

James Barnes
1 Oak Tree Cottages
Flaxley
Newnham
GL14 1JR

18/05/2021

Inspection of shed to be demolished and assessment of bat roosting potential

Dear James,

I am writing to update you of the findings of my visit on the 14th May 2021, to inspect the derelict shed within your garden.

The inspection was targeted to search for evidence of, or potential for, roosting bats and nesting birds within the shed. The weather during the visit was mild and dry and optimal for such an inspection. All elevations of the shed, both internal and external, were accessible for inspection, and the stored items within the shed were also searched for evidence of bats such as droppings.

Photographs 1 and 2 overleaf show the various features of the shed that are described in the subsequent paragraphs.

The shed footprint is c.2m x 3m and the walls are c.1.5m tall. It is constructed from a mixture of red brick and stone, with cement mortar which is in variable repair. The roof is a simple mono-pitch with only one panel of corrugated sheet metal remaining, which is supported by a simple modern timber frame that seats onto the wall tops.

There are small cracks in some of the mortar between courses, and a larger crack where the wall forming the south east elevation abuts the wall forming the southwest elevation. All cracks were inspected visually and were found to be unsuitable to support bat roosting due to being too superficial, too narrow, and conversely, too open and exposed to weather and light.

There were no suitable potential roost sites between the timber frame of the roof and the top of the walls, or within the framework itself, and the loose corrugated roof sheet did not provide any suitable potential roost sites beneath it.

The stored items appeared to have been in situ for some time and were visually searched for evidence of bats.

No evidence of bat roosting, such as droppings, staining or an absence of cobwebs was observed during the inspection and no suitable potential roost features were identified.

Given the absence of suitable roost features and evidence of bats, and the exposed and illuminated nature of the shed, my assessment is that the shed has negligible potential to support roosting bats and that no further action in respect of bats is advised.

With regard to nesting birds, no historic or active birds nests were recorded during the inspection. It would be prudent for you to undertake a visual search for new nests prior to demolition, but aside from that no further action in respect of nesting birds is advised.



Photograph 1: South east elevation of shed showing dilapidated roof structure and large crack where two walls abut



Photograph 2: Interior of shed, showing mortar, internal roof timber structure and stored items

I hope that the above is clear and comprehensive, however if you have any queries, or the LPA Ecologist would like to discuss further, then please don't hesitate to get in touch, or to pass on my contact details.

Warm regards,

Steph

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