

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA)

Project: 49 Russell St, Wrexham LL14 3BL

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The contents of this report detail the findings of a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) undertaken November 2020 at 49 Russell Street, Wrexham, LL14 3BL (hereafter referred to as 'the site'). The site is centred on approximate Ordnance Survey Grid Reference (OSGR) SJ 27881 42679. The findings of this report have been used to inform the proposed demolition of a lean-to and erection of an extension and a detached garage. It is worth noting that the retaining wall west of B1, was falling down during the survey and is deemed not safe.

The application site, set in a suburban environment, is composed of built structures (**B1**), stone wall, hardstanding, amenity grassland, scattered scrub, scattered trees and fencing (**Plan 1**).

B1 (small lean-to, to residential house) is considered to provide 'low' bird nesting potential, with a single disused wren nest found during the nesting bird inspection. The building also after inspection is of negligible bat roosting potential, the materials used in the construction and lack of crevice potential are of note, as are the light open nature of the building. No evidence of bat species were found during internal inspection.

No significant standing waterbodies were identified during the desktop study, within a 250m zone of influence. The site is deemed to provide poor-quality terrestrial habitat for great crested newts (*Triturus cristatus*; GCN). Records for GCN, in addition to common amphibian species, were returned within 1km of the site. No further survey(s) with regard to GCN is required and this species is not considered a constraint to the proposals.

The site provides poor-quality reptile habitat, is highly-disturbed and displays poor connectivity to the wider landscape. No further survey(s) regarding reptile species is required and reptiles are not considered a constraint to the proposals.

No evidence of other protected/ notable species was noted during the survey and no adverse impacts upon species or habitats of ecological importance are envisaged, provided the provisions detailed within this report are adhered to.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 COMMISSION AND PROPOSALS

- Pearce Environment Ltd were commissioned to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) 49 Russell Street, Wrexham, LL14 3BL (hereafter referred to as 'the site'). The site is centred on approximate Ordnance Survey Grid Reference (OSGR) SJ 27881 42679. (hereafter referred to as 'the site').
- The findings of this report have been used to inform a planning application for the proposed demolition of a lean-to and erection of an extension and a detached garage with associated and landscaping (**Appendix 1**).

1.2 AIMS

- This report sets out the findings of a desk-based study, site-based study, Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) undertaken by Pearce Environment Ltd in November 2020.
- The aims of this report are to:
 - i. Determine the habitat types within and immediately adjacent to the boundary of the site in relation to the proposed works footprint;
 - ii. Identify habitats and species constraints pertinent to the proposals, in accordance with statutory legislation and guidance given in the NPPF¹;
 - iii. Detail the requirement of any additional Phase 2 species surveys, where necessary;
 - iv. Detail any mitigation and compensation schemes, Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAM's) and/ or licensing requirements, where necessary; and
 - v. Identify opportunities for the proposed development to provide enhancements and add to the biodiversity resource within the site, in accordance with Section 6 under Part 1 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

1.3 BACKGROUND

- There are no known previous/ historical ecological reports relating to the application site itself.
- It is worth point out that the retaining wall has and is collapsing to the west of B1, this was deemed unsafe.

¹ Department for communities and Local Government (2019). National Planning Policy Framework.

2. METHODOLOGY

- This section summarises the methodologies used during the ecological studies undertaken to inform the proposed development, in line with the aims set out in **Section 1** of this report.

2.1 DESK STUDY

- The desk study is an important part of the ecological assessment as it provides contextual information, such as the sites' proximity to designated areas and known records of protected/ notable species (**Table 2.1**).
- This information is used to supplement the findings of a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) and Phase 2 species surveys, to assess the potential for the proposals to affect protected/ notable species and designations of conservation concern, and supports the recommendations and conclusions set out in this report.

Table 2.1 Summary of resources used and information requested during the desk study (2020)

Organisation/ Resource	Information Assessed (search distance from site boundary)
MAGIC website ²	• International statutory designations (1km) • National statutory designations (1km) • Significant standing water bodies (250m)
North Wales Environmental Information Service (COFNOD)	• Protected/ UK BAP species records (1km) • Non-statutory designations (1km) • International statutory designations (1km) • National statutory designations (1km)
Freely-available online data sets (LERC Wales Aderyn ³)	• Protected/ UK BAP species records (1km)

- All pertinent information obtained during the desk study is referenced within **Section 3**, **Section 4**, **Appendix 3** and **Appendix 4** of this report.

2.2 PRELIMINARY ECOLOGICAL APPRAISAL (PEA)

- This level of survey does not aim to provide a complete floral and faunal inventory present on site but to identify field signs of, or habitats with the potential to support, protected species, thereby determining the need for further species survey(s).
- The main habitat types and plant species present were identified and mapped in **Plan 1**, summarised in **Section 3** and illustrated using photographs included within this report, according to the guidelines set out by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)⁴.
- The survey was performed by Tristram Pearce MRSB, MCIEEM, an ecologist with over 20 years' experience and holder of many species licenses.

² Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside website (www.magic.gov.uk/)

³ Aderyn. LERC Wales' Biodiversity Information & Reporting Database (<http://aderyn.lercwales.org.uk/public/search>)

⁴ CIEEM (2013). Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. Technical Guidance Series, 1-8.

- The survey was undertaken during a daytime visit on 3rd November 2020. This visit was carried out at a temperature of 9°C and in dry and fine conditions.

2.3 SPECIES SURVEYS

Bats

Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment: Built Structures

- A daytime assessment of all built structure(s) on the site to be affected was undertaken to determine their potential to support roosting bats. All external features considered potentially suitable for bats were identified and assessed. An internal assessment of all accessible areas (including loft spaces and basements/ cellars, where appropriate) was undertaken. Signs of bat activity including droppings, feeding remains, scratch marks, staining and urine spots were searched for around all accessible areas. The potential suitability of the structures investigated was assigned a rating of low-to-high in accordance with section 5.2 of the Bat Conservation Trust's *Good Practice Guidelines*⁵ (Appendix 3).
- Recommendations for further survey requirements are based on guidelines summarised in Table 7.3 of the Bat Conservation Trust's *Good Practice Guidelines*.

Foraging/ Commuting Assessment

- The suitability of the site for foraging and commuting bats was assessed, based on the presence/ absence of potential foraging/ commuting habitats such as trees/ woodland, hedgerow(s), grassland and watercourses/ waterbodies. Connectivity to the wider landscape was evaluated.

Great Crested Newts

- A desk-based study was undertaken using OS maps and online mapping resources to identify any waterbodies within 250m of the site boundaries.
- *No standing waterbodies were found within 250m of the site, therefore no further survey or Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) assessment with regard to great crested newts was undertaken.*

⁵ Collins J. (Ed.) (2016) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologist: Good Practice Guidelines (3rd Ed.) The Bat Conservation Trust, London.

Nesting Birds

- An internal and external assessment of any built structure(s) to be affected on the site was undertaken by an experienced ecologist, to identify the presence of habitat/ features suitable for nesting birds.
- A search for active/ disused bird nests was undertaken, where appropriate. Observations of birds flying on or around the site were also noted.

Reptiles

- A thorough site walkover was undertaken to assess the habitat suitability for common reptile species. A terrestrial hand search was carried out during the PEA for reptiles basking or seeking refuge beneath debris. An assessment of the quality of reptile habitat present upon the site was carried out, providing a classification of very poor-to-high.

Badgers

- A thorough site walkover was undertaken to determine the status of badgers (*Meles meles*) and their setts on the site. Where present, an assessment of any sett entrances was made, taking into account the shape of the entrance, the quantity of spoil and freshness of its excavation, the presence of fresh bedding, the presence of badger hair and the presence of badger claw marks. Additional badger field signs such as badger paths, scrapings produced during foraging behaviour, latrines/ dung pits, scratching trees and diurnal resting places were also searched for.

Invasive Weeds

- A search for signs of invasive species of plant including Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*) and giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), was undertaken during the PEA.
- Appropriate biosecurity measures were undertaken, where appropriate.

Other Species

- Observations of any other notable flora and fauna were noted during the PEA.

2.4 LIMITATIONS

- November is considered to be outside of the optimal period for undertaking a PEA, therefore it was taken into consideration that nesting birds, roosting bats, active herptiles are likely absent at this time, and vegetation may have died back and/ or be less diverse.
- It is worth point out that the retaining wall has and is collapsing to the west of B1, this was deemed unsafe.
- Whilst we make every effort to meet the client brief, no site visit can ensure prediction of the natural environment such as movement of species in response to variables such as weather and seasonality.
- As with any survey, it is a documentation of what the surveyor observes on the specific survey day and their interpretation of those observations.

3. RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 SITE DESCRIPTION

- The application site is set in a suburban environment, located in the Acrefair, Cefn, Cefn Mawr, area of SW Wrexham (**Figure 3.1**).

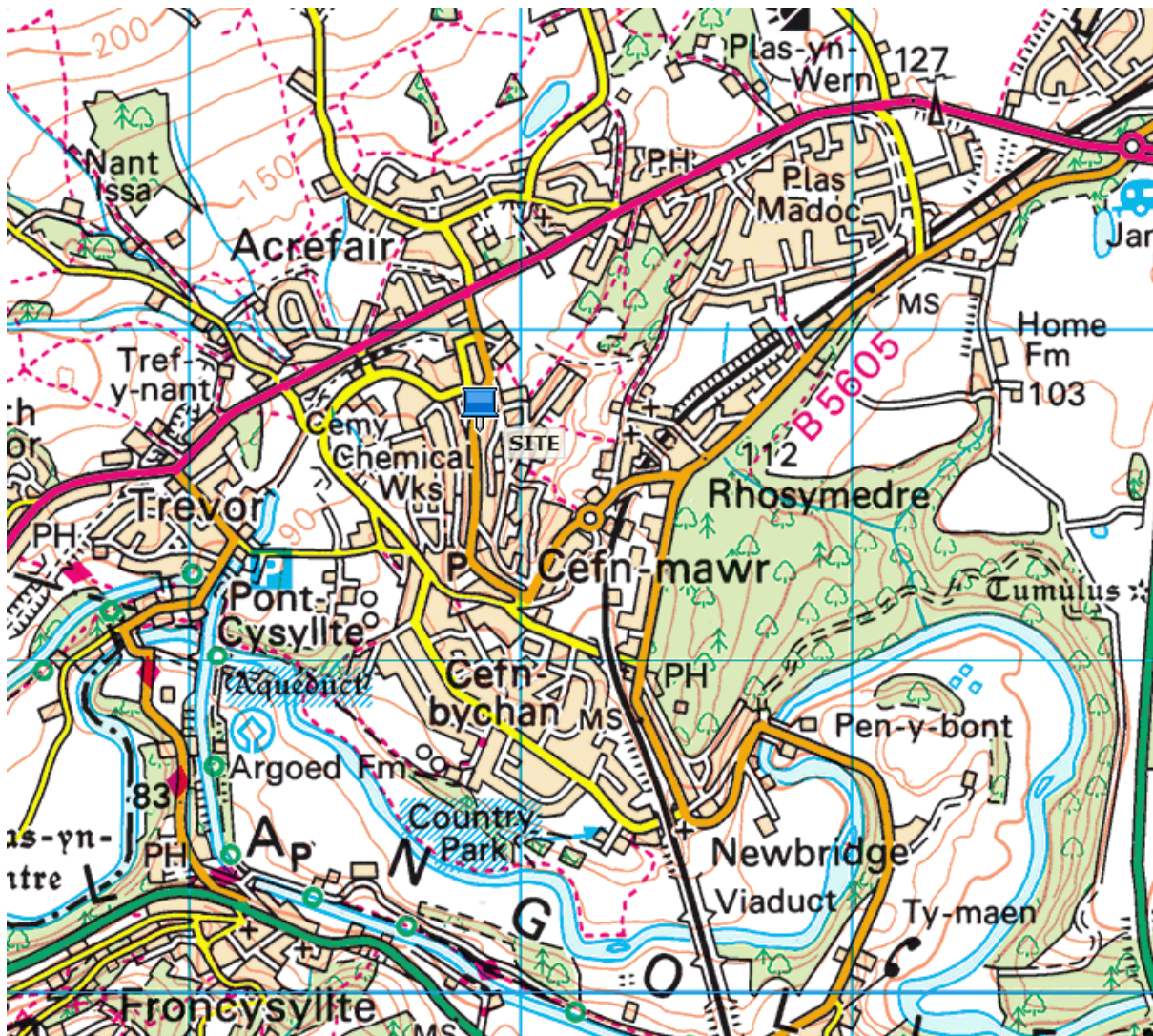


Figure 3.1 Site location (blue pin), reproduced using freely-available online mapping resources (2020)

- The site is directly surrounded by dense residential housing/gardens and major/ minor roads in all directions (**Figure 3.2**).
- Existing vehicular access is gained directly off King Street (**Image 3.3**).

- The site itself (~0.035 ha / 0.086 acres) consists of the lean to **B1** and garden, comprising amenity grassland on the upper eastern aspect and the western lower aspect is scattered scrub and area of recently felled trees. The following range of broad habitats are present on the site (**Plan 1**):
 - Built Structure(s);
 - Hardstanding;
 - Amenity Grassland;
 - Fencing/ Walls
 - Scattered Scrub
 - Scattered Trees

Figure 3.2 Aerial view of the site (outlined) and near surrounds, reproduced using freely-available online mapping resources (2020)



Image 3.3 Existing vehicular access leading off King Street (north).



Image 3.4 showing B1, the lean to for demolition.



3.2 BROAD HABITATS

Built Structure(s)

- The site contains two (2) built structures, summarised below:
 - **B1** – The lean to, attached to **B2**, the residential dwelling (**Image 3.3 – Image 3.4**).
 - **B2** – The residential dwelling not forming part of the application. (**Image 3.5**);

Hardstanding

- The access driveway, carparking are formed from hardstanding, considered to be of low ecological value (**Image 3.6**).

Amenity Grassland

- A small garden within the southern portion of the site near **B1** contains a plot of amenity grassland (**Image 3.7**).

Fencing/ Walls

- The garden is contained by timber close boarded fencing to the southern boundary (**Image 3.8 – 3.9**) and an internal stone wall, which is dangerous and falling down.

Scattered Scrub

- The western portion of the garden is on a lower elevation to **B1** this is made up of former neglected garden, with scattered scrub and tall ruderal vegetation, dominated by patches of nettle, bramble and dog rose. (**Image 3.10**)

Scattered Trees

- The rest of the site contains recently felled (maybe 2019, early 2020) trees with signs of regeneration from the coppiced trunks. Dominated by ash and goat willow. There are three tree stands present on the site, these are two Ash trees of semi mature stature previously polarised and a multi stem pedunculate Oak, these trees will be required to be felled as part of the proposals. (**Image 3.11**)

Other habitat features

- There are some stone piles on the site, these are from recent wall collapse. There are some areas that contain garden waste/debris and also a brash pile and log pile.

Image 3.4 B1 the lean-to looking north



Image 3.5 B2 the residential dwelling



Image 3.6 Hardstanding example north of B1



Image 3.7 Amenity grassland in southern area



Image 3.8 Southern boundary fence



Image 3.9 internal wall collapse



Image 3.10 Scrub, regeneration of previously coppiced ash.



Image 3.11 The semi mature - Ash trees and twin stem Oak.



3.3 OTHER OBSERVATIONS

- No further observations pertinent to this study were made during the PEA.

3.4 DESK STUDY RESULTS

Statutory Designations

- A desk-based study was undertaken to identify the presence of statutory designations, which include:

International Recognised Statutory Designations

- Special Protection Areas (SPA's)
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's)
- RAMSAR Sites

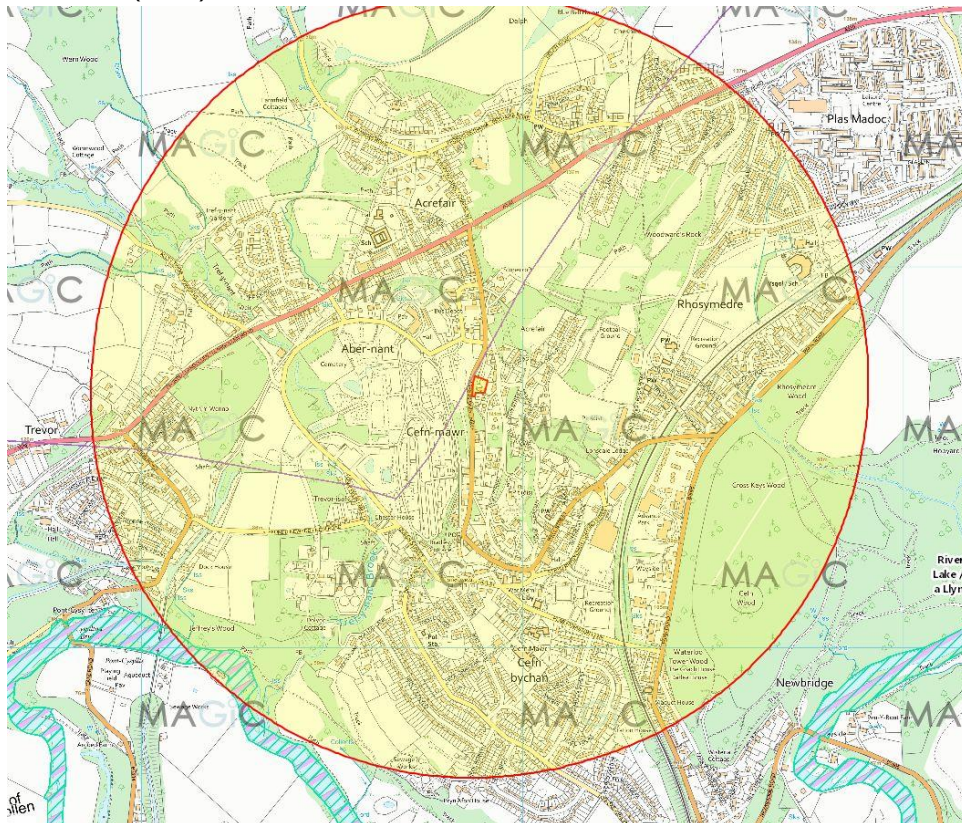
National Recognised Statutory Designations

- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's)
- National Nature Reserves (NNR's)

Local Level Statutory Designations

- Local Nature Reserves (LNR's)
- A review of information available from freely-available online resources did not identify the presence of any statutory designations of conservation concern within 1km of the application site (**Figure 3.13**).

Figure 3.13 Proximity of statutory designations to the site, reproduced using freely-available online resources (2020)



- Given the absence of statutory designations within 1km of the application site and considering the sites' suburban location, no negative impacts upon such designations are anticipated as a result of the proposed development.

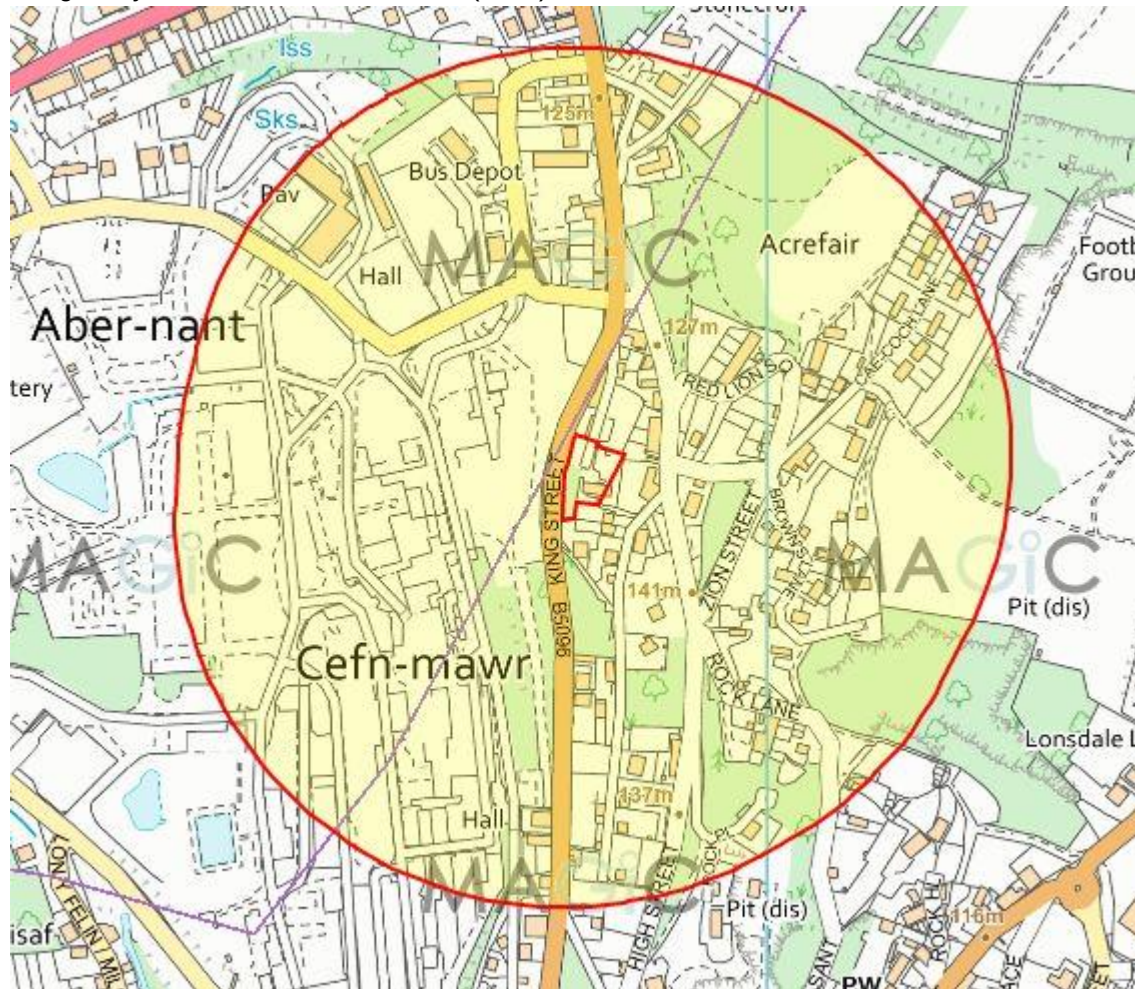
Non-Statutory Designations

- A COFNOD search was not considered necessary given the survey findings, small scale development and low ecological value of habitats present.
- Given the nature of the habitats present upon the application site, and owing to the presence of dense residential housing intervening non-statutory designations from the site, no negative impacts upon designations are anticipated as a result of the proposed development.

Habitats of Importance

- An assessment of the surrounding habitats using OS maps and online mapping resources, in combination with a walkover during the site visit, did not identify any potential significant bodies of standing water within a 250m zone of influence (**Figure 3.12**).
- No further habitats of importance were identified during the desk study.

Figure 3.14 Proximity of standing waterbodies within 250m of the proposed application site, reproduced using freely-available online resources (2020)



3.5 PRELIMINARY ROOST ASSESSMENT (PRA)

- A daytime inspection was undertaken on the PEA to assess the potential of **B1** to support roosting bats. A full description of those features considered suitable for roosting bats are described and illustrated using site photographs provided below.

B1 (lean-to)

- **B1** is a small lean-to adjoining the main residential dwelling located on the western gable wall. It is of single storey and is open to the elements on the northern aspect. It is constructed of stone and brick and has a window in the southern wall. The roof is constructed of box profile cement fibre sheets with sky lights, this is unlined and uninsulated.
- Externally, **B1** is in fair condition with render on the walls in part. There is one area where buddleia is growing at the base of the southern wall. There are considered to be no potential bat roost features noted on the exterior of the walls or roof of **B1** during the PRA as any crevice contained a build-up of cobwebs. The roof was not considered suitable for bat roosting and lack potential roost features. The interior of the building was stone wall with few crevices observed, of those all were full of cobwebs and dusty.
- No evidence of bat use, such as staining, claw marks, bat droppings or feeding remains were evident on close inspection.
- No evidence of bat ingress was found anywhere within or on any areas of **B1** during the PRA.
- The western gable wall of **B2**, where **B1** meets is very tight fitting and close rendered, offering no potential for bat roosting.
- **B1** is considered to provide overall 'negligible' bat roosting potential and is not considered to provide suitable features/ conditions for roosting or hibernating bats.

Foraging/ Commuting

- The site itself offers some potential (albeit small) foraging and commuting habitat for a common assemblage of bat species, given the presence of trees/shrub.

3.6 NESTING BIRDS

B1

- Other than one single previous wren nest within **B1**, it was generally noted that bird nesting opportunities are scarce within the building.
- **B1** is therefore considered to provide 'low' bird nesting potential.

Image 3.12 Disused bird nest found inside B1



3.7 SPECIES CONSTRAINTS

- Potential species constraints are detailed below, informed by the findings of the desk study combined with observed field signs or actual presence of protected species identified during the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) and Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA).

Bats

- The presence of bats roosting within **B1** is ruled out as is the potential for roosting with any tree on suite to be affected. The Ash trees and oak tree to be felled, contain no features of potential roosting.
- The site itself offers some potential commuting and foraging habitat for common bat species.

Legislation

- All species of British bat are listed as a European Protected Species (EPS) on Schedule 2 of the Conservation Regulations (Annex IV (a) to the Habitats Directive) and are afforded full protection under both Regulation 43 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This makes it an offence to:
 - i. Deliberately capture, injure or kill a bat;
 - ii. Deliberately disturb in a way that would significantly affect their local distribution or abundance, or affect their ability to survive, breed or rear young;
 - iii. Deliberately damage or destroy a bat roost;
 - iv. Possess, control, transport, sell, exchange or offer for sale/ exchange any live or dead bat or part thereof; and
 - v. Intentionally or recklessly disturb bats whilst they are occupying a structure or place which is used for shelter or protection, or to obstruct access to this structure or place.
- Furthermore, several UK bat species are listed as Priority Species on the UK BAP, highlighting them as species of conservation concern.

Impacts

- **B1** is to be demolished and a residential extension erected in its footprint.
- It is considered that there will be no loss or damage or disturbance to a bat roost and no fragmentation/ isolation of bat foraging and/ or commuting habitat as a result of the proposed development; therefore, no long-term negative impacts on bat species locally are anticipated.

Recommendations

- No further surveys or licences are considered necessary for the proposals to take place.
- A suitable bat box (such as a Schwegler 1FF bat box; **Image 3.13**) will be installed upon an appropriate structure – a permanent building on the site (such as **B2**) or a suitably-mature tree on or adjacent to the site – prior to the completion of works, installed at a height of no less than 4m and orientated in a southerly/ westerly direction. This will ensure enhancement for future refuge opportunities for roosting bats are present. All bat mitigation boxes/ structures must be maintained for the lifetime of the development.

Image 3.13 An example of a Schwegler 1FF bat box



If bat(s) are found at any time, works will immediately halt and an ecologist will be informed.

Great Crested Newt

- A desk-based assessment using OS maps and online mapping resources, in combination with a walkover during the site visit, did not identify any potential significant bodies of standing water within 250m of the site, as illustrated in **Figure 3.14**.
- The suitability of the terrestrial habitat for GCN on the application site is considered to be poor, given domination by hardstanding/ managed garden and built structure(s).

Legislation

- The great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) is listed as a European Protected Species (EPS) on Schedule 2 of the Conservation Regulations (Annex IV (a) to the Habitats Directive) and is afforded full protection under both Regulation 43 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This makes it an offence to:
 - i. Deliberately or recklessly capture, kill, injure or disturb great crested newt(s);
 - ii. Deliberately or recklessly damage or destroy a breeding or resting place of GCN(s);
 - iii. Deliberately or recklessly obstruct access to a breeding or resting place of GCN(s);
 - iv. Deliberately take or destroy the eggs of a GCN(s);
- Furthermore, GCN(s) are listed as Priority Species on the UK BAP, highlighting them as species of conservation concern.

Impacts

- **B1** is to be demolished and an extension erected in its footprint. A garage will be constructed on the lower portion west of **B1**. These works are considered highly unlikely to negatively impact upon GCN/ amphibians.

Recommendations

- No further survey(s) with regard to GCN is considered necessary and this species is not considered a constraint to the proposals.
- We recommend careful hand searching of the stone, brash and log piles prior to removal and materials to be stored on pallets, off the ground.

Nesting Birds

- **B1** is considered to provide 'low' bird nesting potential, with one (1) disused wren bird nest found during the nesting bird inspection.

Legislation

- All wild birds, their nests and eggs are protected under Part 1 (Section 1) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This makes it an offence to:
 - i. Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird;
 - ii. Take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built;
 - iii. Take, damage or destroy the egg of any wild bird; and
 - iv. To have in one's possession, or control, any wild bird (dead or alive) or egg or any part of a wild bird or egg.
- In addition, further legal protection is afforded to those wild bird species listed on Schedule 1, which prohibits the intentional or reckless disturbance to a bird while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or to recklessly disturb the dependent young of such a bird.

Impacts

- **B1** is to be demolished and an extension erected in its footprint. A garage will be constructed on the lower portion west of **B1**. These proposals carry a moderate risk of disturbing birds during the nesting season, particularly clearance of vegetation.

Recommendations

- No further survey(s) with regard to nesting birds is considered necessary.
- Any demolition works to **B1 and removal of trees/vegetation and retaining wall** are to be timed to occur outside the bird breeding season (this is February – August inclusive). In the event that works are required within this time period then inspections for nests should be undertaken immediately prior to the start of any works. Should any active nest be found, works shall cease and a 5m buffer is to be formed until subsequent checks by a suitably-qualified ecologist prove the absence of nesting birds.
- The provision of a minimum of two (2) bird nesting box suitable for common passerine bird species is recommended as a general enhancement for the site. We recommend Schwegler Bird House and Wren box, nest boxes as a reliable option; however, a suitable equivalent is acceptable (**Image 3.14**). These are to be installed upon any new or existing building on the application site, provided it is installed at a height of no less than 2m and orientated in a southerly or westerly direction.

Image 3.14 Examples of Schwegler Bird House boxes



- Any bird boxes must be retained in perpetuity and their exact location(s)/ specification(s) may be discussed with a suitably-qualified ecologist and alternative options can be considered.

Reptiles

- The site is considered to offer poor reptile habitat, given domination by hardstanding/ built structure(s) and managed garden.
- The rock features present are considered to be recent as a result of the falling wall.
- The site is also poorly-connected to other areas of potentially favourable reptile habitat (enclosed on all sides by roads and residential housing) and receives current levels of human disturbance (and likely has done in the past).

Legislation

- All species of native UK reptile, including common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*), slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*), grass snake (*Natrix helvetica*) and adder (*Vipera berus*), receive some degree of protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This makes it an offence to:
 - i. Intentionally kill or injure any UK native reptile; and
 - ii. Sell, barter, exchange, transport for sale or advertise to sell or to buy any UK native reptile.

It is not an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to possess these animals.

- Full protection under both the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) and Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) is afforded to sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*) and smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*). This makes it an offence to:
 - i. Intentionally kill, injure or take either of these species;
 - ii. Possess either of these species or any part thereof;

- iii. Intentionally damage or destroy the breeding or places of shelter/ protection of either of these species;
 - iv. Intentionally disturb either of these species whilst occupying a place used for shelter or protection; and
 - v. Sell, barter, exchange, transport for sale or advertise to sell or to buy either of these species.
- In addition, all species of reptile native to the UK are also listed as Priority Species on the UK BAP, highlighting them as species of conservation concern.

Impacts

- **B1** is to be demolished and an extension erected in its footprint. A garage will be constructed on the lower portion west of **B1**. These works are considered highly unlikely to negatively impact upon reptiles.

Recommendations

- No further survey(s) with regard to reptile species is considered necessary and reptiles are not considered a constraint to the proposals.

Badger

- During the detailed PEA no badger setts or field signs indicating use of the site by foraging/ commuting badger(s) were noted.

Legislation

- Badgers and their setts are specifically protected under the Protection of Badgers Act (1992). This makes it an offence to:
 - i. Wilfully kill, injure or take, or attempt to kill, injure or take, a badger;
 - ii. Possess a dead badger or any part or derivative of a badger;
 - iii. Cruelly ill-treat a badger;
 - iv. Dig for a badger;
 - v. Damage a badger sett or any part of it;
 - vi. Destroy a badger sett;
 - vii. Obstruct access to, or any entrance of, a badger sett;
 - viii. Cause a dog to enter a badger sett; or
 - ix. Disturb a badger when it is occupying a badger sett.

Impacts

- **B1** is to be demolished and an extension erected in its footprint. A garage will be constructed on the lower portion west of **B1**. These works are considered highly unlikely to negatively impact upon badgers.

Recommendations

- No further survey(s) with regard to badgers is considered necessary and this species is not considered a constraint to the proposals.

Other Species/ Habitats

- No further species pertinent to this study were found and no field signs of other protected or notable species were observed during the PEA.

4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 SUMMARY OF THE SITE'S ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

- The application site, set in a suburban environment, is composed of built structures (**B1 – B2**), hardstanding, amenity grassland, scrub, trees and fencing/ walls.
- **B1** considered to provide 'negligible' bat roosting potential. The site itself offers average commuting and foraging habitat for common bat species.
- **B1** is considered to provide 'low' bird nesting potential, with a single disused wren nest found during the nesting bird inspection.
- No significant standing waterbodies were identified during the desktop study, within a 250m zone of influence. The site is deemed to provide poor-quality terrestrial habitat for GCN.
- The site provides poor-quality reptile habitat, is highly-disturbed and displays poor connectivity to the wider landscape.
- No other habitat features or evidence of pertinent protected species were identified during the PEA and PRA (**Table 4.1**).

Table 4.1 Summary of the status of protected/ notable species and sites on and near to the site

Species/ Group	Suitable Habitat on Site	Field Signs	Recommendations
Habitats/ Designations	No: site located within a built-up area	N/A	Appropriate landscaping scheme for the site is recommended
Invasive Plants	N/A	No	<i>No further action required</i>
Bats	No: Roosting none, but minor potential foraging/ commuting habitat on the site	No:	<i>No further action required</i>
Nesting Birds	Yes: 'low' nesting potential in B1	Yes: 1X disused nest inside B1	Avoid nesting season or ECW check + bird box provision as an enhancement
Barn Owl	No	No	<i>No further action required</i>
Badger	No	No	<i>No further action required</i>

Species/ Group	Suitable Habitat on Site	Field Signs	Recommendations
Amphibians (including GCN)	No: no waterbodies within 250m + poor terrestrial habitat on the site	No	<i>No further action required</i>
Reptiles	No: poor habitat on the site, disturbed + poor connectivity to wider landscape	No	<i>No further action required</i>
Otter	No	No	<i>No further action required</i>
Water Vole	No	No	<i>No further action required</i>
Dormice	No	No	<i>No further action required</i>
White-clawed Crayfish	No	No	<i>No further action required</i>
Other Notable Species	No	No	<i>No further action required</i>

- Subject to the implementation of those provisions, further survey recommendations and working methodologies given in this report, it is considered that any detrimental effects regarding protected/ notable species can be avoided and/ or mitigated for.
- Should the development proposals be altered significantly, such that changes to the working area and/ or duration of the works arise, then a re-assessment of the likely impacts arising by a suitably experienced ecologist will be required.

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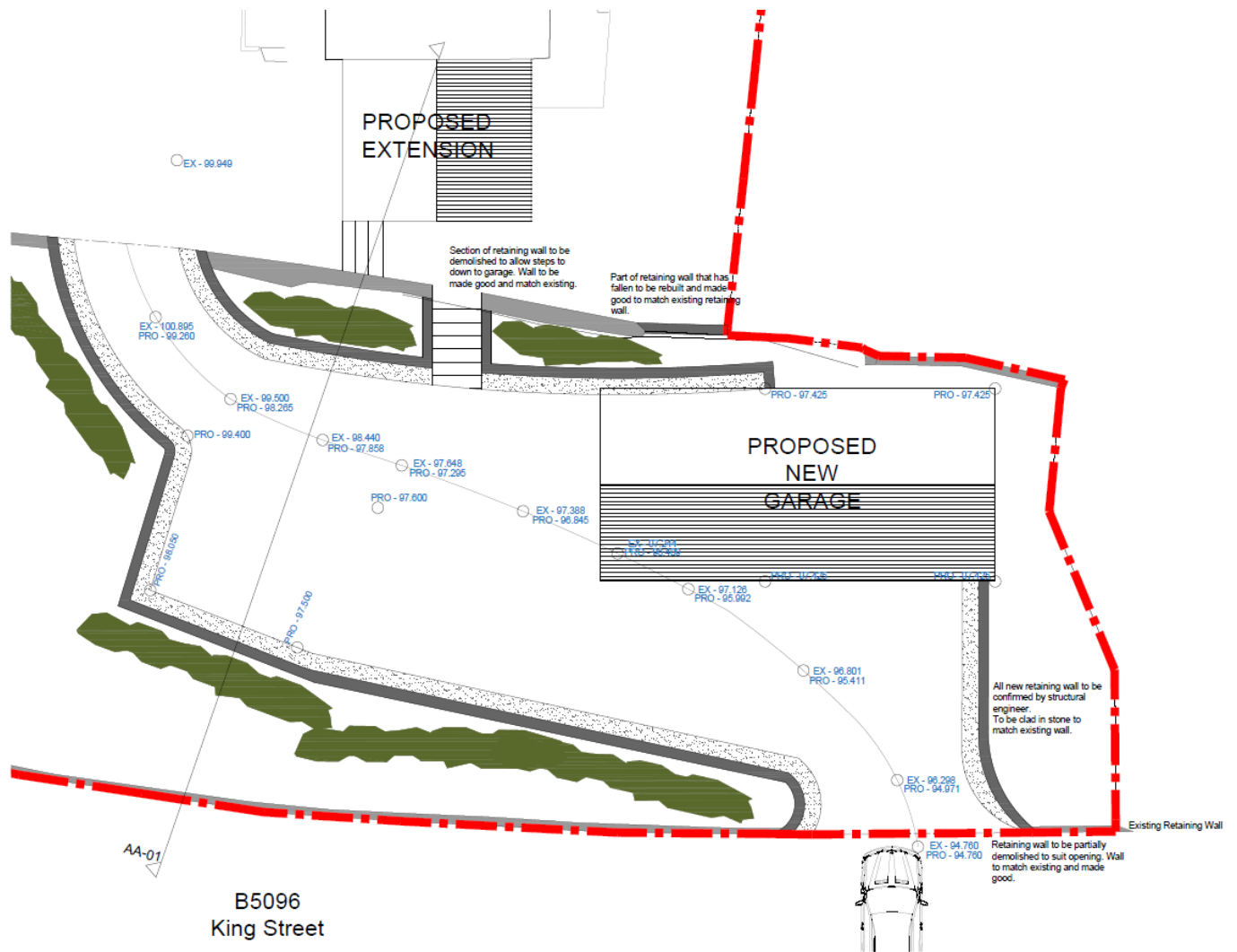
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Appendix 1 Site Location Plan



Appendix 2 Site Plan



Appendix 3 Additional Photographs



General debris around site



Brash pile



Checking for herpetiles

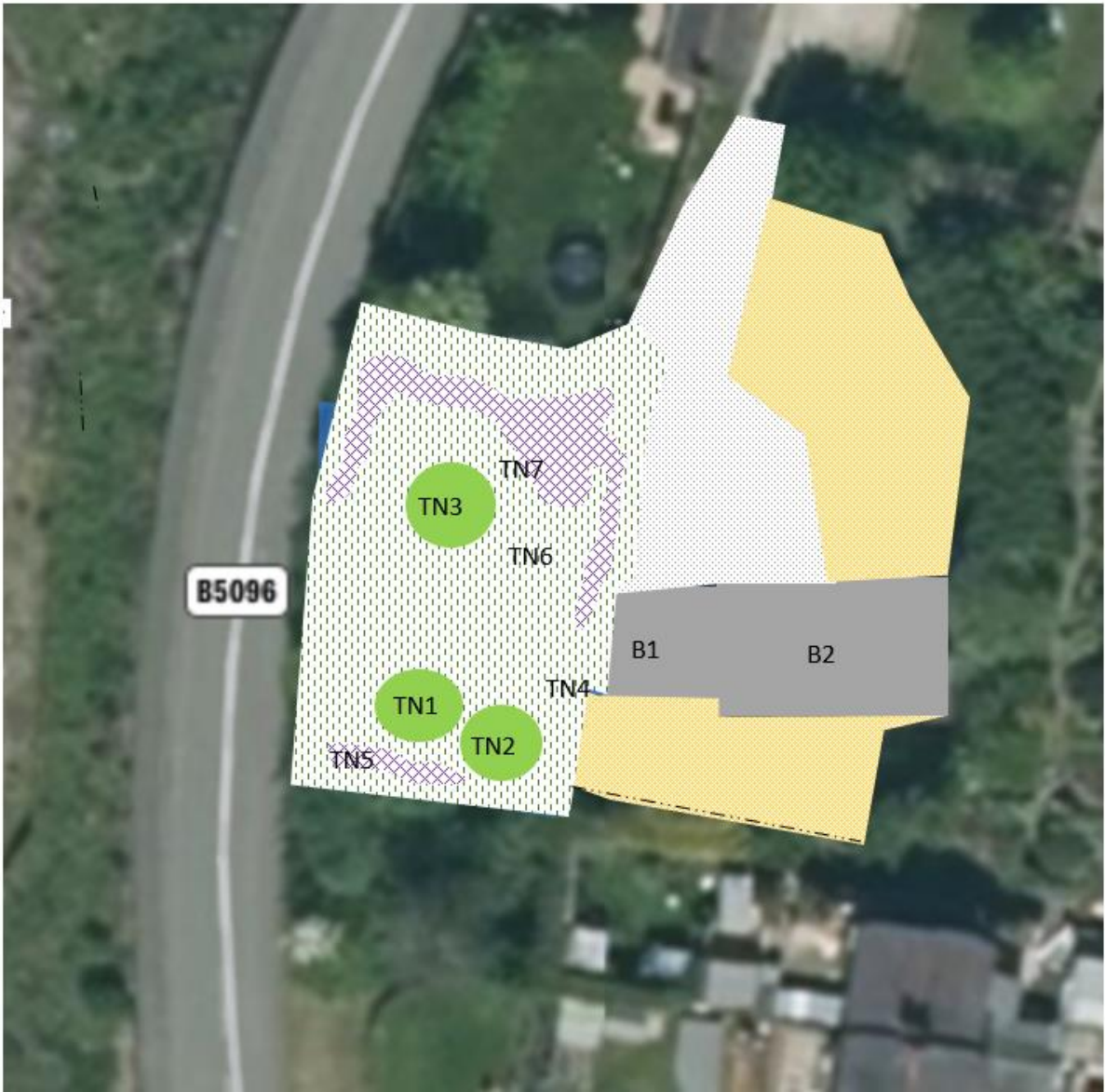


Log pile

Plan 1 Phase 1 Habitat Plan

This plan has been prepared using the site plans provided by the client

This plan is indicative, locations of all features are approximate and not drawn to scale



KEY

Application site	
Building	
Fencing	
Intact hedgerow	
Scrub	
Amenity grassland	
Tall ruderal vegetation	
Hardstanding/ bare ground	
Scattered trees	

PROJECT 49 Russell St

TITLE Phase 1 Habitat Plan

CLIENT D Hardy

DRAWN BY TP 03/11/2020
VERSION 01

PearceEnvironment LTD

TARGET NOTES

Target Notes

TN1 – Semi Mature Ash

TN2 – Semi Mature Ash

TN3 – Semi Mature Oak

TN4 – Fallen Stone Wall

TN5 – Nettle dominant

TN6 – Brash pile

TN7 – Log pile