

Bat Activity Surveys at
The Old Fox, Bangor Road,
Eyton, Wrexham
LL13 0YD
GR SJ 33732 45063
on 24th May and 8th June 2016

Survey by:
Susan Worsfold BSc Hons GradCIEEM
for Worsfold and Bowen
of Springfields, Station Road,
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Shropshire. SY22 6ED

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Background

Bat activity surveys at two buildings adjacent to The Old Fox, Bangor Road, Eyton, Wrexham LL13 0YD were carried out on 24th May and 8th June 2016 by Susan Worsfold, Pippa Dean, Joe Franklin and Anne Thackwell for Worsfold and Bowen of Springfields, Station Road, Llanymynech, Shropshire SY22 6ED. The initial inspection and conclusions are given in the report Protected Species Survey at The Old Fox, Bangor Road, Eyton, Wrexham LL13 0YD on 4th January 2016 (*Worsfold and Bowen 2016*)

Procedures and equipment

A risk assessment was made before entering the buildings. A visual inspection was carried out to assess the potential or actual use by bats, of the interior and exterior of the building. It was searched systematically for any signs of bats, including droppings, rub marks and urine stains at entrances to roosts and insect remains, such as moth or butterfly wings. Crevices were checked where possible. Powerful lamps (LED Lenser P14 and H14) were used for examination of interiors and under eaves. Binoculars were used to examine parts which were not otherwise accessible.

Two bat activity surveys were carried out to establish whether the barns were being used by bats and the nature of that use if any.

These were carried out in accordance with *Bat Surveys: Good Practice Guidelines*, 2nd Edition. Bat Conservation Trust. (Hundt, L, 2012) and *Bat Worker's Manual*, JNCC (McLeish, A. P. and Mitchell-Jones, A. J., 2004)

Frequency division detectors were used to record any bat sounds for later analysis on the computer. These were Anabat SD1, Anabat II, Echo Meter EM3, Anabat Express and Song Meter SMZC.

Personnel

Susan Worsfold (SW) BSc Grad CIEEM Licensed bat worker and VBRV, 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) (NE) and 55624-OTH-CSAB:2014 (NRW); Licensed great crested newt worker, registration number 2015-8194-CLS-CLS (NE) and 55625:OTH:SA:2014 (NRW)

Pippa Dean (PD) BSc is in training. Joe Franklin (JF) and Anne Thackwell (AT) MSc are experienced assistants.

Summary of conditions

Date	Sunset/ Sunrise	Start	End	Temp Start °C	RH Start %	Temp End °C	RH End %	Cloud %	Wind m/s
24/8/16	21.18	20.5	22.5	13	62	9	73	60	1
8/6/16	21.32	21.1	11.15	18	79	17	85	60	0

24/8/16

Observer 1: SW; equipment: Anabat SD1; Station: south end of yard

Observer 2: PD; equipment: Anabat II; Station: NE corner of building 1

Observer 3: JF; equipment: Anabat Express; Station: NW corner of building 2

Stationary equipment: Echo Meter EM3 in A, Song Meter SMZC in C

First bat:

Soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*)

Time: 21.13; Location: SW and JF stations

Subsequently: Occasionally, all external stations

Other species:

None

No bat calls were recorded inside building 1. Building 2 was inaccessible. Bats were occasionally seen foraging briefly in the yard but none were seen to leave either building.

8/6/16

Observer 1: SW; equipment: Anabat SD1; Station: south end of yard

Observer 2: AT; equipment: Echo Meter EM3; Station: NE corner of building 1

Stationary equipment: Anabat II in A, Anabat Express in C, Song Meter SMZC between D and E

First bat:

Common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*)

Time: 22.08; Location: SW station

Subsequently: Occasionally, SW station

Other species:

Soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*)

Time: 22.11; Location: SW station

Subsequently: Occasionally, both external stations

No bat calls were recorded inside either building. Bats were twice seen to fly over building 1 but none were seen to leave either building.

Interpretation, Impact Assessment and Recommendations

1. It is not considered that either building is being used by bats as a summer roost.
2. The buildings are suitable for use as hibernation roosts so therefore work should be carried out between the end of March and the beginning of October to avoid harm to hibernating bats.
3. In the interests of biodiversity enhancement a bat box should be fitted externally to the new building. Further information is given in the bat box information pack available at <http://www.bats.org.uk/index.php>
4. 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.
5. A lighting plan should be designed in accordance with the Bat Conservation Trust guidelines: http://www.bats.org.uk/pages/bats_and_lighting.html

References

Bat Conservation Trust available at: <http://www.bats.org.uk/index.php>

Hundt, L (2012) *Bat Surveys: Good Practice Guidelines*, 2nd Edition. Bat Conservation Trust.

Mitchell-Jones, A. J. and McLeish, A. P. (2004) *Bat Worker's Manual*, Peterborough: Joint Nature Conservation Committee

Mitchell-Jones, A. J. (2004) *Bat Mitigation Guidelines*, Peterborough: English Nature