

30 November 2021



COMMUNITY CENTRE, EATON DRIVE, WREXHAM, LL13 9HG – ECOLOGY ASSESSMENT

Anthony Nickson Ecology Ltd undertaken an Ecological Assessment of the community centre off Eaton Drive and surrounding area in 2019. The ecological assessment which included a preliminary roost assessment and a single dawn re-entry survey accompanied the planning application (P/2021/1021) for the proposed demolition of the existing community centre and erection of a new apartment block comprising 10 no. two bed apartments and 6 no. one bed apartments.

A prior notification for demolition of the community centre has now been submitted to the local authority and as 2 years has elapsed since the original survey the planning officer has asked for the community centre building to be reassessed.

The 2019 preliminary roost assessment identified negligible to low suitability for the building to support crevice dwelling bats and a single dawn re-entry was undertake to determine if bats were using the building and also to measure if there was any bat activity in the area. No bats were observed emerging/re-entering the community centre during the nocturnal survey. A small number of pipistrelle bats were recorded commuting away from the building during the survey.

The building was resurveyed by Anthony Nickson on the 30 November 2021, Anthony is an active volunteer and professional bat worker who has held a Natural Resources Wales survey licence (S085666/1) for bats since 2013, he has been the named ecologist on several EPSM licences and held and been named on several project licences for bats. His qualifications and experience meet the criteria defined in the Technical Guidance Series Competencies for Species Survey: Bats (CIEEM, April 2013). He is also a full member the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management.

The building is in the same condition as it was when surveyed in 2019 (Land off Eaton Road Ecological Assessment, Anthony Nickson Ecology Ltd, May 2019). The two potential roost/access features identified, *2 no. absent sections of ply barge board to the southern elevation, one to the flat roof element and one to the pitched roof element*, are still absent.

The repeat survey confirms the community centre building is assessed as having negligible to low suitability. As a precautionary measure prior to commencement of the demolition of the building a suitably experienced and licensed bat ecologist should inspect the 2 no. areas where the absent sections of ply barge board are located then oversee the removal of these features. The demolition contractor should only proceed with mechanical demolition when authorised by the bat ecologist.

Kind Regards

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Principle Ecologist

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