CurtisEcology

BAT SURVEY REPORT

At

Field House Farm
Main Road
Asselby
East Riding of Yorkshire
DN14 7HE

For

Mr & Mrs J. Malone

Date: 7th August 2021

Reference no: CE0997

Curtis Ecology

Nova Scotia Farm, The Valley, Rimswell, Withernsea, East Yorkshire HU19 2BZ

T 01964 614295 M 07716260006 E roger@curtisecology.co.uk

www.curtisecology.co.uk

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Document Control Sheet

Client: Mr & Mrs J. Malone

Project: Field House Farm, Main Road, Asselby, East Riding of Yorkshire, DN14 7HE

Title: Bat Survey Report

REPORT CONTROL SHEET

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Curtis Ecology was instructed by M J Design Services Ltd on behalf of the clients Mr & Mrs J. Malone to undertake a Preliminary Roost Assessment and Nocturnal survey on a mix of traditional and modern agricultural buildings located within the curtilage of Field House Farm, Main Road, Asselby, Goole East Riding of Yorkshire DN14 7HE. It is understood that the assessment and surveys are required to support a proposed planning application which is to be lodged with the local planning authority, in this case the East Riding of Yorkshire Council for the conversion of the traditional block of barns into a residential dwelling with associated hard and soft landscaping following the demolition of the general purpose buildings.

During the Preliminary Roost Assessment undertaken on the 14th May 2021 a number of features within several of the study buildings, which could provide potential roosting opportunities, especially for crevice dwelling bats species were identified and as a result these findings the buildings have been assessed in the following order:-

Building 1 – Low potential

Building 2 – Negligible potential

Building 3 – Negligible potential

Building 4 – Moderate potential

Building 5 – Moderate potential

Building 6 – Moderate potential

Building 7 – Moderate potential

Building 8 – Low potential

Building 9 – Negligible potential

Building 10 – Low potential

As a result of these assessments, recommendations were made for further nocturnal surveys to be undertaken during the bat activity survey season (May – mid September) to enable a full assessment to be made and to determine the level of mitigation which may be required.

Results from the nocturnal surveys undertaken on the 15th June, 10th & 26th July 2021 indicated the presence of a day roost in a crack in the brickwork of the west gable of Building 6, for one Common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*.

The day roost within Building 6 will be destroyed/disturbed during the conversion phase of the proposed development. Therefore a Bat Mitigation Licence, approved by Natural England will be required before any conversion /demolition work can be undertaken. This licence can only be applied for once planning approval has been obtained from the Local Planning Authority in this case the East Riding of Yorkshire Planning Authority

No maternity roosts or significant numbers of bats were observed during the nocturnal surveys.

Informative: - With regard to an application for a Bat Mitigation Licence, Natural England require dusk & dawn surveys to have been conducted within either the current, or most recent optimal survey season. If a Bat Mitigation Licence has not been applied for within this time period, then top up dusk & dawn surveys will be required during the proceeding bat activity survey seasons until such an application is made.

There was no historical evidence Barn owl *Typo alba* inhabiting the study buildings at the time of the assessment or nocturnal surveys.

Two active Swallow nests were present in Building 6, therefore recommendations have been proposed in Section 7.3 of this report.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Curtis Ecology was instructed by M J Design Services Ltd on behalf of the clients Mr & Mrs J. Malone to undertake a Preliminary Roost Assessment and Nocturnal survey on a mix of traditional and modern agricultural buildings located within the curtilage of Field House Farm, Main Road, Asselby, Goole East Riding of Yorkshire DN14 7HE. It is understood that the assessment and surveys are required to support a proposed planning application which is to be lodged with the local planning authority, in this case the East Riding of Yorkshire Council for the conversion of the traditional block of barns into a residential dwelling with associated hard and soft landscaping following the demolition of the general purpose buildings.

1.1 Site Description

Field House Farm is located at the western periphery of Asselby village and to the south of village road, with the study site being centred upon Gird reference SE714 280. Field House Farm is comprised of a range of traditional and modern agricultural buildings (The study buildings). To the north and east are residential properties some with large mature gardens, to the west is intensively farmed arable land and to the immediate south are grass paddocks which lead into intensively farmed arable land. The wider landscape within the 2km search area is dominated by intensive arable land, with hedgerows, dykes, waterbodies, individual trees, small copses, individual residential properties and farmsteads



Figure 1. Arial view of the study site location within the wider landscape.

© Google Earth

1.2 Proposed Works.

It is understood at the time of this report that the development proposal is for the conversion the traditional block of barns into a residential dwelling, with associated hard and soft landscaping following the demolition of the general purpose buildings.

1.3 Survey Objectives.

The aim of the Preliminary Roost Assessment and Nocturnal Surveys are as follows:-

- Perform a desk top study and data/record search for pre-existing records and data from third party repositories prior to the site survey.
- Determine the potential for bats and to search for evidence of their occupancy and signs of usage using a number of survey methods.
- Assess the survey results and evaluate any potential impact of the proposed work upon any bats which might be occupying any of the study buildings and immediate surrounding habitat.
- To produce a report detailing findings, the likely approach to mitigation and any recommendations for the proposed work

2.0 SURVEY METHODOLOGY

2.1 Desk Study.

A desk study was undertaken with records being obtained from the following third party repositories, the North & East Yorkshire Ecological Data Centre with reference to the East Yorkshire Bat Group and a review of the Multi-Agency Geographical Information of Conservation (MAGIC) and Google Earth. The search area is a 2km radius from the centre of the application site located at Grid reference SE714 280.

2.2 Buildings Assessment.

The buildings were subject to a visual daytime inspection for evidence of and potential for bat species. The survey methodology will be undertaken as recommended by the Bat Conservation Trust - Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: *Good Practice Guidelines* (3rd *Edition* 2016 and Natural England Standing Advice Sheet - *Bats* (April 2012).

The visual survey involves assessment for: -

- An assessment of holes/crevices in the building structure.
- Slipped, lifted and or badly fitted tiles
- The presence of roofing felt or any form of internal roof lining
- Signs of droppings on walls, windowsills, floors, roof spaces and below any suitable roosting features.
- Wing fragments of butterflies and moths on the floor/walls below beams and other internal structure.
- Scratch marks on beams, potential entrance and exits holes and any other internal structures.
- Dead bats
- Oil staining the bat fur may leave an oily residue on surfaces
- Tracks in any dust

- Odour certain bat species can have a distinctive odour, species such as soprano pipistrelle and noctule can have a pungent odour from urine and oily fur.
- Suitable foraging and or commuting habitat within close proximity to the study site, which would include woodland, shelter belts, hedgerows, ponds, watercourses and domestic gardens connected to one another.

2.3 Nocturnal surveys

Nocturnal bat surveys will be undertaken as recommended by the Bat Conservation Trust - Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: *Good Practice Guidelines* 3rd Edition 2016 and English Nature *Bat Mitigation Guidelines* (2004). The survey is comprised of one dusk emergence survey to assess any bat activity associated with the buildings and surrounding habitat of the site using equipment set out in 2.4.2 below.

The dusk/emergence survey will commence approximately fifteen minutes before sunset and cease approximately one and a half to two hours after sunset.

The dawn survey will commence approximately one and a half to two hours before sunrise and finished approximately fifteen minutes after sunrise.

Bats seen or heard during the nocturnal surveys will be recorded, noting the time of observation, estimated number of bats, direction of flight and type of activity. These observations will be presented in the form of an observation table and activity plan for each respective survey.

2.4. Survey Equipment.

- 2.4.1 The following equipment when required was used during the building survey assessment:
 - Clulite CB2 one million candle power torch
 - Close focusing binoculars
 - Dart Ridged See-Snake Endoscope
 - Petsl Tikka Plus 2 head torch
 - 3.6 m telescopic ladders
 - FinePix S5600 digital camera
 - Thermohygrometer
- 2.4.2 The following equipment when required was used during the nocturnal surveys.
 - Anabat Walkabout Bat Detectors
 - Anabat Express Bat Detectors
 - Echo Meter Touch 2 Pro Full Spectrum Bat Detectors
 - Hikmicro Lynx Pto LH19 Thermal Imaging Telescope
 - Thermohygrometer
 - Petsl Tikka Plus 2 head torches

2.5. Weather Conditions.

Table 1-Weather conditions at the time of the Preliminary Roost Assessment

Survey date	14 th May 2021
Wind speed	6 mph N E
Cloud cover	100%
Rainfall	None
Temperature	12°C
Humidity	78%

Table 2 - Weather conditions at the time of the nocturnal surveys

Survey date	15 th June 2021	10 th July 2021	26 th July 2021
Sunset / sunrise times	21.36hrs	04.46hrs	21.12hrs
Survey time	21.10 - 23.15hrs	03.00 – 05.10hrs	20.50 – 22.45hrs
Wind speed	5mph SE	Calm	5mph SE
Cloud cover	10%	100%	20%
Rainfall	N/A	N/A	N/A
Temperature	20°C	16°C	21°C
Humidity	65%	91%	75%

2.6 Survey Personnel

2.6.1 Daytime Building Assessment

The buildings assessment was undertaken by the following personnel:-

Roger Curtis FdSc who has 12 years survey experience and holds the follow Natural England licences: -

Bats - WML-CL18 class licence 2015-12148-CLS-CLS

Great crested newts – WML-CL08 class licence, 2015-17362-CLS-CLS

Roger is also a committee member of the East Yorkshire Bat Group and County Bat Recorder.

Beth Bell FdBa who has undertaken numerous dusk & dawn surveys over the past three years, as well as assisting with building and trees assessments. Beth is currently in the final stage of assessment for a Natural England level 2 class bat licence.

2.6.2 Nocturnal Surveys

Roger Curtis FdSc who has 12 years survey experience and holds the follow Natural England licences; -

Bats – WML-CL18 class licence, survey licence 2015-12148-CLS-CLS

Great crested newts – WML-CL08 class licence survey licence -2015-17362-CLS-CLS

Roger is also a committee member of the East Yorkshire Bat Group and County Bat Recorder

Helen Norford Natural England WML-CL18 Bat Class licence registration no 2015-10170-CLS-CLS with 6 years survey/fieldwork experience. Helen is employed by the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust as the Outer Humber Grazing Officer. Helen is also a committee member of the East Yorkshire Bat Group.

Steve Norford Natural England Bat Class licence registration no 2016-20944-CLS-CLS with 5 years survey/field work experience. Steven is also a member of the East Yorkshire Bat Group.

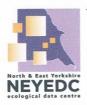
Graham Johnson whom has several years fieldwork experience

Tracy Allen BSc has attended numerous dusk/ dawn surveys and is a member of the East Yorkshire Bat Group

3.0 SURVEY RESULTS

3.1 Desk Top Study

3.1.1 Figure 2. Pre-existing Site Designations



Our Ref:

E05563

Your Ref:

CE0997

Date:

06/05/2021

Search area:

2km radius from SE714280

Site Data Search

Internationally designated sites:

The following sources were searched:

Special Areas of Conservation Special Protection Areas Ramsar sites

published March 2016 - revised July 2019 published March 2016 - revised June 2019 published March 2016 - revised June 2019

There are no internationally designated sites within the search area.

Nationally designated sites:

The following sources were searched:

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

National Parks

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

National Nature Reserves

published September 2017 - revised May 2020 published August 2016 - revised February 2019

published May 2015

published March 2016 - revised May 2019

The following nationally designated statutory sites are in or partly within the search area, and are shown on the accompanying map:

Designation	Name or location of site	Grid Reference
Site of Special Scientific Interest	Barn Hill Meadows	SE733285

We do not hold full details of Statutory sites. For further information please contact Natural England. Their website is at:

https://www.gov.uk/topic/planning-development/protected-sites-species

The Protected Areas Designations Directory and further information on Statutory sites can be found at: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1527

Locally designated and non-Statutory sites:

The following sources were searched:

Local Nature Reserves

published March 2016 - revised May 2020

There are no Local Nature Reserves within the search area.

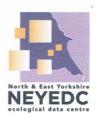
East Yorkshire LWS [Local Wildlife Sites] Version: ERY_LWS V8.1

November 2018

The following LWS are in or partly within the search area, and are shown on the accompanying map:

E05563 details.docx

May 21



Our Ref:

E05563

Your Ref:

CE0997

Date:

06/05/2021

Search area: 2km

2km radius from SE714280

Site Id	Site Name	Grid Reference	LWS Status
SE7025-03	Yarmshaw Plantation	SE730287	Designated LWS
SE7025-05	Asselby Disused Railway	SE710283	Deleted LWS
SE7025-07	Asselby Island	SE722264	Designated LWS

Candidate Local Wildlife Sites

These sites have either not been surveyed, or no East Riding of Yorkshire LWS Panel decision has been reached on their status. This designation is only be applied where there is compelling evidence to support the site having substantive value and includes, but is not limited to anecdotal species records, aerial photography, historic maps and application of the Radcliff criteria, especially with regard to size and a sites' position in an ecological unit.

Historic Local Wildlife Sites

Historic LWS have not been surveyed under the current LWS system (since 2007), but unlike a Candidate LWS these sites lack compelling evidence of any substantive value, but equally lack compelling evidence to support their deletion.

Deleted Local Wildlife Sites

The decision to delete LWS by the East Riding of Yorkshire LWS Panel is made based on one of the following situations;

- The site overlaps with a statutory designated site e.g. SSSI
- The site overlaps with another LWS or has been merged with another
- The site no longer exists e.g. through changes in land use or management
- The site has been surveyed and does not meet the robust LWS Guidelines for designation on habitat grounds.

In many cases just because a site has not met the high criteria for designation as a LWS it does not mean that it has no value for wildlife. The assessment is based on a botanical survey of the habitat and does not include surveys for animals including protected species, which the site may support. It may also be important as a local habitat as part of wider habitat network(s). It may be possible to enhance the value of the site for wildlife with certain types of management, which could even bring the site up to the standard required for designation as a LWS. If the site has been surveyed the citation for the deleted site will provide a description, botanical species list and scores against the LWS criteria.

If proposed development directly impacts on a deleted LWS we would recommend evaluating the reasons for deletion and considering impacts on the site using this information and any other surveys required. Enhancements for biodiversity on site through development should build on the existing ecological interest. Citations are available at an additional cost of £25 per site.

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Reserves

Version: YWT Reserves

January 2019

There are no YWT reserves within the search area.

E05563 details.docx

May 21



E05563

Your Ref:

CE0997

06/05/2021

Search area:

2km radius from SE714280

Areas of habitats in or partly within the search area occurring in the Natural England Ancient Woodland Inventories and/or Priority Habitats are shown on the accompanying map, and are listed below:

Ancient Woodland Inventory

Version: Ancient Woodlands

published July 2013 - revised January 2020

Habitat type	Location or comments
Ancient and Semi-Natural Woodland	None within the search area.
Planted Ancient Woodland Sites	Notice within the Scarcif area.

Priority Habitat Inventory Version: Priority Habitats Inventory

August 2017

Habitat type	Location or comments
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	Barn Hill
Deciduous woodland	Several parcels throughout search area
Good quality semi-improved grassland	Barn Hill
Lowland meadows	Barn Hill
Mudflats	Banks of River OUse
Traditional orchard	Asselby

The relevant 2km Designation & Habitat Maps are illustrated in Appendices 1, 2 & 3 of this report.

3.1.2 Bat records.

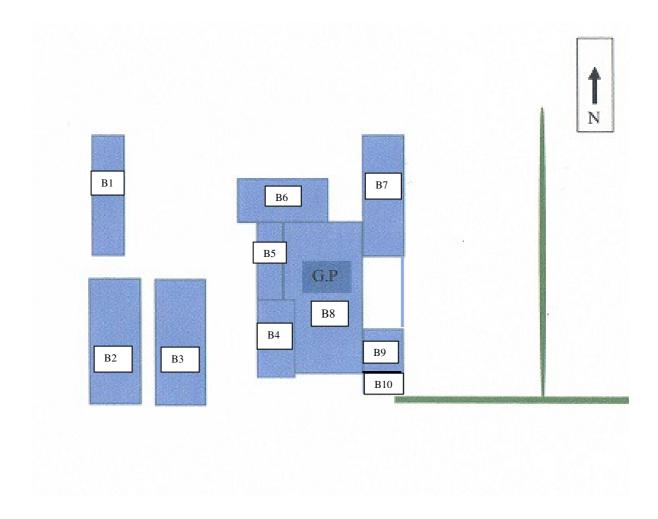
Bat records were obtained from North & East Yorkshire Ecological Data Centre (NEYEDC) and East Yorkshire Bat Group.

Common Name	Location	Grid reference	Date	Comments	Distance
Common pipistrelle	Asselby	SE70774 28324	29/07/2013	1 Count of	0.75km W
				Roost	
Common pipistrelle	Asselby	SE70774 28324	19/09/2012	1 Count of	0.75km W
				Roost	
Common Pipistrelle	Asselby	SE714 280	03/07/2018	1 Day Roost	-
Common Pipistrelle	Asselby	SE714 280	18/07/2018	1 Day Roost	-
Common pipistrelle	Newsholme	SE721 296	29/05/2014	Sighting	1.7km N E
Brown Long-eared	Newsholme	SE721 296	29/05/2014	Sighting	1.7km N E
Common pipistrelle	Knedlington	SE731 280	01/07/2017	1 day roost	1.6km E
Common pipistrelle	Asselby	SE714 280	03/07/2018	1 day roost	On site
Common pipistrelle	Asselby	SE714 280	19/07/2018	1 day roost	On site

There are 9 historical records found within the 2 km search area, two of which relate to the study site itself. Two day roosts for Common pipistrelle Pipistrellus pipistrellus where recorded on the 3rd July 2018 and 18th July 2018 in study buildings on site

3.2 Daytime Building Survey

Figure 3. Site plan with the existing buildings identified.



Building 1 (B1)

Building 1 is a single storey mono-pitched building with open arches to the east elevation, constructed from solid brick with a corrugated asbestos sheet roof covering. The solid brick walls were in reasonable condition, no deep holes were noted within the brickwork apart from several places along the eastern elevation between the timber lintels and surrounding brickwork over the open arches wall. The roof structure is comprised of timber beams spanned between the brick pillars and the western brick wall, with timber purlins and timber boarding above, to which the corrugated Asbestos sheets are attached. The roof was in reasonable condition with a small area of damaged roofing sheet noted in the centre above the eastern eave. The corrugations along both elevations are sealed with mortar, which was in good condition, the internal walls were mostly in reasonable condition, however cracks between the bricks were noted in the north east corner. On the southern gable is a small timber framed mono pitched outbuilding which was covered with corrugated tin sheeting along the walls and the roof. There was no roofing felt or boarding out of this roof or external walls. There was no historical evidence of bat habitation.

Building one has been assessed at this stage as having Low potential for bat habitation for the following reasons:-

- Gaps above timber lintels on the east elevation
- Cracks between bricks internally

Plate1. Looking towards the eastern elevation of Building 1.



Plate 2. The internal structure of Building 1.



Buildings 2 & 3 (B2 & 3)

Two General purpose straw sheds are located in the south west corner of the site. The buildings are constructed with RSJ stations to which are fixed the angle iron box roof trusses, above which are angle iron purlings to which the Big 6 fibre cement roofing sheets are fixed. The gables are covered down to eaves level with standard corrugated fibre cement sheeting on both elevations. There are several damaged roof sheets present on both buildings as well as some damage to the gable end sheets. From the observations made both these buildings have been assessed at this stage as having Negligible potential for bat habitation.

Plate 3. Looking toward the north gables of Buildings 2 & 3.



Plate 4. The internal structure of Building 2



Building 4 (B4)

Building 4 is a two-storey barn constructed with solid brick walls and a pan tiled roof covering. The walls have superficial decay of both the bricks and mortar lines on all elevations, although the majority of the south gable is covered in Common ivy *Hedera helix*. Cylindrical clay ventilation pipes where noted on the lower level of the east and west elevations and at eaves level on the north gable. There are several deep holes within the mortar lines especially noted on the west elevation just below eaves level and above the timber doors. The timber doors are in poor condition with gaps being present between the door frames and surrounding brickwork. Internally the walls are in reasonable condition with only occasional deep holes noted within the brickwork and around a proportion of the roof trusses where they are let into the wall. The lower part of the north gable is open which facilitates internal entry into the adjoining Building 5. The roof structure consists of timber King post roof trusses, with timber purlins, rafters, and a central ridge board, however there is no roofing felt or under drawing present throughout his building. There are numerous lifted, slipped and missing pantiles and holes are present within the bedding mortar of the ridge line.

Building 4 has been assessed as having Moderate potential for bat habitation for the following reasons:-

- Holes in mortar lines above timber lintels and surrounding doors
- Holes in mortar lines at eaves level externally.
- Numerous lifted/slipped/missing pantiles
- Holes in bedding mortar under ridge tiles.

Plate 5. Looking north along the western elevation and south gable of Building 4



Plate 6. The interior of Building 4.



Building 5 (B5)

A single storey solid brick barn with a red pantile roof covering. The brick walls have several age related holes/cracks to all elevations, the wall to the north west corner has cracked and started to collapse meaning access could not be gained into the stables. The timber stable type doors and timber window frames found in the eastern elevation are generally in a moderate condition. There are gaps however between the door and window frames and the surrounding brickwork.

The roof is supported upon A framed roof trusses with timber purlins, rafters and a central ridge board, with no roofing felt being present throughout this building. There are numerous missing pantiles, mainly on the eastern roof aspect and towards the northern end of the roof, along with lifted and slipped tiles on both roof aspects. There are also holes within the bedding mortar along the ridge line.

Access could not be gained internally due to the collapse of the north west corner.

Building 5 has been assessed as having Moderate potential for bat habitation for the following reasons:-

- Gaps between timber frames and surrounding brickwork
- Unable to gain access due to wall collapse.
- Holes/cracks in mortar lines.

Plate 7. The eastern elevation of Building 5 viewed from within Building 8, with collapsing wall.



Building 6 (B6)

Built with solid brick walls and having a roof covering of red pantiles. The western section of this building is two storeys in height, with the remainder of the building being of single storey construction. The brick walls have age related superficial decay of the mortar and brickwork, along with deep holes in several locations, especially on the two-storey part of the building, where a wide deep crack is apparent on the western gable over the stable door, causing a partial collapse, scaffolding pipes have been used to support the gable from further collapse. The majority of the two-storey south elevation is covered by a large Elder tree *Sambucus*. The north west corner of the two storey building has a covering of Common Ivy *Hedera helix* The timber doors are in poor condition with gaps present between the door frames and surrounding brickwork on several of them.

Access could not be gained internally due to Health and Safety Concerns due to the partial collapse of the west elevation.

There are numerous lifted, slipped and missing pantiles, especially at the most eastern and western ends where the northern side of the roof has partially collapsed in. There where holes noted within the bedding mortar along both ridge lines and the verge on the western gable has large areas of missing mortar.

Active bird nests where noted with Barn swallow seen entering the building numerous times. There was no historical evidence of bat habitation during the daytime building assessment.

Building 6 has been assessed as having Moderate potential for bat habitation for the following reasons:-

- Gaps/cracks in external walls on all elevations
- Missing mortar along both sides of the ridge
- Unable to gain access internally

Plate 8. Looking towards the western gable of Building 6.



Plate 9. The north elevation of Building 6.



Building 7 (B7)

Building 7 is a single storey former stables and tack room constructed from solid brick with a pantile roof covering. Externally the brick walls were in moderate condition with only slight superficial decay noted. There where six timber framed doors to the west elevation with gaps of varying sizes noted between the frames and the surrounding brick walls. Timber facia boards on both the west and east elevation had gaps behind where the timber had bowed over time. Internally the walls had been painted white, there were varying degrees of age related decay, resulting in some cracks/holes within the mortar lines.

The roof was constructed with A framed timber trusses with timber purling's, rafters and a central ridge board. There is no roofing felt present throughout the structure. A number of pantiles has lifted/slipped especially at eaves level on the western elevation.

Overall from the observations made Building 7 has been assessed at this stage as having Moderate potential for bat habitation for the following reasons:-

- Lifted/Slipped pantiles
- Gaps between timber frames and behind facia boards

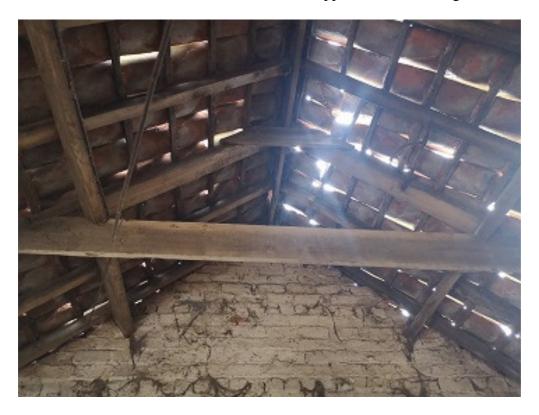
Plate 10. Looking north from the open doorway in Building 8 along the west elevation of Building 7 $\,$



Plate 11. The north gable of Building 7



Plate 12. The timber roof structure and lifted/slipped tiles of building 7



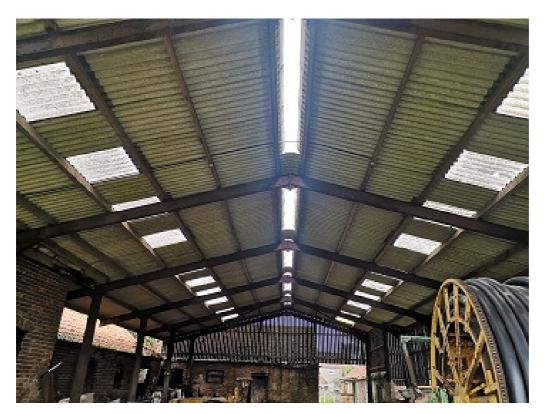
Building 8 (B8)

A general purpose building which covers the former central fold yard area. Constructed with a steel portal frame with the roof being covered with Big 6 corrugated sheeting. The ridge line is open and a series of evenly spaced Perspex roof lights are found along both roof aspects. The southern gable down to eaves level is covered with Yorkshire boarding below which this gable is open. The north gable and eastern elevation are both covered with Yorkshire boarding down to the eaves height of the adjacent traditional buildings. There are occasional gaps between the Yorkshire boarding and preformed barge boards on both gables. The interior is again light and draughty with no historical evidence of bat habitation. Due to the gaps noted between the Yorkshire boarding and barge boards on the gables this building has been assessed as having Low potential for bat habitation.

Plate 13. The south gable of Building 8, with Building 10 seen to the right of the photograph and part of Building 4 to the left.



Plate 14. The interior of Building 8, looking north towards Building 6



Building 9 (B9)

A single storey outbuilding with an open front into Building 8. The walls are predominantly solid brick, with the eastern elevation having a 225mm block wall up to around 1.5m which extends up a further 60 cm with solid brick, above which with elevation is open up to the eaves of the roof. All of the walls have superficial decay of the brickwork with no deep holes noted. The roof is formed by A framed roof trusses and timber purlins to which the roof covering of corrugated asbestos sheeting if affixed to. The western elevation is open into Building 8 and the roof on this side of the building is supported upon timber beams which in turn are fixed to the stantions of Building 8. The interior was light and draughty and there was no historical evidence of bat habitation. As a result of the observations made at this stage building 9 has been assessed as having Negligible potential for bat habitation.

Plate 15. Looking east into Building 9 from the interior of Building 8.



Building 10 (B10)

Building 10 is a single storey solid brick outbuilding with a pantile roof covering.

The east gable and a large proportion of the south elevation and roof were covered by Common ivy. Holes were noted on the west elevation between bricks due to age related decay of the mortar lines. A timber famed doorway at the west elevation was noted to have gaps of varying degrees between the timber frame and surrounding brickwork.

Access could not be gained inside the building due to the entrance been blocked by debris.

The roof covering of red pantiles was in a poor condition with numerous missing tiles on both roof aspects.

Building 10 has been assessed as having Low potential for bat habitation for the following reasons:-

- Holes in brickwork an mortar lines
- Access could not be gained internally

Plate 16. The west gable of Building 10.



Plate 17. Common Ivy covering the east & south elevations as well as the majority of the roof.



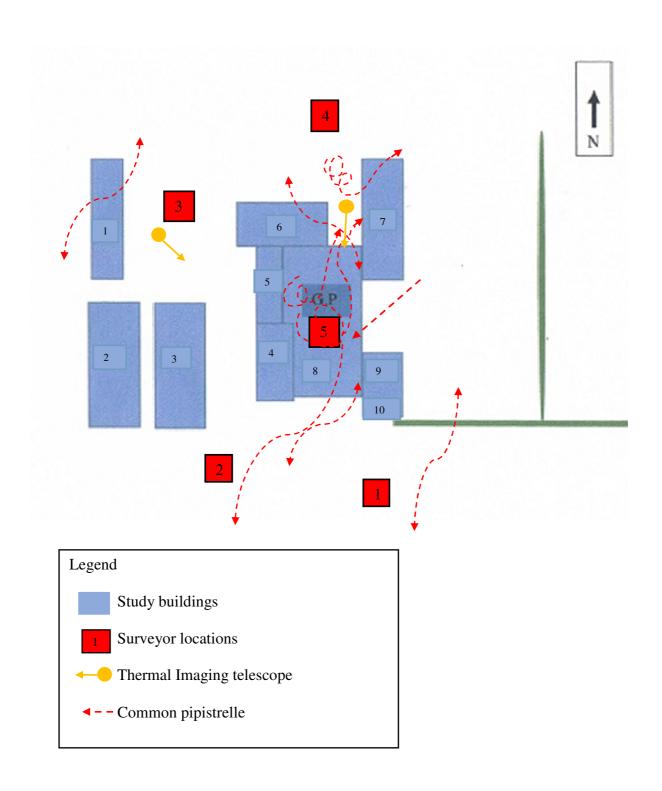
3.3 Nocturnal Surveys.

Survey data results are presented below along with the relevant survey activity plan

Dusk Activity Survey for 15th June 2021

Table 3. Results of the dusk emergence bat survey

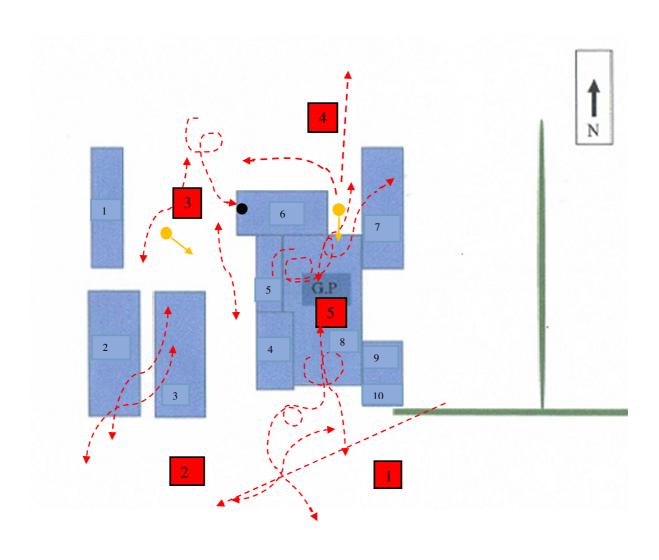
Location	Time	Observations made	
	21.10	Survey start	
2	22.09	1 Common pipistrelle heard briefly direction not ascertained	
5	22.10	1 Common pipistrelle came from the east through open shed side then started foraging in GP	
1	22.11 – 22.17	1 Common pipistrelle foraging to the east of the site	
4	22.12	1 Common pipistrelle foraging around the west elevation of building 7	
4 & 5	22.13 – 22.25	1 or 2 Common pipistrelles foraging in and out of the north entrance of the GP building	
1	22.22	1 Common pipistrelle heard briefly; direction not ascertained.	
4 & 5	22.27 – 22.35	1 or 2 Common pipistrelles foraging in and out of GP	
3	22.33	1 Common pipistrelle foraging to west of the site	
1	22.34	1 Common pipistrelle commuting; direction not ascertained.	
1 & 2	22.39	1 Common pipistrelle foraging to south of site	
4 & 5	22.45 – 23.02	2 or 3 Common pipistrelles foraging in and around north entrance of GP	
1	22.49	1 Common pipistrelle commuting; direction not ascertained.	
2	22.50	1 Common pipistrelle heard briefly; direction not ascertained.	
	23.15	Survey End	

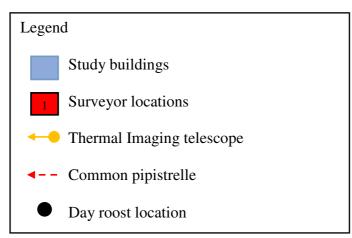


Dawn Activity Survey for 10th July 2021

Table 4. Results of the dawn re-entry bat survey

Location	Time	Observations made	
	03.00	Survey Start	
5	03.20 - 03.35	1 or 2 Common pipistrelle, foraging in GP	
1 & 2	03.25	1 Common pipistrelle heard briefly; direction not ascertained.	
1 & 2	03.40 - 03.55	1 or 2 Common pipistrelles foraging to the south of the site.	
3	03.50 - 03.51	1 or 2 Common pipistrelles foraging to the west of the site	
1 & 2	03.55 - 03.59	1 Common pipistrelle foraging to south of site.	
4 & 5	03.56 - 04.02	2 or 3 Common pipistrelles foraging in and around north entrance	
		of GP	
4	04.05-04.08	1 Common pipistrelle foraging along west elevation of B7	
5 & 1	04.06 - 04.12	1 or 2 Common pipistrelle foraging in and around south entrance	
		of GP	
3	04.08 - 04.15	1 Common pipistrelle foraging to west of B5	
2	04.09 - 04.18	1 Common pipistrelle foraging around buildings 2 & 3	
4 & 5	04.15 - 04.23	1 or 2 Common pipistrelles foraging in and around north entrance	
		of GP, one bat went north the other west	
3	04.23 - 04.27	1 Common pipistrelle foraged along west gable of B6, before	
		entering a day roost in a crack above the door @ 04.27hrs	
	05.10	Survey End	

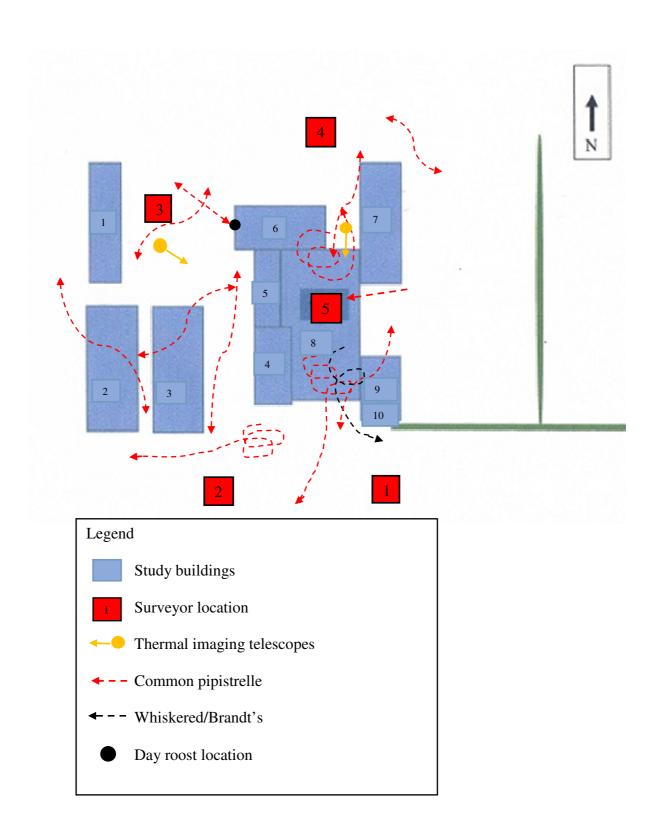




Dawn Activity Survey for 26th July 2021

Table 4. Results of the dawn re-entry bat survey

Location	Time	Observations made
	20.50	Survey Start
4	21.30 - 22.05	2 or 3 Common pipistrelles foraging to the north east of building
		7 in neighbouring gardens
1	21.43	1 Common pipistrelle heard briefly; direction not ascertained.
5	21.43- 22.15	1 or 2 Common pipistrelles foraging in GP came from east via
		open shed side
3	21.45 - 22.17	1 Common pipistrelle foraging to west of study site
2	21.50 - 21.59	1 or 2 Common pipistrelle foraging along west elevations of
		buildings 4 & 5
1 & 5	22.02 - 22.22	1 Whiskered/Brandt's came in from the east via the southern
		doorway of the GP building then foraging in around south
		elevation before commuting east
1 & 2	22.02 - 22.15	1 or 2 Common pipistrelles foraging to the south of the site.
4 & 5	22.05 - 22.29	1 or 2 Common pipistrelles foraging in and around north entrance
		to GP
1 & 2	22.09	1 Noctule heard briefly; direction not ascertained.
3	22.25 &	1 Common pipistrelle emerged from crack in wall of west gable
	22.31	of B6 before re-entering at 22.31
1, 2 & 5	22.31 - 22.39	1 Common pipistrelle foraging in and around south entrance of
		GP
2 & 3	22.32 - 22.40	1 Common pipistrelle foraging around the G P building to the
		south west of the site
4	22.35 - 22.40	1 or 2 Common pipistrelles foraging in neighbouring gardens to
		east of the site.
	22.45	Survey End



4.0 ASSESSMENT OF SURVEY RESULTS

4.1 Constraints on Survey Information

- During the Preliminary Roost Assessment Buildings 5& 6 were not accessed internally due to H&S reasons.
- There were no constraints on the third party data searches.

4.2 Constraints on Equipment Used

• There were no constraints on the equipment used during the Preliminary Roost Assessment or Nocturnal Surveys.

4.3 Potential Impacts of Development.

4.3.1 Designated Sites.

There was one Statutory Sites found within the 2km search area, Barn Hill Meadows which is located approximately 1.8km north east of the study buildings.

Three non-statutory sites were found within the 2km search area, the nearest of which is Asselby Disused Railway, a deleted Local Wildlife Site which is located approximately 0.49km west of the application site. The nearest designated Local Wildlife Site is Asselby Island which is found approximately 1.5km south east of the application site

Given the nature of the development proposal and its location, it is not anticipated that any negative short or long term impacts would be likely to occur upon any of the Statutory or Non – statutory sites found within the 2km search radius, due to the distance between the conservation sites and the application site, as illustrated in Section 3.1.1 and Appendices 1 and 2 of this report.

4.3.2 Roosts

There are 9 historical records found within the 2 km search area, two of which relate to the study site itself. Two day roosts for Common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* where recorded on the 3rd July 2018 and 18th July 2018 in study buildings on site

As a result of the observations made during the Preliminary Roost Assessment, the study buildings were assessed in the following order:-

Building 1 – Low potential

Building 2 – Negligible potential

Building 3 – Negligible potential

Building 4 – Moderate potential

Building 5 – Moderate potential

Building 6 – Moderate potential

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Building 7 – Moderate potential

Building 8 – Low potential

Building 9 – Negligible potential

Building 10 – Low potential

During the dusk/emergence survey of the 15th June 2021, no bats where seen to emerge from any of the study buildings.

During the dawn/re-entry survey of the 10th July 2021 one Common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus* pipistrellus was seen to re-enter a day roost in a crack above the door in the western gable of Building 6 at 04:27 hrs.

On the dusk/emergence survey on the 26th July 2021, one Common Pipistrelle *pipistrellus* pipistrellus was seen to emerge from a day roost in a crack above the door in the western gable of Building 6 at 22.25 hrs before re- entering at 22.31 hrs. At 22:40 hrs the Common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus* pipistrellus re-emerged from the same roost location.

During the all survey periods there was no indication of a maternity roost or a large number of bats roosting within any of the study buildings.

Without suitable mitigation the conversion/demolition of Building 6 would result in both the short and long term destruction of one identified day roost for one Common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*.

Plate 18. Shows location of day roost in west gable of Building 6



4.3.3 Habitats

Foraging habitat within the immediate surrounding area of the development footprint is related to the garden and small orchard to the immediate north, the neighbouring gardens to the east and on occasion around the farm buildings, primarily the straw sheds to the immediate west.

As the proposed development is limited to the existing agricultural buildings within the farm yard it is not considered that there would be a negative impact upon the local foraging habitat if the development proposal was to proceed.

4.3.4 Foraging and commuting

Foraging activity both within and around the study site was moderate with recordings of foraging activity by predominately singe *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, although 2 to 3 Common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* were recoded foraging together on several occasions. During the dusk survey period of the 26th July a single Whiskered/Brandt's *Myotis spp*, came in from the east via the southern doorway of the GP building then foraging in around south elevation before commuting east.

Commuting activity was randomly spread over the site, there was no indication of a main commuting route for a large number of bats

From the observation made during the nocturnal survey period it is apparent that the study site and the immediate surrounding habitat only supports a small number of individual bats of a common species, possibly only two or three individuals.

Therefore from the nocturnal survey findings as discussed above it can be anticipated that it would be highly unlikely for any adverse short or long term impacts, upon either the foraging or commuting activity of the local bat population, if the proposed development were to proceed.

4.3.5 Nesting birds

There was no indication of Barn owl *Typo alba* habitation within any of the study buildings. However two active Swallow *Hirundo rustica* nests were identified within Building 6. Without suitable mitigation the conversion of Building 6 would result in the destruction/loss of the existing nest sites found within this building. Therefore to address these findings and to enable both the Continued Ecological Functionality and to maintain the Favourable Conservation Status of this bird species recommendations have been proposed in Section 7.3 of this report

5.0 LEGISLATION

5.1 Bats

All species of UK bats are statutorily protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (formerly The Conservation (Natural Habitats, Etc.) Regulations 1994 (as amended), which implements the requirements of the EC Habitats Directive, plus under UK legislation through Schedule 5 (Section 9) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. This combined legislation makes it an offence to:

- Deliberately kill, injure or capture bats
- Deliberately disturb bats in such a way as to significantly effect:
 - a) the ability of that species to survive, breed, rear or nurture their young
 - b) the local distribution on the species
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb or obstruct access to the resting place of bats
- Damage or destroy breeding sites and resting places of bats even if bats are not occupying the roost at the time.
- Possess, transport, sell, barter or exchange any part of, or derived from a bat whether dead or alive.

5.2 Nesting birds

All wild birds are protected under Section1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), it is an offence to:-

- Deliberately kill, injure or take any wild bird
- Take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird whilst in use or being built
- Take or destroy an egg or eggs of any such wild bird.

The breeding bird season runs from 1st March to 31st August.

6.0 PLANNING POLICY

6.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (2019) states:

174 .To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:

- Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity, wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation and
- Promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity

175. When determining planning applications, local authorities should aim to conserve and enhance biodiversity by applying the following principles:

- If significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused.
- Development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments, should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of specific scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest.
- Development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and
- Development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to incorporate biodiversity improvements in and around developments should be encouraged, especially where this can be secured measurable net gains for biodiversity.

176. The following should be given the same protection as habitat sites:

- Potential Special Protection Areas and possible Special Sites of Conservation;
- listed or proposed Ramsar sites; and

• Sites identified, or required, as compensatory measures for adverse effects on habitat sites, potential Special Protected Areas, possible Special Areas of Conservation, and listed or proposed Ramsar sites.

177. The presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a habitats site (either alone or in combination with other plan or projects), unless an appropriate assessment has concluded that the plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of the habitats site

6.2 ODMP Circular 06/2005 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

• The presence of a protected species is a 'material consideration' when a local planning authority is considering a development proposal. (*Paragraph 98 Circular 06/2005*), when a planning authority is considering a development proposal and as such where impacts upon a protected species are likely to occur from a proposed development, surveys must be undertaken and provided to support a planning application.

• Paragraph 99 Circular 06/2005 states;

'It is essential that the presence or otherwise of protected species and the extent that they may be affected by the proposed development, is established before making the decision. The need to ensure ecological surveys are carried out should therefore only be left to coverage under planning conditions in exceptional circumstances, with the result that the surveys are carried out after planning permission has been granted'.

 Where there is a reasonable likelihood of protected species being present and affected by a development the surveys should be completed and any necessary measure put in place, through conditions and / or planning obligations, before the permission is granted.

6.3 The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC)

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC) also lists the Bat as a species of principal importance under Section41 and Section 40 requires every public body in the exercising of its functions (in relation to Section 41 species) to 'have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the propose of conserving biodiversity'; therefore making the Bat a material consideration in the planning process and requiring a detailed survey before planning permission can be granted.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- The identified roost locations will be disturbed and destroyed as part of the conversion work on Building 6. Therefore a Bat Mitigation Licence will have to be obtained and approved by Natural England, before any conversion/demolition work can be undertaken on Building 6 or adjoining buildings 4, 5 & 8. This licence can only be applied for once approval for the proposed development has been granted by the local planning authority in this case East Riding of Yorkshire Council.
- The Bat Mitigation Strategy within Section 7.1 of this report should be implemented prior to any conversion/demolition work on the barns taking place.

7.1 Bat Mitigation Strategy.

Mitigation is required to avoid or limit the impact of the proposed conversion of Building 6 found within the curtilage of Field House Farm, on both roosting and foraging bats. Any mitigation is designed to meet the needs of the bat species present within the roosts, in this case Common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*. Therefore as the roosts that is present at the time of the nocturnal surveys within Building 6 are of a common bat species, which is found widespread throughout Yorkshire, then replacement roosts can be incorporated into the new build to provide compensation. The loss of the existing roosts are unlikely to have a significant impact on this one common bat species at a local, regional or national level.

Compensation should ensure that the Favourable Conservation Status and Continued Ecological Functionality of the identified bat population within the redundant granary is not adversely affected by the development proposals.

The licence application is comprised of the following sections;

- 1. Application Form
- 2. Method Statement
- 3. Reasoned Statement.

Method Statement

The production of a Method Statement is required as part of the licence application and will include the following elements but is not limited solely to them:-

- 7.1.1. All contractors associated with the conversion work will be given a toolbox talk prior to work commences by a suitably qualified bat worker. A copy of this report and associated Method Statement will be left on site at all times for the contractors to use as a reference.
- 7.1.2. Bats are small and can squeeze into a small gap of 15-20 mm and as a result it is extremely difficult to detect a single hibernating bat, within a building structure of this size. The potential for hibernating bats within Building 1, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 10 cannot be determined by nocturnal surveys of this type undertaken at this time of the year. Therefore it is proposed that the any conversion/ demolition works of these buildings will not be undertaken during the bat hibernation period November March inclusive.

- 7.1.3. The hibernation potential within Buildings 2, 3, & 9 are considered to be minimal, as the thermal regimes within these buildings are considered not to be conducive to bat hibernation. Therefore there are no timing restrictions on these buildings with regard to the demolition of them. Build 8 is considered not to have potential for hibernating bats, however due to its immediate close proximity to buildings 4,5,6 &7 this building will not be demolished during the hibernation period
- 7.1.4. The identified day roost located in the west gable of Building 6 will require sealing prior to the conversion/demolition work being undertaken. Therefore at this juncture it is proposed that a one way excluder device is fitted over the existing exit points and left in place for a minimum of five consecutive nights in suitable weather condition for bat activity and not during the hibernation period generally considered to be between November to March.
- 7.1.5. Any other suitable roosting points found should be inspected by a SQE and if deemed necessary the same/similar exclusion method should be undertaken on any additional potential roosting exit points. All exclusion work will be either undertaken or supervised by a SQE at all times.
- 7.1.6. Upon completion of the exclusion period the roost locations and any other holes deemed to be potential roost locations will to be inspected by a licenced bat worker using an endoscope and torch and if declared free from bats will be either repointing/temporary filling immediately and will be supervised by a licenced bat worker at all times.
- 7.1.7. Removal of the roof tiles and any wall coverings on Building 6 will only take place by hand in a careful and methodical manner and will be supervised by a Suitably Qualified Ecologist at all times.
- 7.1.8. Bat friendly timber treatment products should be used on all new timberwork during the renewal process. A list of these products can be found in the Natural England TIN 092 publication at the following address http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/31005 any new tantalised timber should be fully dry before use.
- 7.1.9. External lighting can have an adverse effect on bat foraging activity. New external lighting should be no higher than 2.4 m and is be fitted with a downward facing hood at an angle of less than 70 degrees to reduce light spillage. Light sources should also be fitted with an ultra-violate filter or the use of low pressure sodium lamps should be considered. All lamps should be fitted with a time adjustable motion sensor to reduce the period any lighting is on for.
- 7.1.10. No external lighting will be shone directly towards the newly installed bat boxes.
- 7.1.11.1 x Vivaro Pro Low Profile Woodstone bat boxes or woodcrete equivalent is to be located upon suitable mature trees or remaining buildings close to the development footprint, and prior to any conversion/demolition work commencing upon Building 6 The reason for this is to provide suitable roosting habitat during the building phase of the project. These boxes will be retained post development to provide additional roosting features within the site. (See Appendix 4 for bat box descriptions).

- 7.1.12. Two Ibstock Bat Box 'C' bat boxes (see Appendix 3 for bat box descriptions), or build in equivalents are to be installed in the west gable during the conversion of the Building 6 with advice on the exact positioning to be agreed with ourselves. These bat boxes can be obtained from NHBS www.nhbs.com or any other suitable wildlife habitat supplier.
- 7.1.13. During work to be carried out, in the unlikely event that bats are encountered by an unlicensed person then they **MUST** withdraw immediately and work must stop and a licensed bat ecologist/worker called in to enable further investigation and before any work recommences.
- 7.1.14. In the future if the gardens are to be developed then consideration should be given to the further planting of nectar rich flora, which will increase the insect and moth numbers and promote the foraging area available to the local bat population. A list of suitable plants can be provided by ourselves or from the Bat Conservation Trust www.bats.org

7.2 Consideration of the 'Tree Tests' (The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017)

In the light of the judgement in recent high court cases, namely Woolley v Cheshire East Borough Council and Millennium Estates 5 June 2009 consideration should be given to the application of the 'Three Tests' of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 to the proposed development at the proposed site in order to ensure that the development proposals comply with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and should help to clarify the role and responsibilities of the Local Planning Authorities (LPA) in respect of European Protected Species (EPS) when they are consideration development consent applications.

With respect to European Protected Species, recent guidance from Natural England clearly states 'where it is likely that one of the prohibitions (under The Conservation of Habitat and Species Regulations 2017 – 'The Regulations' will be offered the LPA will be required to consider the likelihood of an EPS licence being granted by Natural England and in doing so, the 'Three Tests'

"Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest including those of a Social or Economic nature"

It is understood at the time of this report that the development proposal is for the conversion of the traditional block of barns into a residential dwelling with associated hard and soft landscaping following the demolition of the general purpose buildings. The conversion of these buildings will provide much needed additional housing stock within the local area.

There will of course be further benefits to the local economy through the use of local builders, tradesmen and the use of local amenities.

"No Satisfactory Alternative"

Building 6 is in a poor condition, without the proposed conversion work, Building 6 would fall into a greater state of repair and it would then be impractical for it to be converted for residential purposes. Therefore there is no satisfactory alternative to the proposed development work.

"The Authorised Action will not be Detrimental to the Maintenance of the Population of the Species Concerned at a Favourable Conservation Status in their Natural Range"

The proposals set out within Section 7.0 of this report has outlined that an offence under The Regulations with regard to bats in the development footprint would be reasonably unlikely and the loss of the existing roost would not be considered detrimental to the Favourable Conservation Status of the local bat population.

7.3. Nesting birds Barn Swallows.

Recommendations.

- 1. No further survey work required
- 2. If conversion/renovation work is to be undertaken during the nesting bird season 1st March 31st August, then Building 6, as well as the remaining buildings will require checking by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to work commencing. If any nesting birds are found then the work must stop within the immediate nest location until the young have fledged or the nest is naturally abandoned.
- 3. The Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* is found on the Amber listing as a species of European Conservation Concern.
- Prior to any conversion/restoration work been undertaken on Building 6, four Ceramic Swallow Bowls are be installed in one of the remaining buildings within the curtilage of Field House Farm and remain in -situe thereafter

All the Swallow Nesting Bowls can be obtained from NHBS at www.nhbs.com or any equivalent suitable supplier.

8.0 REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

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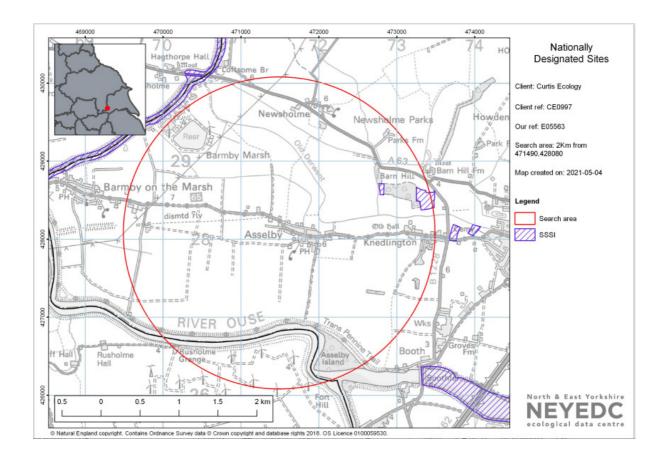
North & East Yorkshire Ecological Data Centre

ODMP Circular 06/2005 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

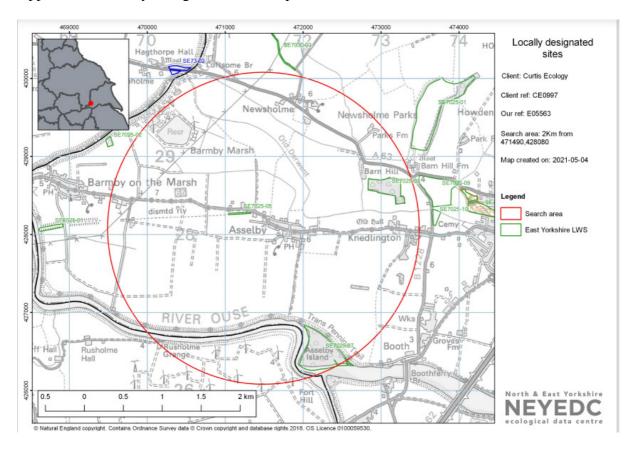
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 -HMSO

9.0 APPENDICES

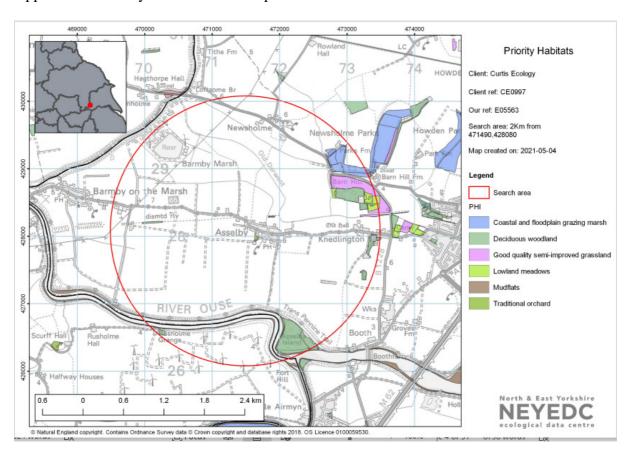
Appendix 1. Nationally Designated Sites Map 2km



Appendix 2. Locally Designnted Sites Map 2km.



Appendix 3. Priority Habitats Sites Map 2km.



Appendix 4. Bat Box Information.

Vivaro Pro Low Profile Woodstone Bat Box



This bat box is suitable for crevice dwelling bat species and can be hung from either a tree or on the outside of a building. The box will be installed at least 4m above ground level, with entrance facing either south or west.

Dimensions: (H) 440 x (W) 290 x (D) 90 mm

Weight: 4.7kg

Ibstock Bat Box 'C'



The Enclosed Bat Box 'C' from Ibstock is designed for the pipistrelle bat. It is ideal for new builds as it can be integrated directly into the brickwork to produce a discrete but attractive home for bats.

The inside of the box is designed to create several roosting zones which are ideal for crevice dwelling bats such as the pipistrelle. The bottom entrance means that no maintenance is required as droppings will simply fall out the bottom.