

Bat Survey Result Report



Site Name:	57 Mears Ashby Road	Location (Address):	57 Mears Ashby Road, Earls Barton, Northampton, NN6 0HQ
Grid Reference:	SP 84053 65010	Report Date:	07/10/2022

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1012/contents/made
Environment Act 2021 https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/contents/enacted	

SCOPE OF WORKS

Naturally Wild were instructed to undertake two bat activity surveys at 57 Mears Ashby Road, Earls Barton.

SITE DESCRIPTION AND NOTES

The site comprised a single-storey 1960's bungalow constructed of red brick with concrete interlocking tiles and well cemented ridge tiles. The roof had a low pitch with modern fascia and barge boards. Adjoining the property is a single garage with a flat felted roof. Habitats within the property boundary include vegetated garden and surrounding habitats are agricultural fields with hedgerows and trees.

Two bat activity surveys were carried out on the property which comprised a dusk emergence survey on 5th August 2022 and a dawn swarm survey on 16th August 2022. Weather conditions were considered appropriate and are described in the table below. The surveys followed the standards set by the Bat Conservation Trust meaning the dusk survey began 15 minutes before sunset and finished an hour and a half after, and the dawn survey began an hour and a half before sunrise and 15 minutes after. The surveyors used Echometer 2 and Bat Box Duet bat detectors along with thermal imaging and infra-red video.

Date	Start time	Sunset / Sunrise	End time	Temperature (C)	Wind	Precipitation
05/08/2022	19:00	20:47	23:00	21C	1	0
16/08/2022	04:30	05:48	06:30	18C	2	1

A search on MAGIC returned no European Protected Species Licenses within 1km of the site.

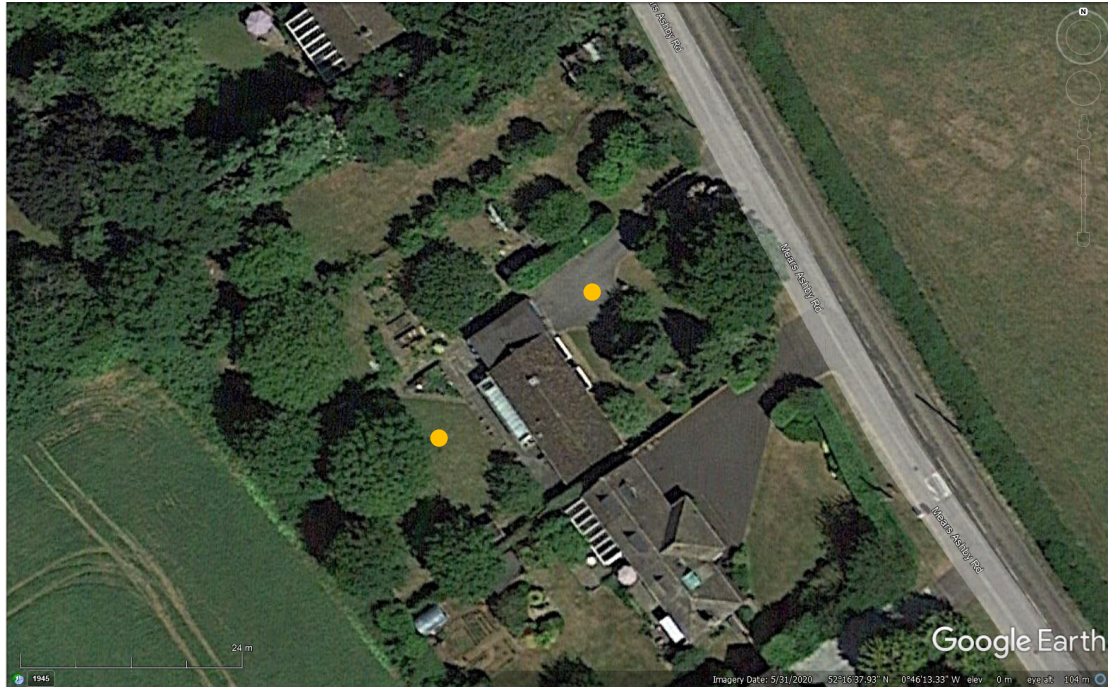
There are no Statutory Designated Sites within 1 km of the site. The nearest is Wallaston Meadows Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) approximately 3.2 km to the southeast and comprises two diverse and species-rich hay fields and is designated for being the largest known example within the county. Due to the scale of the proposed works and them being limited to the red line boundary, the impacts upon the non-statutory and statutory sites are expected to be minimal.

Survey results:

The dusk survey on 5th August 2022 showed activity in the area from noctules (*Nyctalus noctula*), brown long-eared (*Plecotus auritus*), common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) and soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) foraging and commuting within the gardens. No bats were observed emerging from the building.

The dawn survey on 16th August 2022 showed activity in the area from noctules, brown long-eared and common pipistrelle bats foraging and commuting within the gardens. No bats were recorded swarming or returning to roost within the building.

ISSUES IDENTIFIED	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>If yes, describe below</i>
The habitats on site and surrounding the residential property offer suitable foraging and commuting habitat for a range of bat species. The building itself was determined to not contain any roosts for bats.					
FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>If yes, describe below</i>
No further ecological action is required. It is recommended that a sensitive lighting scheme is used during the works to ensure there is no accidental light spill on to the gardens and other areas that are used by bats for foraging and commuting.					



*Image 1 – Location of surveyors during both surveys indicated by orange circles.
(Image taken from Google Earth Pro: ©2022 Map Data Google).*