

Greena Ecological Consultancy

PRELIMINARY ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

The Fishing Lodge

The Close

Salisbury

SP1 2EY

2nd September 2026

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Brief

A preliminary ecological assessment report was requested to support a planning application for works to an existing, listed fishing lodge, including creating a boat house area and a first-floor area above the boathouse accommodating a tackle room.

This ecological survey is intended to ascertain sufficient information to evaluate the situation adequately in preparation of the above-mentioned works. The information gathered will be necessary to comply with European regulations, which are connected with planning regulations and with The Wildlife and Countryside Directives and Habitat Regulations.

Consultation with the Local Planning Authority, Wiltshire Council, is required.

Summary

- Greena Ecological Consultancy was instructed by Steve Maton, owner of this property, to undertake a field and desktop survey to support a planning application.
- The survey site is comprised of a small fishing lodge surrounded by multiple small native trees and a native hedgerow. The building has brick walls, the west gable has a stone wall and a felt roof. An extension on the east elevation has brick walls and felt roof.
- The site was inspected on the 13th August 2026.
- The building on site have no obvious suitable roosting features for bats and no signs of bats were identified. Therefore no further surveys are required. The habitat on and around the site was assessed to provide moderate suitability for flight path for bats, any bordering features, including the River Avon, should therefore not be illuminated by more than 0.5 lux.
- No signs of nesting birds were identified on site during the daytime survey on the 13th of August 2026. Hedgerows and trees surrounding the building create suitable nesting opportunities for a range of bird species.
- Presence of no other European or UK protected species was confirmed or likely due to the small area, location and lack of connectivity to other habitat.
- As a precaution the site should be kept tidy throughout construction to ensure no animals take refuge in building material and equipment. Furthermore, any excavation deeper than 1m and left open overnight is required to have a mean of escape in case a badger falls in, a rough wooden plank placed with a slow incline to ground level for badgers to exist is suitable. Any pipework with a diameter larger than 120mm should be covered overnight to ensure no badgers fall in and get trapped.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Greena Ecological Consultancy was instructed by Steve Maton, owner of the property, to undertake this survey to support a planning application for work to an existing fishing lodge. Proposed plans include adding on a boathouse area and a first floor accommodating a tackle room area.

Greena have carried out extensive fieldwork for bats in the area where at least 14 species have been recorded.

1.2 Legislation

1.2.1 National Planning Policy

Conserving and enhancing the natural environment:

- Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:
 - 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);
 - 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;
 - Maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate;
 - Minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;
 - 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
 - Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.
- Plans should: distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites; allocate land with the least environmental or amenity value, where consistent with other policies in this Framework; take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure; and plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries.
- Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty which have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues. The conservation and enhancement of wildlife and cultural heritage are also important considerations in these areas and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads. The scale and extent of development within all these designated areas should be limited, while development within their setting should be sensitively located and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the designated areas.

- When considering applications for development within National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, permission should be refused for major development other than in exceptional circumstances, and where it can be demonstrated that the development is in the public interest. Consideration of such applications should include an assessment of:
 - The need for the development, including in terms of any national considerations, and the impact of permitting it, or refusing it, upon the local economy;
 - The cost of, and scope for, developing outside the designated area, or meeting the need for it in some other way; and
 - Any detrimental effect on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated.
- Within areas defined as Heritage Coast, planning policies and decisions should be consistent with the special character of the area and the importance of its conservation. Major development within a Heritage Coast is unlikely to be appropriate unless it is compatible with its special character.

Habitats and biodiversity:

- To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:
 - 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 biodiversity⁶¹; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and
 - 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:
 - 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;
 - 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;
 - 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 reasons⁶³ and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and
 - 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.

- The following should be given the same protection as habitats sites:
 - Potential Special Protection Areas and possible Special Areas of Conservation;
 - Listed or proposed Ramsar sites; and
 - Sites identified, or required, as compensatory measures for adverse effects on habitats sites, potential Special Protection Areas, possible Special Areas of Conservation, and listed or proposed Ramsar sites.
- The presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a habitats site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), unless an appropriate assessment has concluded that the plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of the habitats site.

1.2.2 Bats

All UK bat species and their roosts are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) through inclusion in Schedule 5, under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, and under Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). The Regulations designate bats as European Protected Species (EPS).

Taken together, the Acts and Regulations protecting bats make it an offence to:

- Deliberately kill, injure, capture or take bats;
- Deliberately disturb bats. This particularly relates to disturbance that is likely to:
 - Impair their ability to survive, breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young;
 - Impair their ability to hibernate or (for migratory species) migrate; and/or
 - Affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.
- Damage or destroy bat roosts;
- Possess or transport a bat or part of a bat, unless acquired legally; and
- Sell, offer for sale or exchange bats or parts of bats.

A roost is any structure or place used for shelter or protection. Bats need to have access to a number of roosts because they use different roosts depending on season, breeding status and prevailing weather conditions. For this reason roosts are protected whether or not bats are present at the time.

As bats are designated EPS, development and building works that are likely to result in the disturbance of bats, damage to or destruction of their roosts, or require bats to be caught or translocated, usually require an EPS licence to be obtained from Natural England before any works begin. Obtaining a licence involves completing an Application Pack, including a Method Statement that details mitigation appropriate to maintaining the 'favourable conservation status' of the local bat population. Three conditions must be met before a licence can be granted:

- There is no satisfactory alternative;
- The development will not be detrimental to the maintenance of local bat populations at a 'favourable conservation status' in their natural range; and
- The development must be for 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest including those of a social or economic nature'.

An EPS licence is required for all development activities if there is a reasonable likelihood that an offence against Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended),

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) or Environmental Damage Regulation 2009 (as amended) will be committed.

The following offences could potentially be committed by carrying out the proposed development if any bat species are present during the conversion works:

- Capturing or killing – a wild animal of a European Protected Species (EPS) could be deliberately captured, injured or killed (Reg 41(1)(a));
- Disturbing EPS – a wild animal of an EPS could be deliberately disturbed including in particular a disturbance which is likely to impair its / their ability to survive or hibernate (Reg 41 (1)(b));
- Disturbing EPS whilst occupying a structure or place used for shelter or protection – includes intentional and reckless disturbance (s9 (4)(b) WCA); and
- Damage of an EPS breeding site or resting place – (Reg 41 (1)(d)) – strict liability.

The above stated offences can be avoided where works are to take place when bats are not present and bat roost will be maintained unchanged. If roost is going to be available to bats at the time they usually occupy the structure, a continued ecological functionality of the site will be preserved. Suitable mitigation measures must be put in place prior, during and post works to ensure that continued ecological functionality will be maintained.

In case the above listed offences cannot be guaranteed to be avoided throughout the proposed development, an EPS licence to derogate must be sought.

The full EPS licence generally applies if the proposed development is to cause greater than low ecological impact. A simpler and faster way of carrying out development with low ecological impact had been implemented by Natural England under the Bat Mitigation Class Licence (BMCL). It involves BMCL Registered Consultants who can supervise the proposed low impact development under their personal class licence, the need for preparation and processing of an EPS licence is vastly reduced. The development is carried out under a site registration prepared for the works and under the supervision of the licensed ecologist. BMCL only covers low impact development affecting low numbers of “common” bats and providing the site in question does not serve as a maternity or hibernation roost.

1.2.3 Birds

In the UK, with the exception of 13 ‘pest species’ of birds, which may be killed by authorised persons only, wild birds have general protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1984). It is an offence to: kill, injure or take a wild bird; take, damage or destroy nests (in use or being built); and take or destroy eggs. Under Schedule I of the Act, some species (including the barn owl *Tyto alba*) are protected by special penalties at all times.

Birds receive additional protection under the European Communities Council Directives on the Conservation of Wild Birds. This directive relates to the conservation of all species of birds naturally occurring in the wild in European territory of the Member States, as well as their nests and habitats.

If any of the above resulted from a person being reckless, even if they had no intention of committing the offence, their action would still be considered an offence.

1.2.4 Badgers (*Meles meles*)

Badgers (Meles meles) are protected in Britain by the Protection of Badger Act 1992 as well as the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996. The purpose of the Badger Act is to protect the animals from deliberate cruelty and from the incidental effects of lawful activities which could cause harm.

Under this legislation it is an offence to:

- Wilfully kill, injure, take, possess or cruelly ill-treat a badger, or attempt to do so
- Interfere with a sett by damaging or destroying it
- Obstruct access to, or any entrance of a badger sett
- Disturb a badger when it is occupying a sett

If any of the above resulted from a person being reckless, even if they had no intention of committing the offence, their action would still be considered an offence.

The following activities will generally require a licence from Natural England:

- Works undertaken using heavy machinery (generally tracked vehicles) within 30m of an active sett entrance
- Using lighter machinery (generally wheeled vehicles), particularly for any digging operation within 20m of an active sett entrance
- Light work such as hand digging or scrub clearance within 10m.

No offence will be committed if no parts of the sett will be damaged during works and if badgers are not occupying the sett at the time of works.

1.2.5 Reptiles

All reptile species native to the UK are afforded legal protection under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). All native reptile species are protected in respect to their deliberate killing and injury only. Protection is not extended to their habitat. There are 6 native species of reptile which occupy the UK and all of them are UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority species. *Sand lizard (Lacerta agilis)* and *Smooth snake (Coronella girondica)* are the rarest with restricted distribution (possible to occur in Somerset although more commonly found in south England) and protection under both, the UK and European legislation.

Common lizard (Zootoca vivipara) and *Slow-worm (Anguis fragilis)* are widespread and still common throughout much of England, in a wide variety of habitat types. *Grass snake (Natrix natrix)* is still fairly common throughout most of southern England and parts of lowland Wales but is rarer further north. *Adder (Vipera berus)* has become much less common in recent years but is still frequent in some areas of Britain (Gasc et al. 2004, Beebee & Griffiths 2000, Arnold 1995). Our view from the many site surveys we carry out is that *Slow-worm (Anguis fragilis)* are still common in many areas but *Grass snake (Natrix natrix)* and *Common lizard (Zootoca vivipara)* less so. *Adders (Vipera berus)* are becoming decidedly rare. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) provides protection for the *Slow-worm (Anguis fragilis)*, *Common lizard (Zootoca vivipara)*, *Grass snake (Natrix natrix)* and *Adders (Vipera berus)* from deliberate killing and injury. Sale and related commercial activities are also proscribed.

Edgar, Foster & Baker (2010) note declines in all the common reptile species in Britain in recent years, in some places severe. Factors may include:

- Habitat and micro-habitat degradation;
- Changes in land use such as agriculture and development;
- Fragmentation of habitats and population isolation;
- Ecological succession;

- Predation by domestic cats (and pheasants) and disturbance by dogs;
 - Fire (especially moors and heaths);
 - Inappropriate conservation/habitat management;
 - Overgrazing;
 - Invasive exotic plant species;
 - Damage to habitats by excessive visitor pressure/off-road vehicles;
- Deliberate killing by people, especially Adder, Grass snake and Slow worm.

2. Aims and Objectives

The aim of the survey and supporting desk study was to satisfy the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), identify ecological features within or near the site that could potentially pose a constraint to the proposed development and opportunities for incorporating biodiversity enhancements into the development proposals. The following ecological features were relevant to the survey carried out by Greena Ecological Consultancy:

- Proximity of statutory and non-statutory designated wildlife sites;
- Proximity of Habitats and Species of principal Importance, or local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats and networks of these habitats.
- Legally protected wildlife species; and
- All other species of wildlife potentially affected by the proposed development

This report has been produced with reference to current guidelines for preliminary ecological appraisal (CIEEM, 2017).

3. Site Description

The site is located in the centre of Salisbury at OS grid reference SU1398729519 (see Figure 1). The nearest woodlands lie approximately 157m west of the site, the nearest hedgerows lie approximately 35m west, and the River Avon borders the site to the west followed by agricultural land that seasonally floods.

Figure 1: Site Location



3.1 Site Description

The site comprises of a small single-story building with an extension on the east elevation. The building has mainly brick walls, the north elevation has sealed clay tiled walls and the western elevation is comprised of natural stone. The roof of the main building is comprised of felt and the ridge is well-sealed. The building has soffit boxes and it is unknown whether all soffit boxes are connected. Internally there is no ceiling, a small area was enclosed and this area was inspected via ladder. The extension has brick walls and a felt roof, internally there is plastic felt present. Both buildings are timber framed.

The garden of the building comprises of primarily gravel path and garden planted areas. There are multiple planted native trees in the garden area and there is a small shed in the northwest area of the site.

Figure 2: Existing plans

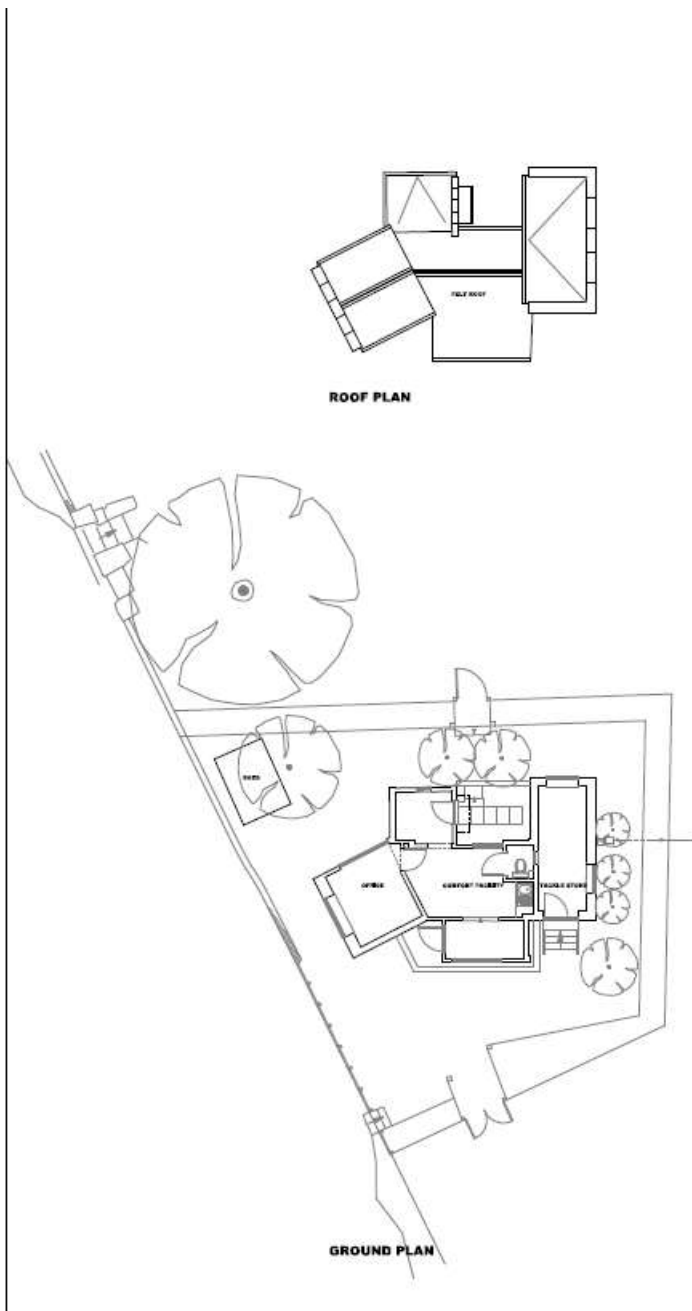
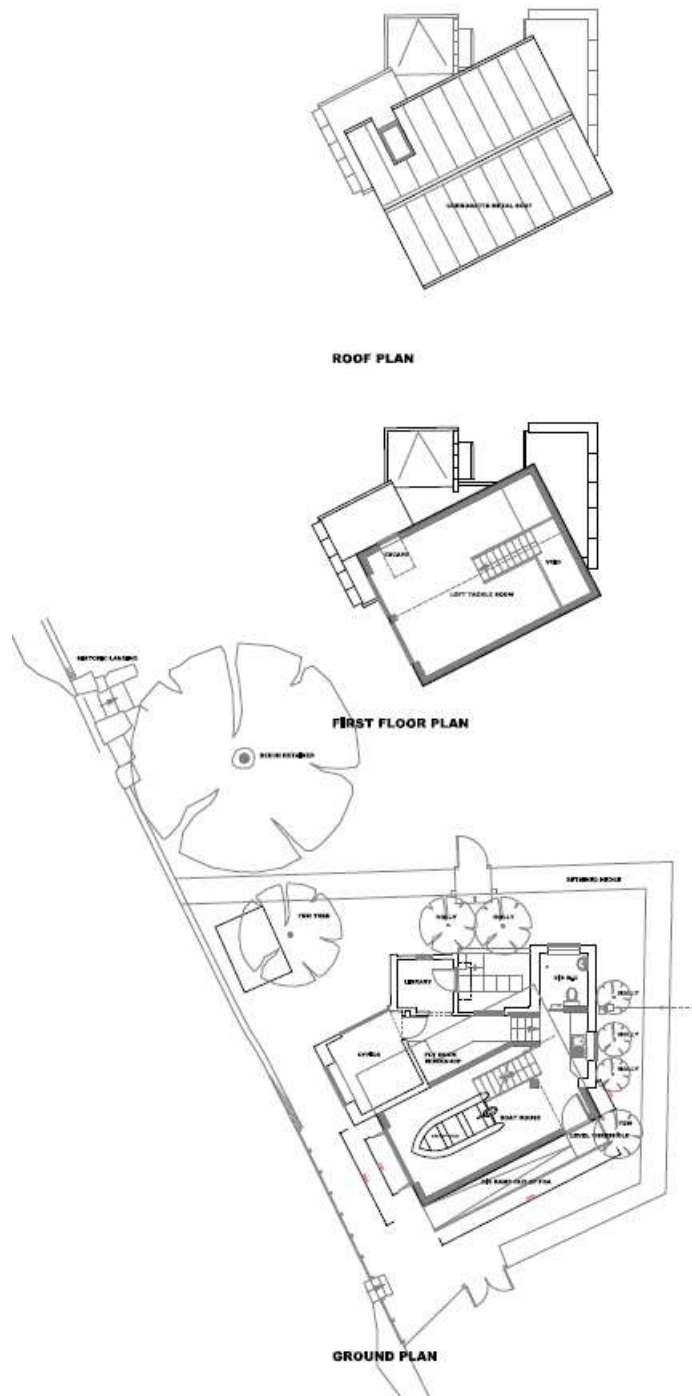


Figure 3: Proposed plans



Photographs 1 - 5: Main Building





Photograph 6: Extension East Elevation



Photographs 7-8: Internal Main building



Photographs 9-10: Internal Extension



Photographs 11-13: Garden Area



4. Methods

Surveyor Line Andresen BSc Hons, assistant ecologist at Greena Ecological Consultancy, working under Geoff Billington MCIEEM (Greena Ecological Consultancy, holder of Natural England class 3 & 4 bat survey licences) licence, undertook a daytime inspection of the site on the 13th of August 2026.

No overall desktop search has been carried out for bat records because 15 bat species have already been recorded by Greena and others in the local area including the more common four annex II species, so this assemblage are taken to be the species occurring in the area.

Searches were made for the following:

- Past records in this actual site;
- Nearest designated site; and
- Nearest bat licence that has been issued.

Instruments at hand if needed throughout the survey were a high-end torch (Glaryligh – GL-P70-DK-A), endoscope (Vividia – VA450), ladder and binoculars.

4.1 Bats

The site was surveyed using the following methodology:

- a) Signs of residency by bat species. This consisted of a slow methodical search for roosting bats and their signs. Droppings can be used to identify species and scratch marks and staining at roosts and exit holes shows the presence of bats. Similarly, the presence of spider webs at a potential roost entry can often indicate an absence of bats; and
- b) An assessment of the potential of a building or tree to provide a roost either in the summer (maternity) or winter (hibernation).

The site was inspected to locate potential roosting sites, discover possible points of egress for bats and detect bats or any signs of bats such as droppings, wear marks, staining and feeding remains.

In accordance with Collins (2023) the habitats on-site and directly surrounding the site were assessed for suitability, including roosting, foraging and commuting for bats. Links to known roosts and areas designated to bats were also assessed.

4.2 Birds

The interior and exterior of the buildings were inspected during the daytime visit on the 13th August 2026 for bird species, and to locate signs of use such as nests and/or droppings.

4.3 Other Protected Species

The site was inspected/ assessed for the signs of presence/ potential for other European and UK protected species on the 13th of August 2026.

Visual inspection was utilised as a method of search for other protected species.

5. Report Limitations

An ecological survey is limited by factors that affect the presence of plants and animal, this includes time of the year, migration and behaviour. Species and features can be missed during the inspection due to human factor. The ecological survey present species present on site, however, this is not a definite list of all species on-site and evidential absence of other species is not taken as conclusive proof that the species is not present or will be present on the affected site.

Over time habitats and species supported within habitats can change through natural processes and human interference. Therefore, is this report valid for 18 months, in line with current guidelines, and the site will thereafter need to be resurveyed and the report updated accordingly.

6. Results

Greena Ecological Consultancy conducted a daytime survey on the 13th of August 2026, a desktop search was performed prior to the daytime survey and completed after the daytime survey. An ecological survey was conducted by Greena Ecological Consultancy in 2023.

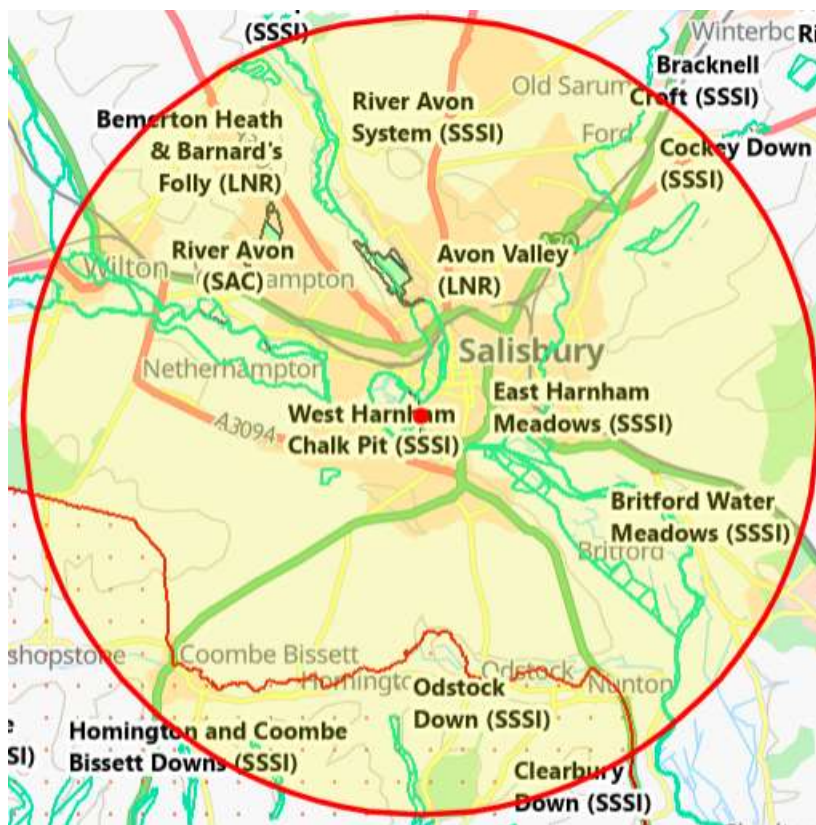
6.1 Designated sites

Figure 4 present designated sites within 5km of the site. The development site lies adjacent to the River Avon (SSSI, SAC) which is designated for being richer and more varied than in most chalk streams with over 180 species of aquatic plant having been recorded, one of the most diverse fish faunas in Britain and a wide range of aquatic invertebrates. It rises in the Pewsey Vale as a network of clay streams fed by chalk springs. These converge to a chalk river running through Salisbury Plain.

East Harnham Meadows (SSSI) lies approximately 1km south east of the site and is designated for being an area of botanically rich, neutral grassland lying within the floodplain of the River Avon near the centre of Salisbury. The complex of small pastures, criss-crossed with ditches and bordered by the River Avon and its channels, was formerly under water meadow management.

West Harnham Chalk Pit (SSSI) lies approximately 1.3km south west of the site and is designated for being a disused quarry, with a high and impressive north-facing rock wall, which provides good and important exposures of the Chalk. The site is of great stratigraphic importance in the Campanian (Chalk) of Wiltshire.

Figure 4. Designated sites



6.2 Habitats

There are multiple areas of priority habitats within 2km of the site, presented in figure 5. The nearest area of priority habitat includes the River Avon directly west of the site and directly north of the site is a potential area of priority habitat woodpasture and parkland. Other priority habitats include other areas of traditional orchard, coastal & floodplain grazing marsh, lowland meadows, lowland fens and deciduous woodland.

ton Heath

Wilton Road

Bereton

Lower Rd

Churchfields

Salisbury

Widham Park

Millford

Harnham

The Clove

Norhampton Road

Old Road

South Road

Salisbury

Scale 1:23,798

6.3 Bats

Table 1. Bat species recorded in the local area

	Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser horseshoe Bat)
	Rhinolophus ferrumequinum (Greater horseshoe Bat)
	Plecotus auritus (Brown long-eared Bat)
	Pipistrellus pipistrellus (Common pipistrelle Bat)
	Pipistrellus pygmaeus (Soprano pipistrelle Bat)
	Pipistrellus nathusii (Nathusius pipistrelle Bat)

Bat species recorded in the area	Myotis daubentonii (Daubenton's Bat)
	Myotis bechsteinii (Bechstein's Bat)
	Myotis mystacinus (Whiskered Bat)
	Myotis brandtii (Brandt's Bat)
	Myotis nattererii (Natterer's Bat)
	Eptesicus serotinus (Serotine Bat)
	Barbastella barbastellus (Barbastelle Bat)
	Nyctalus noctule (Noctule Bat)

There is one European Protected Species (EPS) licence for bats issued within 2km radius of the site in the last 10 years according to Magic Maps. The nearest site with a protected species licence for bats is located approximately 1.2km northwest of the site, the licence (2018-37141-EPS-MIT) that was granted in 2018 for destruction of a *common pipistrelle* (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) and *lesser horseshoe* (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*) resting place.

No are no known bat records on site. Previous survey identified a potential access hole on the south elevation. In the access hole with two droppings were identified, these were potentially mice droppings. The potential access hole was re-surveyed with an endoscope and due to natural degradation of the wood the hole could be more thoroughly inspected to determined that there was no access into the soffits and the area is not enclosed. All other soffits are sealed with no bat access, the ridge tiles are sealed and the felt roof is not suitable for roosting bats. Internally there is no felt present and the ceiling is open to the rafters. The extension has plastic felt present on a felt roof providing negligible bat roost potential.

The site does not lie within any bat consultation zones it does however lie in Bat Assemblage, targeting *Barbastelle Bat* (*Barbastella barbastellus*) *Bechstein's bat* (*Myotis bechsteinii*), *Brandt's bat* (*Myotis brandtii*), *Greater horseshoe bat* (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*), *Lesser horseshoe bat* (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*) and *Serotine bat* (*Cnephaeus serotinus*). the habitat on and directly surrounding the site were assessed as moderate potential for foraging and commuting bats due to the adjacent location to the River Avon SAC and that the site is subject to minimal artificial lighting. To the east of the site are residential dwellings and Salisbury Cathedral is located approximately 250m further east from the site.

6.4 Birds

The site lies within a Countryside Stewardship (CS) area for *corn bunting* (*Emberiza calandra*). The site also lies within an area for *stone curlew* (*). There is CS area for lapwing* (*Vanellus vanellus*) located approximately 470m south from the site. There are also areas designated for *grey partridge* (*Perdix perdix*) located approximately 750m south of the site and area for *turtle dove* (*Streptopelia turtur*) located approximately 1.1km east from the site. During the daytime survey on the 13th of August 2026 no signs of nesting birds identified on site. Native hedgerow and trees are deemed as suitable for nesting birds.

6.5 Other protected species

There are no European Protected Species (EPS) licences within 2km, issued in the last 10 years according to Magic Map. The site does lie within a CS area for *brown hairstreak* (*Thecla betulae*).

During the field survey on the 13th of August 2026 no signs of other protected species were identified on the site. Proposed project only affects an area already affected by human interference and gravel surface. A small ornamental scrub may be removed, all linear features and trees are however to be retained.

7. Conclusions

7.1 Designated sites & Habitats

The site lies within the Impact Risk Zone for River Avon SSSI and directly adjacent to River Avon SAC. As proposed plans only include a small extension of an existing boathouse no consultation with Natural England is required. No designated sites are deemed to be affected by proposed plans.

7.2 Bats

As the building was deemed to provide negligible bat roost potential no further surveys of the existing building are required. The habitats on and surrounding the site were assessed as providing moderate potential for flight routes or foraging due to being located adjacent to River Avon SAC and subject to minimal artificial lighting. To not affect any current flight paths for bats bordering hedgerows are not to be illuminated by more than 0.5 lux.

7.3 Birds

During the daytime survey no bird nests were identified on site area. The hedgerow bordering the site is however suitable for nesting birds, the hedgerow is to be retained. Prior to work commencing ensure that no passerine birds are nesting internal or external of the building, if active bird nests are identified these are to be left until fledged.

Nesting birds are protected under Wildlife and Countryside Act (1984) and have additional protection under the European Communities Council Directives on the Conservation of Wild Birds legislation, birds habitat are however not protected unless under designated protected sites.

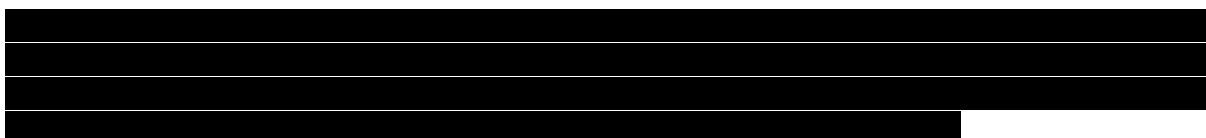
7.4 Other protected species

The site consist mainly of habitat already affected by human interference and habitat on site was assessed to provide very low suitability for other protected species.

The site was not deemed to support rare invertebrates, the planting of native trees and hedgerow was however assessed to create habitat suitable for more common invertebrates.

The site provides very low suitability for reptiles due to the lack of connectivity to other habitat and due to the majority of the site area consisting of the existing building. During the daytime survey no hibernation features where identified.

The site provides very low suitability for *hazel dormice* (*Muscardinus avellanarius*) due to the site being located between the River Avon and the central area of Salisbury. The site is connected to suitable habitat for *hazel dormice* (*Muscardinus avellanarius*).



A cautionary approach is to be established throughout the development and includes keeping the site tidy and any material stacked on pallets to avoid creating refugia which could be used

by protected species. Any excavation deeper than 1m and any pipework with a diameter larger than 120mm should be covered overnight to ensure no animals fall in and get trapped. Furthermore, any animals found should be allowed to disperse naturally.

8. Mitigation & Enhancement

8.1 Habitats

Enhancement on site already including planting of a native tress, common yew and holly have successfully been planted and are now established trees. As the site is small there is limited room for further planting of trees and the site owners have through planting of both trees and hedgerow already significantly enhanced habitat on site.

8.2 Bats

Enhancement measure post development can include installing at least one bat box on the building or onto a tree. Bat boxes are to be installed as close to eaves as possible to avoid predators sheltered from strong winds and partly exposed to the sun daily. A bat box should be facing away from any artificial light sources. Proposed bat boxes suitable for the site are Schwegler 1FF and Schwegler 1FTH.

As the site is located in an area with moderate potential for foraging and commuting bats and is currently subject to no artificial lighting illumination of bordering features, including River Avon, are not to exceed 0.5 lux and bat boxes or are not lit up by artificial lighting.

8.3 Birds

Post development enhancement can include installing at least one bird box on the building or trees. Bird boxes suggested are Schwegler No 17 Swift Nest Box, Schwegler 1SP Sparrow Terrace, Schwegler 1B Nest Boxes, Schwegler 2H Robin Boxes or Woodstone Nest Box. If swift and sparrow boxes are installed these should be positioned at the eaves of a building and can be incorporated into the fabric of the building during construction. If swallow cups are installed these should be placed high inside an external building where birds can launch and fly away safely and comfortably.

8.4 Other protected species

Enhancement suitable for the site include leaving wilder areas towards the river and hedgerow as this will create stepping stones for wildlife. A bee brick is to be installed on the building or in the garden which will create further provisions for bees to nest and flowering.

9. References

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