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**BAT ACTIVITY SURVEY FOR
ERBISTOCK VILLAGE HALL
ERBISTOCK
LL13 0DW**

FOR

The Church of Wales

25th May 2018

David Bennett MSc MCIEEM

1. INTRODUCTION

A preliminary survey of the building was undertaken in April 2018 and a report was subsequently produced. Limited evidence of bats was found at the time of the survey and the potential is low (due to light levels). It does however have some limited points of access despite the gable end grills and it is in open countryside. In line with current BCT guidance a single activity survey was proposed.

Current proposals include conversion of the building into residential accommodation with any associated alterations to the structure.

2. ACTIVITY SURVEY

An evening emergence/activity survey was undertaken on the 24th May 2018. The information obtained from the single survey is sufficient due to the limited potential of the building. The survey was carried out by two experienced surveyors, David Bennett and an experienced assistant. The surveyors were positioned to ensure that all elevations of the building could be seen.

The survey was undertaken during suitable dry, partially overcast but warm weather conditions, still, 19°C. The site was surveyed between approximately 20.50 and 23.00 hours. The survey extended well after dusk to ensure that no cryptic species were missed.

The survey was carried out using an Anabat SD2 bat detector with PDA and an EM3 detector. The Anabat produces live sonograms which are also recorded to a CF card for later analysis on Analook, the data from the EM3 is analysed using an appropriate software package

Date	Time	Species	Observation
24.05.2018	21.20	Soprano pip	Flew past rear of building
	21.37	Soprano pip	Flew along the lane at front
	21.40	Noctule	Feeding overhead
	21.52	Noctule	Feeding overhead
	22.12	Soprano pip	Feeding nearby
	22.28	Soprano pip	Fly past side of building

- No bats emerged from the village hall building.
- The only observation for the site are for one or two soprano pipistrelle bats feeding and flying past the building, also a noctule feeding overhead.
- The analysis of the recordings from the bat detectors did not reveal the presence of any other species.

3. CONCLUSIONS, IMPACTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The survey shows that no bats are currently roosting within the structure of the village hall. This is however a snapshot of the current situation based upon a single site visit. The gaps in the gable ends although minimal remain open and there is always the possibility of sporadic bats gaining access to the building.

The Reasonable Avoidance Measures and mitigation detailed within the original report should be followed when carrying out the conversion works. No further survey works are required in respect of the village hall unless the conversion is not undertaken within 12 months from the date of this report. In this case a further internal inspection of the roof area should be undertaken by a suitably licensed and experienced bat worker.

As detailed within the original report there was some evidence of nesting house martins (old nest remains). Two new nests were found during this visit on the north-west gable end. A blackbird was also nesting within the dense ivy cover on the small shed at the rear.

Any works to remove the ivy for the small building at the rear will need to take place between September and February inclusive to avoid any potential disturbance. Any works to the main hall would need to ensure that any disturbance to the house martin nests is avoided, ie no scaffolding between March and September and no other works during this time that could affect the nests or cause disturbance.

Any works to remove the ceilings or expose the roof area (if required) should be undertaken between October and February inclusive (other internal works are fine at any time). The reason for this is that there is always the potential for nesting birds or sporadic bat use while access remains available to the roof void.