

ECOLOGY STRATEGY

LOW BARN, HOME FARM
BAGENDON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

MAY 2021

CTM WILDLIFE

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CTM WILDLIFE**ECOLOGY STRATEGY****LOW BARN, HOME FARM
BAGENDON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE****May 2021**

<u>Version</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Date</u>
V1	A strategy for the implementation of previously permitted planning permission	6 th May 2021
V2	Typographic corrections	10 th May 2021
V3	Correction to dimension	11 th May 2021

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Disclaimer: While all reasonable effort has been made to ensure that the following information is correct and up to date it should not be relied upon as a definitive guide to wildlife and wildlife law. The exact requirements and habits of wildlife can vary and not be fully understood. Surveys and assessments can be restricted snap shots in time and space. Any conclusions and recommendations are made here in good faith. Also, the implementation of law can vary. Those needing to limit impacts and their risk should consult the original legislation and/or a lawyer conversant with wildlife law.

This Ecology Strategy is based on recommendations in the Bat Survey report (which includes information other ecological considerations) undertaken by CTM Wildlife in 2020.

This Ecology Strategy does not include the protection of trees.

1 EXISTING ECOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

1.1 SIGNIFICANT CONSIDERATIONS

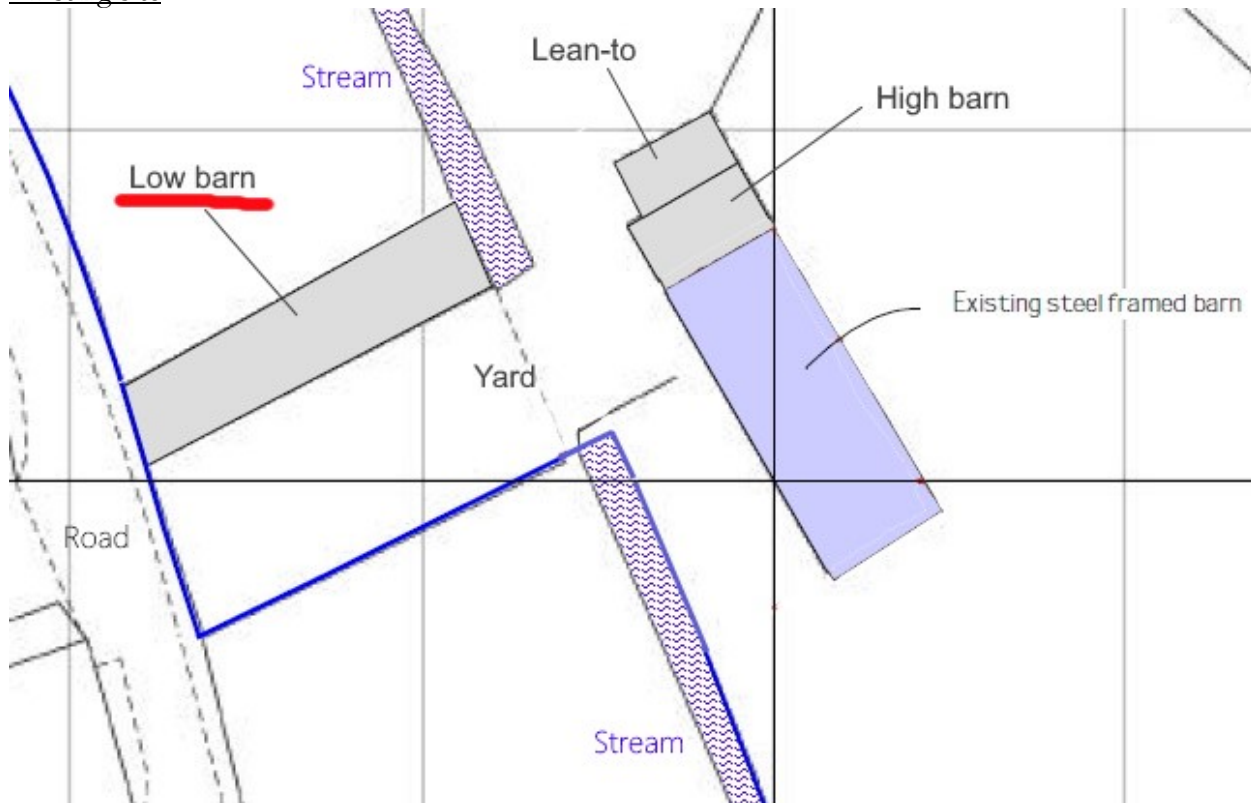
- Brandt's bat 'day roost' (1 bat)
- Brown long-eared bat 'day roost' (2 bats).

These are non-breeding roosts inside the Low Barn used intermittently by the bats.

1.2 MINOR CONSIDERATIONS

- Stream
- Nesting birds
- Hedgehogs.

Existing site



2 CONTROLS

2.1 RESPONSIBILITIES	
Developer / Owner	Overall control and responsibility for this Ecology Strategy
Lead contractor	Responsible for implementation of the Ecology Strategy
Agent / Architect / Developer / Owner	Responsible for discharging ecology-related planning conditions
Ecologist	Advice and support as the licensed-ecologist

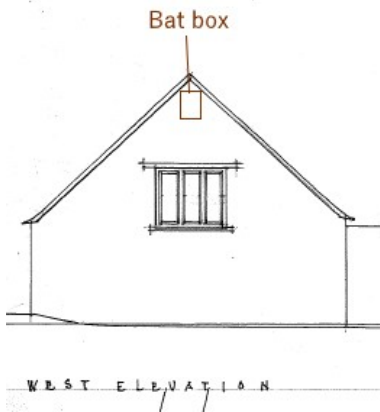
2.2 BAT LICENCE
A Natural England bat licence will be required for work that affects bats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The developer /owner will be responsible for securing a Natural England bat mitigation licence for the works (with the assistance of the ecologist and before the start of works that affect bats). The licensed bat mitigation will be based on this Ecology Strategy.

2.2 COMMUNICATION
Pre works site clearance and construction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A copy of this Ecology Strategy and bat licence will be given by the developer / owner to the lead contractor. The ecologist will brief the lead contractor on the requirements of the bat licence and working procedures for bats. The lead contractor will ensure that everyone involved with the construction is aware of the requirements of the Ecology Strategy and bat licence.

2.3 COMPLIANCE CHECKS		
Activity	Timing	Responsibility / Notes
Pre works compliance check	Before the start of the site set up	The developer / owner will check that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The pre-works clearance of the stored firewood <i>etc.</i> has been undertaken (refer to Section 6 below) A bat licence has been issued by Natural England for work that affects bats.
Compliance checks	Periodic checks (monthly)	The lead contractor will check and record compliance with this Ecology Strategy and the bat licence.
Completion compliance	Before the completion of the works	The ecologist will check and sign-off the licensed bat mitigation. The lead contractor will check & record compliance with the Ecology Strategy and bat licence. The lead contractor will report to the developer / owner / agent / architect.

Mitigation

- A 'Beaumaris Midi Bat Box' will be fitted to the apex of the western external wall.



Beaumaris Midi Bat Box

- A 'Woodstone Large Multi Chamber Bat Box' will be fitted on a tree at the landholding on a tree and position agreed with the ecologist.

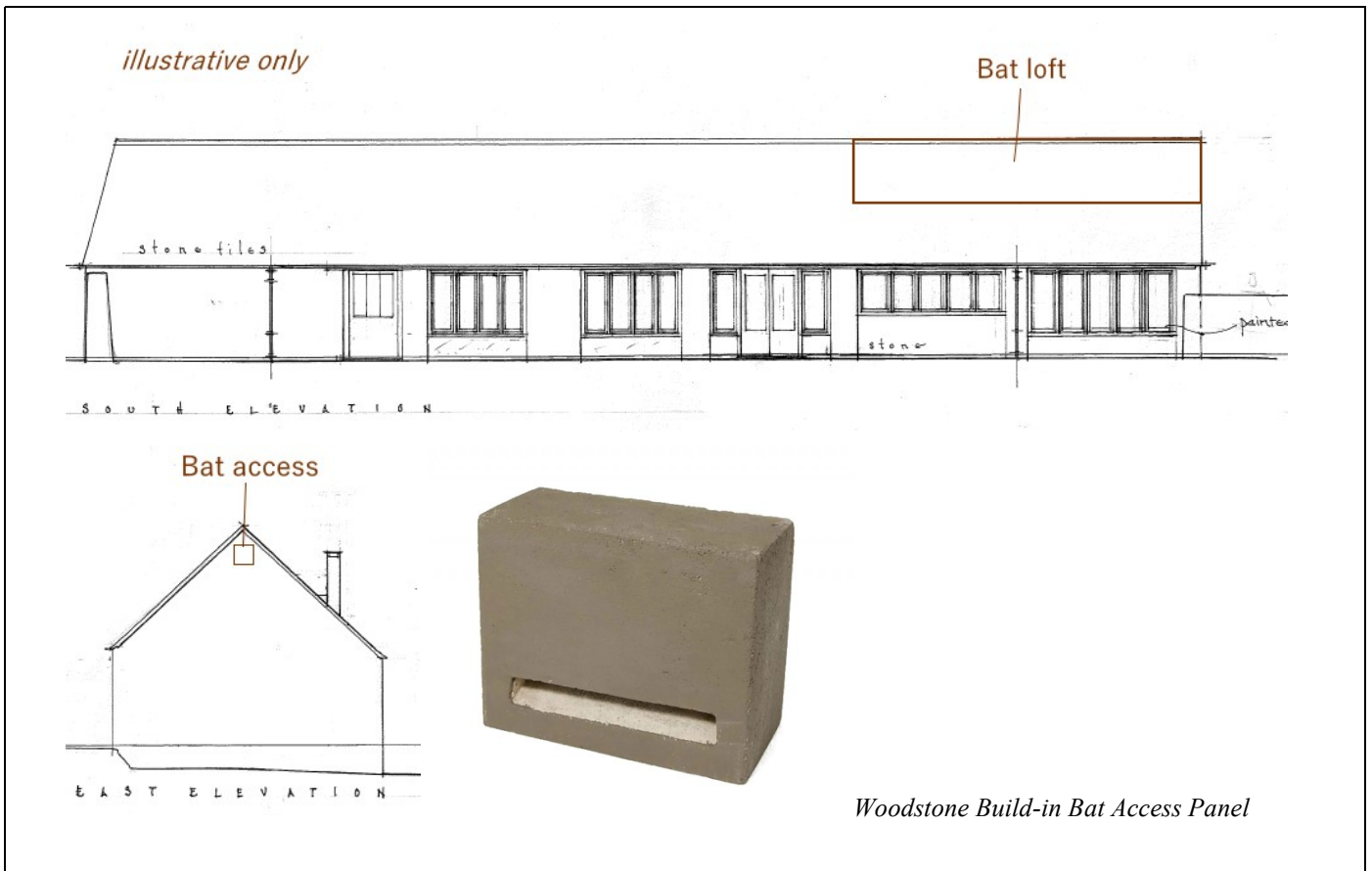


Woodstone Large Multi Chamber Bat Box'

- Any change to the type of bat box will be approved in advance by the ecologist. Timber boxes will not be used for the bat mitigation.

Compensation

- A 'Bat Loft' will be created in the Low Barn. The loft will have the following features:
 - Loft built in the roof of the eastern end of the barn over the kitchen and bedroom
 - A 1.8+m height from floor to roof apex in at least half the loft (the existing purlins existing are at varying heights)
 - A Woodstone Bat Access Panel will be fitted in the eastern end wall in order to provide access for bats into the loft. Any change to the type of access will be approved in advance by the ecologist.
 - The existing parallel roof ridge beams will be retained or recreated (with guidance from the ecologist) in order to provide a crevice for roosting bats in the loft ridge.
 - A maintenance hatch will be fitted in the ceiling into the loft.
 - Insulation and floor panels will be fitted on the loft floor (and not the pitch of the roof).
 - Type 1F bitumen roofing felt with a hessian matrix will be used at the loft (not non-bitumen coated roofing membrane or breathable roofing membrane BRM that can entangle and kill bats).
 - Any timber treatment in the loft to be a type that does not harm bats
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bat-roosts-insecticides-and-timber-treatments>)



4 STREAM

3.1 • STREAM

Avoidance (construction)

- No potentially polluting loose materials (cement, sand or spoil for example), fluids (fuel for example) or activities (making cement for example) will be stored or undertaken within 2 m of the stream
- Nothing will be deposited into the stream.
- Any silt-laden run-off water from the works site will be banded through straw bales or similar from the stream during times of rain.
- No surface water drains will be fitted between the parking area and the stream.

Enhancement (construction)

- If desired, it will be permissible to remove silt from the stream bed (retaining the gravel substrate and any aquatic vegetation).

5 NESTING BIRDS

5.1 NESTING BIRDS

Avoidance

- As a standard precaution – when clearing vegetation during the nesting season (March – August inclusive) a check for nesting birds will be undertaken first and nests protected if an affected occupied nest is found.

6 HEDGEHOGS

6.1 HEDGEHOGS

Avoidance

- The following avoidance measures will be undertaken to avoid harm to hedgehogs.

Pre works

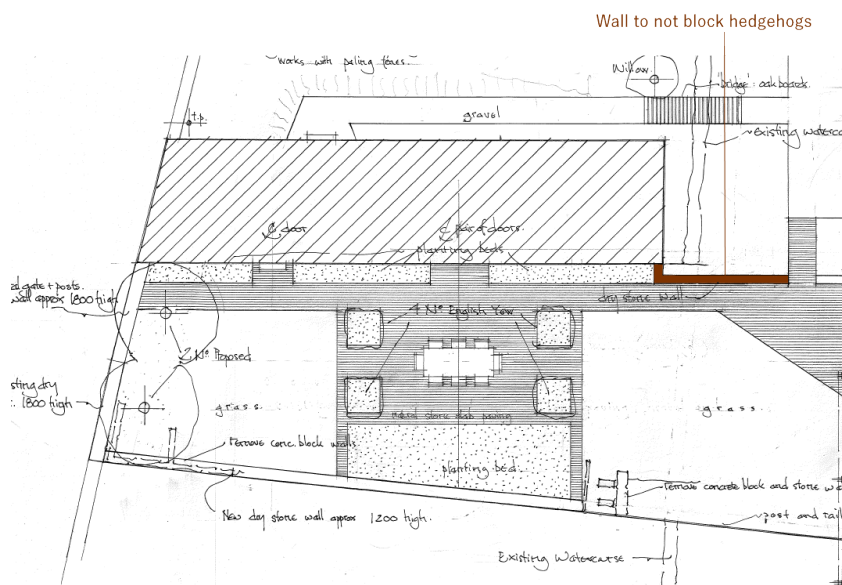
- The existing wood stored in the Low Barn (and other stored debris) will be carefully removed by hand. This will be done outside of the winter and not during cold conditions when animals are more vulnerable and not able to move out of harm's way.

During works

- No open trenches or holes will be left overnight during construction. If necessary, a ramp will be placed in them overnight of minimum 10 cm width that a hedgehog and other animals can use to get out of the trench / hole.
- Operatives will be instructed to check for hedgehogs before infilling these holes / trenches.

Mitigation

- A gap of minimum 20 cm width or a tunnel of minimum 13 cm diameter will be made in the stone wall that is to be built at the eastern end of the Low Barn (this is in order to allow hedgehogs continued passage). This will be on the western side of the stream (there is an open path on the eastern side).



- A minimum of one hedgehog ‘house’ will be positioned on the landholding. The house will be of a type made from a long-lasting material (not softwood). It will be placed amongst a pile of timber or other materials that provide additional shelter.

For example:



HH7 Hogilo Hedgehog House



Schwegler Hedgehog Dome



WoodStone Hedgehog House

End.