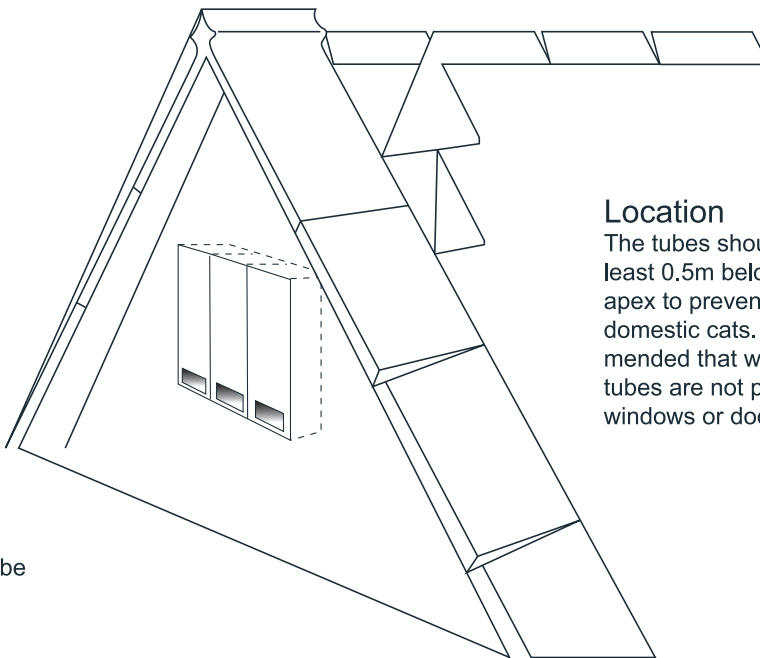
Specifications

Height	44 cm
Width	21 cm
Depth	10 cm
Weight	7 kg

Height	47.5 cm
Width	20 cm
Depth	12.5 cm
Weight	9.8 kg

How Many to Install

The number of bat tubes to install is dependent on the level of compensation or mitigation that is required. Typically one tube is recommended on sites where there are low number of bats and multiple groups of tubes are recommended on sites of high ecological significance.



Location

The tubes should be positioned at least 0.5m below the eave or gable apex to prevent predation by domestic cats. It is also recommended that where practical, the tubes are not positioned above windows or doors.

Installation

The tubes should be built into the exterior wall of the building, typically at the gable apex. The tubes should be installed flush with the surrounding wall and can then be rendered or painted with breathable paint if required.

Bat Tubes

Bat tubes are an excellent way to provide discreet and low impact roosting opportunities for certain species of bats that tend to occupy crevices within buildings. They are relatively compact and can be installed flush or beneath a rendered surface and can be painted with an air permeable paint if required.

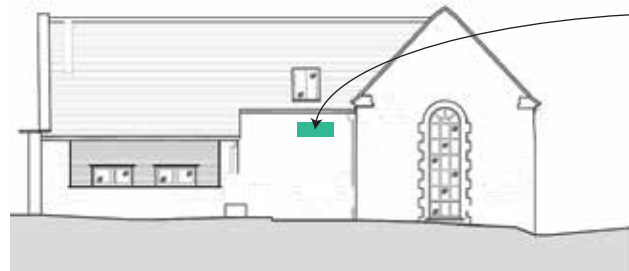


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Bird Boxes for Buildings

Woodcrete Bird Boxes

We recommend the use of woodcrete bird boxes. The boxes are long-lasting and have a low visual impact on a development because they can be built into the exterior wall. In the case of Habibat, boxes can be rendered, or faced with brick or stone.



How Many to Install

The number of bird boxes depends on the level of compensation or mitigation that is required, and depends on the level of bird activity and the scale of the development. Generally one box or a small group of boxes is sufficient.

Location

Bird boxes are best positioned under the eaves of the dwelling as shown on the left. The tops of the boxes should be positioned a short distance below the eaves by approximately 100-200 mm. Boxes should ideally not be located above windows or doors.

Encouraging Birds Is Simple

Installing bird boxes is an easy, cost-effective way to support declining species. They provide vital nesting spaces for birds in built environments—helping biodiversity thrive right where you live or work



Habibat Sparrow Terrace

A simple, durable wooden nest box designed for house sparrows. Install in groups under eaves or on walls to mimic colony nesting and support declining urban sparrow populations.



Schwegler Sparrow Terrace

A long-lasting wood-concrete terrace with three nesting chambers for house sparrows. Encourages colony breeding, excellent insulation, and weather resistance for year-round protection. Mount under eaves or high walls.



Woodstone House Martin Box

Made from breathable wood-concrete, this twin nest replicates natural house martin cups. Fix beneath roof overhangs on north or east elevations.



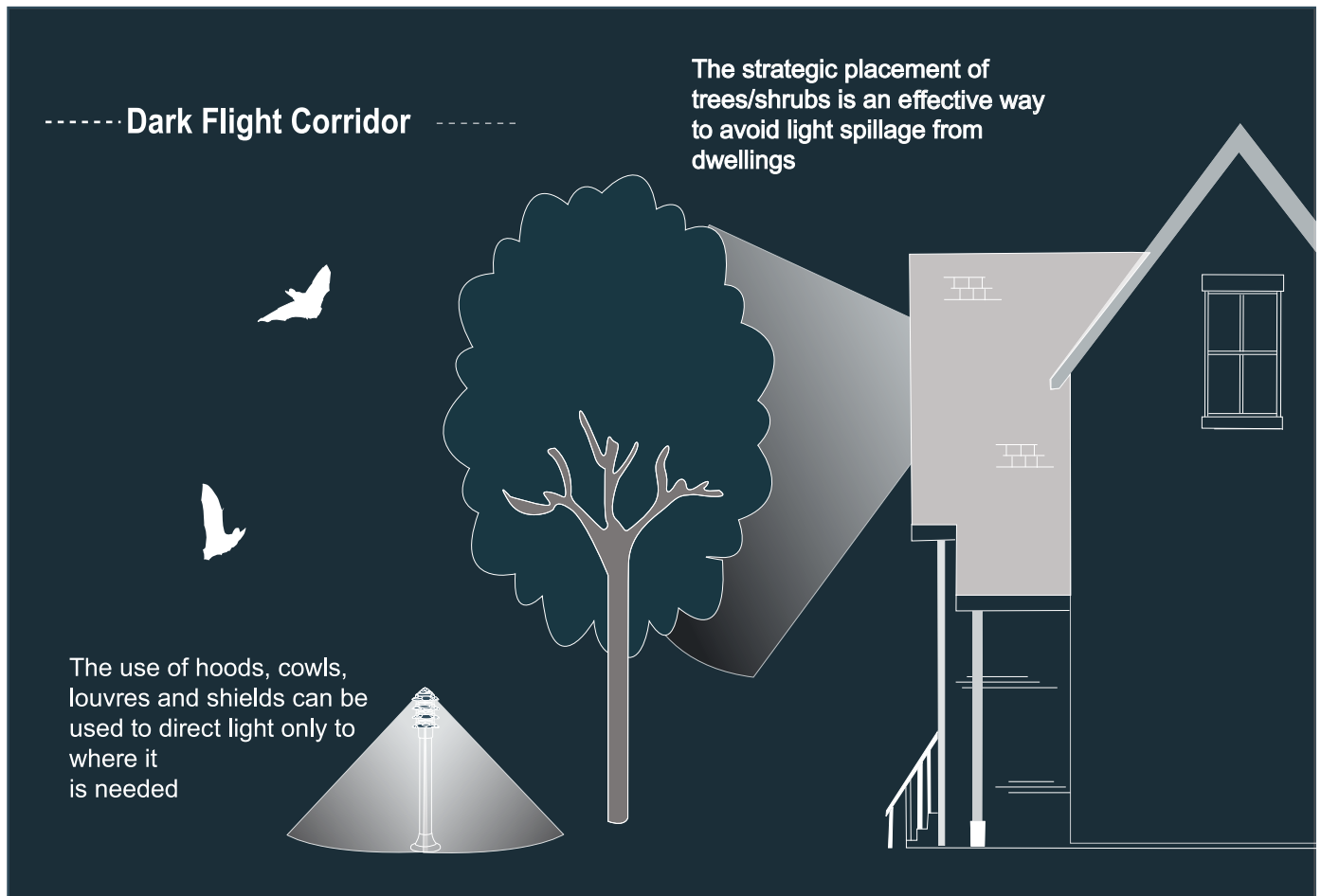
Swift AFS S Box

Purpose-built, durable nest box for common swifts, made from recycled wood-concrete. Suitable for wall or eaves mounting at least 5 m high with clear flight access.



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Sensitive Lighting for Bats



Lamp Type

The impact of light on bats can be minimised by the use of low/high pressure sodium lamps.

Lighting Column

The height of lighting columns should be kept as low as possible to reduce the impact of light spill. For example, when designing lighting for pedestrian walkways, use short bollard lights that produce a low level light (as low as 3 lux) directed downwards.

Light Mapping

Mapping the light spill of a lighting scheme using computer software can prove essential in designing schemes that are fit for purpose, that minimise energy costs and create dark light corridors and foraging areas for bats.

Light Levels

Proposed light levels within landscape plans should be as low as possible. If lighting is not needed, don't light.

Timing of Lighting

The times at when lighting is left on should be limited where possible. The use of movement sensors and timers for lights is useful for saving energy and reducing the amount of time a light is left on.

Impacts of Light on Bats

As nocturnal mammals, light causes disturbance to bats and many species will actively avoid lit areas. The illumination of bat roosts can delay bats emerging and thus shorten their foraging time and may eventually lead to bats abandoning their roost. The illumination of foraging or commuting areas may also lead to an increase in the rate of predation of bats by predators.



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