

Bat Activity Surveys at

Church House,

Bowling Bank,

Wrexham LL13 9RH

Grid Ref. SJ 4025 5019

on 20th May, 22nd June and 7th September 2020

Report completed 11th September 2020

Ref: CHU200520

Survey by:

Susan Worsfold BSc ACIEEM
Lyngarth,
Ellesmere Road,
St. Martins,
Oswestry,
Shropshire
SY11 3HT

01691 772310

or 07752 105600

s.worsfold@hotmail.co.uk

Requested by:

Blueprint Architectural Services
Office 3K4,
Redwither Business Tower,
Wrexham.
LL13 9XT

Tel: 01978 356500

www.blueprintarchitectural.com

Introduction

The building was the subject of a preliminary ecological appraisal on 3rd December 2019 which concluded that further surveys were needed to establish whether it was being used by bats and the nature of that use if any.

Methodology

Two dusk emergence surveys and a pre-dawn re-entry survey were carried out in accordance with Collins J. (Ed) (2016) *Bat surveys for professional ecologists: Good practice guidelines (3rd Edn)*. The Bat Conservation Trust, London.) 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, Peersonic RPA3, Song Meter SMZC, Anabat Express and Echo Meter EM3.

Personnel:

Susan Worsfold BSc ACIEEM (SW), Craig Thomas (CT)

Activity Surveys

Date	Sunset/ Sunrise	Start	End	Temp Start °C	RH Start %	Temp End °C	RH End %	Cloud %	Wind 0-6
20/5/20	21:12	20:50	22:50	16	73	13	79	10	0
22/6/20	04:47	03:15	05:00	11	79	10	85	10	1
7/9/20	19.45	19:30	21:15	17	80	17	84	70	1

20/5/20

Number of observers: 2

Observer 1: SW; equipment: Peersonic RPA3; Station: east side of building

Observer 2: CT; equipment: Echo Meter EM3; Station: north west corner of building

Internal equipment: Song Meter SMZC and Anabat Express

Bat species seen and/or recorded:

First bat:

Common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*)

Time: 21.39; *Location:* CT station

Subsequently: Occasionally, both stations until 22.36

Soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*)

Time: 21.59; *Location:* CT station

Subsequently: Occasionally, CT station until 22.16

Lesser Horseshoe (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*)

Time: 22.37; *Location:* CT station

Subsequently: None

Bats were seen intermittently foraging and commuting near the building and adjacent land between 21.48 and 22.04, and at 21.58 a bat was seen to fly in the out of the top window on the east side. No bats were seen to emerge from the building which hadn't already entered.

22/6/20

Number of observers: 2

Observer 1: SW; equipment: Peersonic RPA3; Station: east side of building

Observer 2: CT; equipment: Anabat SD1; Station: north west corner of building

Internal equipment: Song Meter SMZC

First bat:

Common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*)

Time: 03.30; *Location:* both stations

Subsequently: None

Other species:

None

No bats were seen throughout the survey.

7/9/20

Number of observers: 2

Observer 1: SW; equipment: Peersonic RPA3; Station: east side of building

Observer 2: CT; equipment: Peersonic RPA3; Station: north west corner of building

First bat:

Common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*)

Time: 20.10; *Location:* both stations

Subsequently: Frequently, both stations

Other species:

Noctule (*Nyctalus noctula*)

Time: 20.24; *Location:* SW station

Subsequently: Occasionally, SW station

Myotis sp. Probably Natterer's bat

Time: 22.50; *Location:* both stations

Subsequently: None

1-2 bats were seen occasionally at both stations from 20.12, especially SW station. No bats were seen to leave the building.

Assessment of Effects and Mitigation Measures

There is not considered to be any threat to the conservation status of bats as no buildings were being used by roosting bats at the time of the surveys.

However, the buildings and site are being used by foraging and commuting bats and five species of bat were identified on site.

It is possible that transient bats may temporarily roost or perch in the buildings in the future, therefore care must be taken as there may be danger of harm to individuals.

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.

A lighting plan should be designed in accordance with the Bat Conservation Trust guidelines:
http://www.bats.org.uk/pages/bats_and_lighting.html

Compensation

None appropriate as no roosting sites affected.

Enhancement Recommendations

Bats: A bat box e.g. Schwegler 1FF to be fitted externally to the new buildings. Further information is given in the bat box information pack available at <http://www.bats.org.uk/index.php>. Bat boxes should be placed in a south east to south west facing position if possible.

Birds: As described in the previous report.

Ecological Constraints

None identified.

Monitoring

Not considered necessary.

Bibliography

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

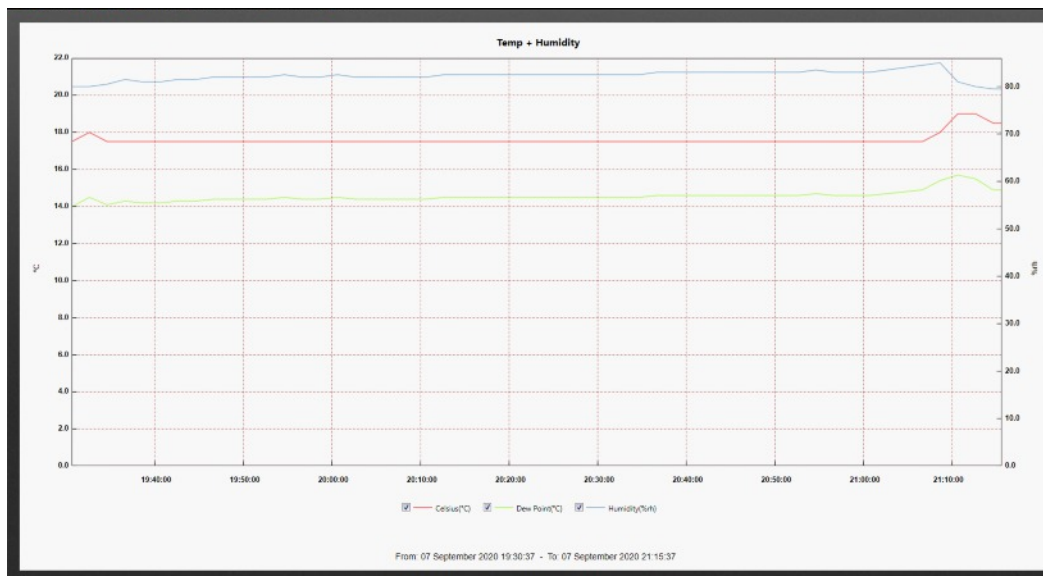
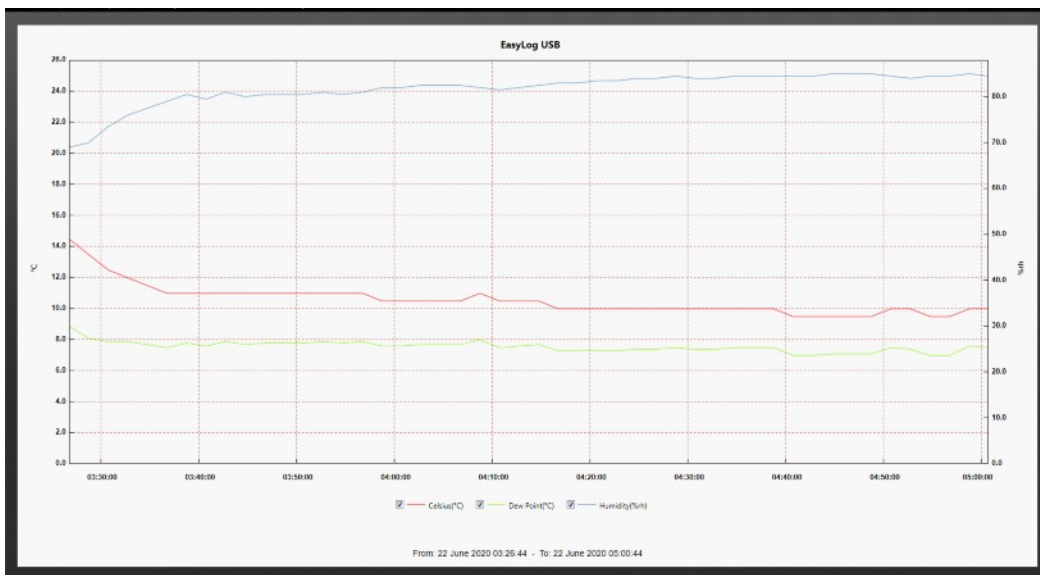
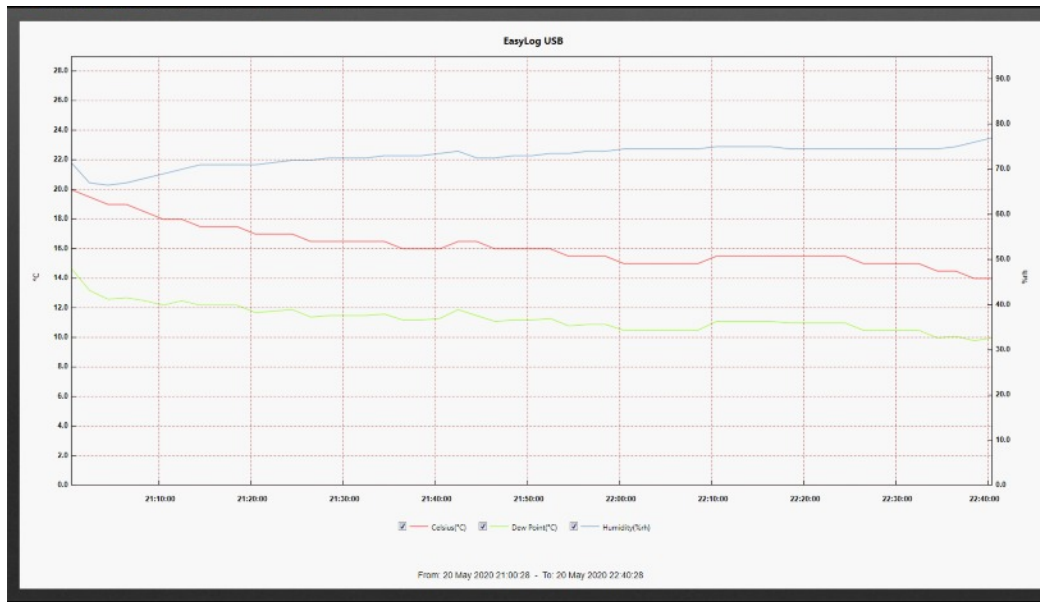
Collins J. (Ed) (2016) *Bat surveys for professional ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (3rd Edn)*. The Bat Conservation Trust, London

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

Natural Resources Wales available at: <https://naturalresources.wales/?lang=en>

Temperature and Humidity Charts



Location of Bat Detectors and Observers



Bat detector



Bat detector and observer

