

Nick Baseley
IBA Planning

RE: STABLE BUILDING AT THE SAWMILL, HAWSWORTH: BAT BUILDING ASSESSMENT

Dear Nick

Following our recent site visit to review the stable structure in respect to bats. The site is located off Hawksworth Road on the southern agricultural edge of Hawksworth (grid reference SK 749 429). The structure was assessed against best practice (Collins J eds 2016¹) by Nick Sanderson BSC MSC MCIEEM (Class 2 Bat licence holder 2015-15565-CLS-CLS) on the 11th August 2020.

The site was formed of a timber frame stable building which is understood to be c. 4 years old. It has a pitched roof clad with bitumastic tiles and the walls are also clad with a waynei edge boarding detail. However, the waynei edge boarding is not backed behind and owing to its age is in very good repair. Internally a solid breeze block wall was present however this was intact with no gaps present and the gap between the wall and exterior cladding was excessive and unsuitable for roosting bats.

Figure 1: General View of the Stable Building



There are a very small number of areas where the weather conditions have begun to warp these boards, however these are deminutive and have not yeiled crevices capable of supporting roosting bats.

¹ Collins J eds. 2016. Bat Surveys: Good Practice Guidelines, 3rd Edition. London: Bat Conservation Trust.

Figure 2: partially warped wane edge board



The interior space was light owing to the open sides of the stable structure and also a central ridge featuring a perspex skylight across the length of the structure. The roof stood proud of the wall plates with a gap c7cm between wall plate and rafters. The structure was also formed of machine cut timbers and lacked any suitable secluded crevices that are normally associated with mortice joints for instance.

Figure 3: General view of roof / interior



No evidence of bats was found and no further survey or more detailed reporting is considered necessary or proportionate at this site in support of any proposals for the structure which is considered to be of negligible scope for roosting bats.

I trust this letter is to your satisfaction, should you have any queries, or require any clarifications, please do not hesitate to call me directly.

Yours sincerely,



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