

Bat Activity Survey at
The Mount,
Tower Hill, Acrefair,
Wrexham LL14 3SU
on 3rd July 2023

Report completed 10th August 2023
Ref: MOU030723

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Introduction

Susan Worsfold BSc (Hons) ACIEEM is an experienced wildlife surveyor, licensed bat and great crested newt worker and voluntary bat roost visitor. Registration number CLS0895 2015-12555-CLS-CLS (CL15 Bat Roost Visitor Level 1) and registration number CLS 0895 2015-12556-CLS-CLS (CL18 Bat Survey Level 2) (Natural England) and S089569-1 (Natural Resources Wales); Great crested newt licence registration number 2016-19947-CLS-CLS (NE) and S089570-1 (NRW)

This report was commissioned by Steve Jones, D. S. Jones & Co. Architectural & Planning Consultants for the owner.

The purpose of the report is to provide results from a bat emergence survey as recommended in the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal carried out by AMC Ecological and Elite Ecology in 2022. This is necessary to comply with local planning policy and government legislation and avoid any offence being committed. Also, to describe any compensation, mitigation and enhancement measures which should be taken.

Methodology

Scope of the Assessment

The report describes the methods and results of the emergence survey to supplement the previous report.

Field Survey

One dusk emergence survey was carried out in accordance with *Bat surveys for professional ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (3rd Edn)* (Collins 2016) and the Interim Guidance Note: Use of night vision aids for bat emergence surveys and further comment on dawn surveys (*Bat Conservation Trust, May 2022*).

Frequency division detectors were used to record any bat sounds around the building for later analysis on the computer. These were Peersonic RPA3 and Echo Meter EM3.

Infrared night vision aids (NVAs) were used alongside observers. These were Nightfox Red and Nightfox Whisker night vision goggles, mounted on tripods, with Nightfox XB5 IR torches.

Activity Survey

3/7/23

<i>Observer or area</i>	<i>Equipment</i>
Sue Worsfold (SW) south west corner	Peersonic RPA3 + Nightfox Red NVA
Craig Thomas (CT) north west corner	Peersonic RPA3 + Nightfox Red NVA
Dave Thomas	Echo Meter EM3 + Nightfox Red NVA (shared)
Summer Lily Rushton	Echo Meter EM3 + Nightfox Red NVA (shared)

Bats recorded:

Common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*)

Soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*)

Myotis sp., probably Natterer's bat (*Myotis nattereri*) (22.24)

<i>Observer or Area</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>No. Bats</i>	<i>Observation</i>	<i>Identification from visual or correlation with sonograms</i>
SW	21:35	1	Near building, came round N corner	Soprano pipistrelle
SW	22:42	1	Near building, came round N corner	Soprano pipistrelle
CT	21:31	1	Flying across house NW to SE	Soprano pipistrelle
CT	21:41	1	Over roof SE to NW	Soprano pipistrelle
CT	22:29	1	Above house	Soprano pipistrelle
CT	22:31	2	Above house then flew NW	Common pipistrelle
DT/SR	21:37	1	Near building	Soprano pipistrelle
DT/SR	21:41	1	Flew across building NW to SE	Soprano pipistrelle
DT/SR	22:20	1	Flew across building SE to NW	Unidentified

Assessment of Effects and Mitigation Measures

No bats were found to be using the building as a roost at the time of the survey.

There is not considered to be any current threat to the conservation status of bats or danger of harm to individuals.

However, the site and environment is suitable for foraging and commuting bats and bats may enter at any time.

If bats are found at any stage of the development then work in that area must stop and a licensed bat worker contacted for advice.

A lighting plan should be designed in accordance with the Bat Conservation Trust guidelines: <https://www.theilp.org.uk/documents/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/>

Survey Conditions

Date	Sunset/ Sunrise	Start Time	End Time	Temp. Start °C	Relative Humidity Start %	Temp. End °C	Relative Humidity End %	Cloud %	Wind 0-12	Rain
3/7/23	21:40	21:25	23:00	14	76	13	95	80	1	Yes

There was heavy rain from 23.00. Due to the limited activity and low potential for a wide variety of bat species to be using the building, it is unlikely that results of the survey would have been different if it had continued until 23.10.

Still Photographs from NVA's



Aerial Photograph Showing Positions of Observers



★ Observer, NVA and bat detector

