



TREE No.36

COLEG CAMBRIA, GROVE PARK

DUSK BAT EMERGENCE SURVEY

DATE	ECOLOGIST	APPROVED	VERSION	COMMENTS
14/09/2018	Lucy Boyett	Rhian Hughes	V1	

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 TACP were commissioned by TACP Architects to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of Coleg Cambria, Grove Road, Wrexham to assess the impacts of the proposed re-development at the site (TACP, 2018).
- 1.2 As part of the proposed works, a number of trees are to be removed and a Preliminary Ground Level Roost Assessment of these trees, was undertaken by TACP on 26th July 2017 (TACP, 2018). This found four trees with bat roost potential, one of which had moderate to high potential for bat roosting (Tree No.36) and three, which had low potential. The report recommended 2-3 emergence surveys on Tree No.36 and for the three low potential trees to be soft felled under the supervision of a qualified licensed bat ecologist.
- 1.3 Enfys Ecology Limited was commissioned by TACP Architects to undertake the dusk emergence surveys on Tree No.36 and this document provides an addendum to the TACP, 2018 report, with the results of one dusk emergence survey.
- 1.4 The Preliminary Ground Roost Assessment identified Tree No.36 as a large mature tree with multiple potential roosting features, however, on the evening of the first emergence survey on 7th August 2018, it was found that Tree No.36 had become significantly damaged in a storm during Winter 17/18 and only an approx. 5m stump remained.
- 1.5 The survey work to inform this report was carried out on the 7th August 2018 and this report is valid for a period of two years from this date in accordance with best practice.

2.0 Methodology

- 2.1 *Dusk emergence survey*
 - 2.1.1 One dusk emergence survey was carried out on 7th August 2018, which is within the peak bat survey months of May to August (inclusive).
 - 2.1.2 Tree No.36 was monitored by two surveyors and records were taken of any bats observed emerging, and of any other bat activity taking place in the area during the survey. The surveyors used BatBox Duet detectors and Anabat Express bat detectors were positioned on both sides of the tree to record any bat calls for further analysis.
 - 2.1.3 The dusk emergence surveys began approximately 30 minutes before sunset and continued for approximately 90 minutes after sunset.

2.2 *Survey Details*

- 2.2.1 The dusk emergence survey were carried out on 7th August 2018 by Lucy Boyett (accredited agent under bat licence number 77581b:OTH:CSAB:2018) and Sophie Johnson (assistant under bat licence number 77581b:OTH:CSAB:2018).

2.3 *Limitations*

- 2.3.1 Bats are a difficult group to survey, and as bats are highly mobile animals, it is possible that they could move into the tree after the survey has occurred.

3.0 Survey results

3.1 *Tree No.36*

- 3.1.1 TACP, 2018 identified a cavity approx. 5m from the base on the southern side. Due to regrowth, it was not possible to see if this feature was still present, however, it was thought that the tree had split and been removed at this point. TACP, 2018 also noted that the base of the tree was almost completely hollow with two entry/exit points. This feature was still present, however there had since been a significant amount of regrowth at the base, which partially blocked the entrances.



FIGURE 3.1. TREE NO.36 – EASTERN AND WESTERN SIDES

3.2 Dusk Emergence Survey – 7th August 2018

- 3.2.1 Sunset was at 20:56 and monitoring commenced at 20:26. The conditions during the survey were dry, still with 10% cloud, and the temperature was 16°C at the beginning of the survey falling to 15°C at the end of the survey.
- 3.2.2 The activity was limited to one brief pass by a pipistrelle sp (*Pipistrelle*) commuting from west to east at 21:07.
- 3.2.3 No bats were seen to emerge from Tree No.36.

4.0 Conclusions

- 4.1 Although the initial PRA found the tree to have moderate to high potential for bats, due to storm damage and subsequent re-growth, no visible potential roosting features remain and therefore the tree is now considered to have negligible potential for roosting bats.
- 4.2 During the emergence survey, no bats were seen to emerge from the tree and the activity was limited to one pass by a commuting pipistrelle sp.
- 4.3 As the tree has negligible potential and no bats were seen to be roosting, the tree may be felled without further surveys and supervision by a bat licenced ecologist will not be required.
- 4.4 The tree does have potential for nesting birds and so if felling is to be conducted within bird nesting season (from March to September [inclusive]) then a thorough search for any nesting birds should take place immediately prior to the commencement of works. If any active nest is recorded then all works would have to cease until the chicks have fledged. It is an offence to intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird whilst it is in use or being built with unlimited fines and/or imprisonment.

5.0 References and useful Information Sources

Bat Collins, J. (ed.) (2016) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (3rd edn). The Bat Conservation Trust, London. ISBN-13 978-1-872745-96-1

TACP (2018). *Coleg Cambria Preliminary Ecological Appraisal*