

**Ecological Survey for  
Broomfield, Boraston Lane, Tenbury Wells  
Worcestershire**

**WR15 8RB**

**SO 59980 69071**



Survey completed by:

**Chelmarsh RG**

**Dave Fulton**

## **Background Data**

### **Surveyor**

#### **Dave Fulton**

Active Bird Ringer and Full Trainer for British Trust for Ornithology (permit A2889).  
Voluntary warden of Chelmarsh Reservoir Wildlife Reserve, Shropshire, for Shropshire  
Ornithological Society & South Staffs. Water PLC.

Member of Shropshire and Worcestershire Bat Groups.

Voluntary Bat Warden & Roost Visitor for Bat Conservation Trust/Natural England.

Bat Carer since 2010 (Bat rescues and home care until fit to release).

Bat Survey Class Licences 2015-15608-CLS-CLS / 2015-10726-CLS-CLS

Tel: 01746 861580 Mob: 07774734533  
Email: davebirder@aol.com

### **Survey Objectives**

Planning permission is being applied for to add an extension to an existing building. The extension will join onto the roof at the west end above the existing garage. Some disturbance to the existing roof will occur when joining on.



An ecological survey is therefore necessary to ensure no European protected species, especially bats, are likely to be adversely affected by this work. A preliminary survey was carried out on the building externally and internally.

A general walkover of the surrounding area was also carried out.

Field Survey on premises.

12<sup>th</sup>. August 2021

## Preliminary Desktop survey

From The National Biodiversity Network information, the following species have been recorded within a 5km radius of the property:

**Bats:** Common Pipistrelle, Soprano Pipistrelle, Brown Long Eared, Barbastelle, Bechstein, Whiskered, Natterers, and Lesser Horseshoe. The rarer Horseshoe records were all above 3km. distance away.

**Reptiles:** 2 common species have been recorded, Grass Snake (3), and Slow-worm (9). None within 1km.

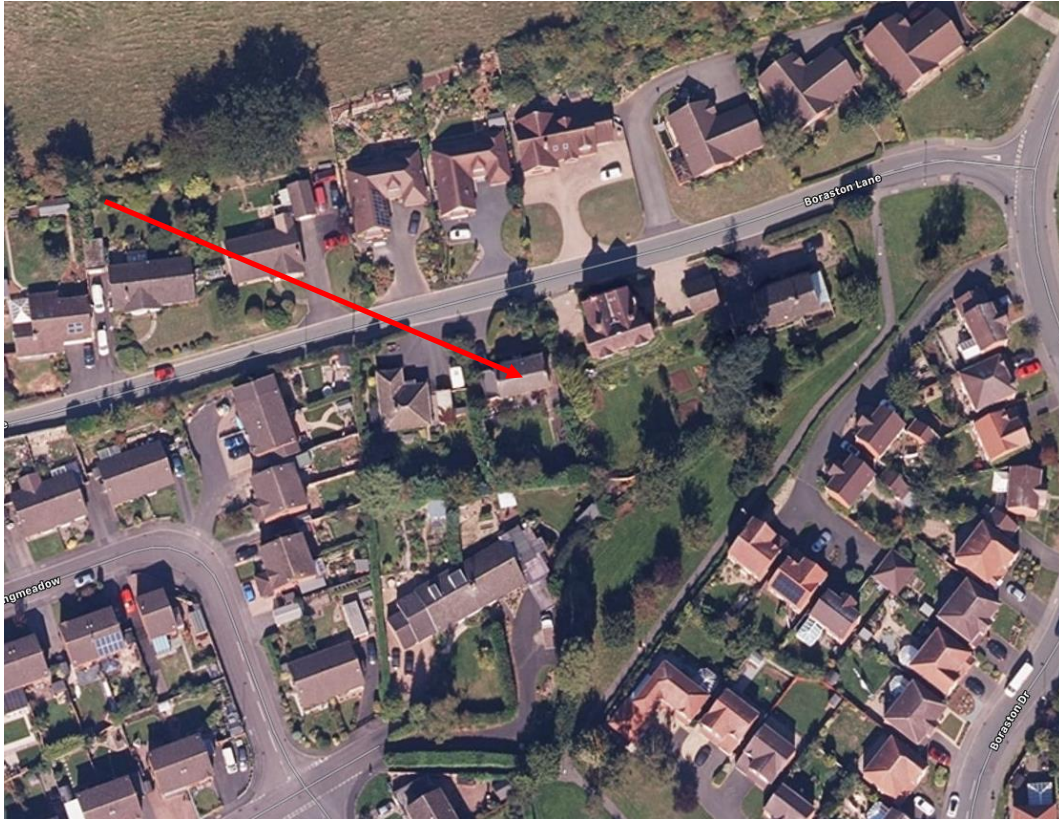
**Amphibians:** Great Crested Newt records (9), but nearest record in excess of 2km.

**Other Species:** Badger 22 records (nearest at 0.5km.), Hedgehog (54) widespread.

## Surrounding Area

The house is situated on the north edge of the small hamlet of Burford, 1km. north of Tenbury Wells. The immediate south and west is built up housing while grass pasture lies to the north and east. No significant wooded area or water bodies are in the immediate vicinity.





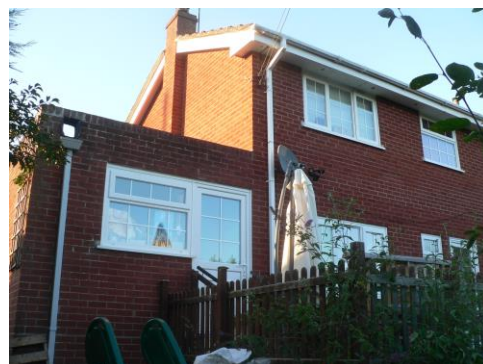
### **Building Survey.**

A comprehensive survey of the building was conducted, external and internal.

### **External Search**

The exterior was searched for signs of roosting bats, using high powered binoculars. Bats usually leave 'grease marks' at roost entrances, caused by the natural oils in their fur rubbing off onto surfaces as they squeeze through gaps. Droppings are also deposited on walls and tiles below roost site entrances.

The roof was in excellent condition, with no missing tiles, no missing mortar at the roof ends, and no gaps below soffits. No access route for bats could be found. No external signs of nesting birds was found e.g. House Martins.





### **Internal Search**

The enclosed loft was accessed via a conventional loft hatch. No bats were present, and a search of the floor revealed no bat droppings. Cobwebs were also present in the corners and the ridge areas.

No bats were using or had ever used these premises as a roost.



### **Conclusions**

Normally, we would undertake an additional bat emergence survey. However, in this case, where there is no visible means of entry, no external or internal signs of roosting bats, it was concluded that no bats are using these premises as a roost. A bat emergence survey is therefore not considered necessary.

## **Recommendations/Mitigation.**

**Bats:** No bats are likely to be encountered, but this clause must always be included. Should any bats be discovered during building works, work should halt, and Natural England or The Bat Conservation Trust should be notified for advice on how to proceed.

**Birds:** No sign of nesting birds was found, and no vegetation is in close contact with the building. Therefore no nesting birds are likely to be disturbed during this development.

**Other Species:** Should any deep foundations be dug for foundations, any trenches should be provided with a simple escape route in case small creatures fall in overnight, e.g. Hedgehog. An old scaffold plank can easily be placed along one side to provide an escape ramp. Trenches should also be checked each morning before work commences and any trapped creatures lifted to a place of safety.

**General Enhancements:** Every building work gives the opportunity to increase the biodiversity to encourage additional wildlife to flourish. It is therefore recommended that one Kent style bat box, and one hole nesting bird box be sited on or near the building.

## **Legislation - Bats**

As population numbers have fallen, all bats and their roosts are protected under The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and The Conservation [Natural Habitats & c.] Regulations 1994 (as amended). You must not:

- deliberately capture (or take), injure or kill a bat
- intentionally or recklessly disturb a group of bats, where the disturbance is likely to either (a) impair their ability to survive, to breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young, or to hibernate or migrate, or (b) to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species, in either case whether in a roost or not;
- damage or destroy the breeding or resting place (roost) of a bat;
- possess a bat (alive or dead), or any part of a bat
- intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a bat roost
- sell (or offer for sale) or exchange bats (alive or dead), or parts of bats.

## **Legislation - Birds**

All birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law and it is an offence to damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built.

Signed as a true and accurate record

Dave Fulton

Report dated

19<sup>th</sup>. August 2021