

**Badger Report on 36 Lower Church Road,**  
**Gurnard, Cowes, IOW, PO31 8JF**



**Carried out by Paul Creer**  
**The Badger Action Group**  
**16<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

## **The Badger Action Group**

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I have been instructed by Sam Cornwell to carry a badger survey on 36 Lower Church Road, Gurnard, Cowes, IOW, PO31 8JF.

A through walk over and observational survey was conducted on the above address to the grounds, outbuildings, and the property itself, I also included 20 metres where possible outside of the boundaries of this property.

The survey was conducted on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023

### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

As you enter the property there is a concrete drive way with an area of grass to the front of the property and to the side of the drive. The front part of this property is of timber construction, which is then attached to the rear of the property which has been constructed in brick & block the whole of this property is covered by a flat roof.

The boundaries to the front garden are made up of a mixture of both shrubs & hedgerow type plants. Within the rear garden which is laid to grass there are two wooden sheds present, the boundaries of the rear garden consist of mature shrubs & small trees, see below:



(The picture above shows the rear garden & it's boundaries)

## **SITE SURVEY**

I walked in to the property via the concrete drive way and began by surveying all the boundaries to the front garden, moving then on to the front of the timber constructed building, at the base of this building there is shingle to the front of the wooden part of

the building only. The front of this building is in good order and the timber extends down on to ground level – no gaps between the bottom of the building and the shingle- it was noted that there was chain link mesh on the ground where the shingle is. I then moved on to the right-hand side of the property up the path, again the front of this part of the building continues in timber construction and in good order and again goes down to ground level with no gaps. There is a concrete path up the side of the property as I continued up the path towards the rear of the property. Here the construction of the building changes to a brick & block construction including a concrete path which proceeds up and in to the rear of the property. I then moved into the back garden which contains 2 wooden sheds to the right-hand side of the rear garden.



(Picture shows the two wooden sheds to the rear of the garden).

As you walk up the path to the rear garden the left-hand boundary could be surveyed by leaning through the hedgerow to view the next-door property adjacent to this address:



(The above picture shows a view down the left hand side of the property which is on the right-hand side of the picture – it also shows the grass path in the adjoining property’s garden – this path also contains chain-link fence on the ground, however, this is not visible in this picture).

## **SURVEY FINDINGS**

There are no active badger setts on this site either to the house or to either of the wooden sheds. There were no badger setts to the adjoining properties that I could visually see, there was no evidence of badger activity/setts or signs within the gardens of the 3 properties which adjoin the boundaries of this property.

There is a small amount of historical evidence that badgers had been under the first wooden shed in the garden previously, but this was very old activity with no current badger paths within the lawn leading either to or from the shed, this finding supports that this is old activity within the garden.

There are no visible badger paths within the grass of either the front and rear gardens which also indicates there are no badgers on this site.

## **HISTORY OF THIS SITE**

After carrying out some historical investigation of this site, I discovered that there used to be an active badger sett under the front wood construction of this property. A badger exclusion was undertaken with chain-link fence being installed across the front

of the property and down the left-hand side of the property, (as I face this construction from the front garden) to stop the badgers from digging back underneath this part of the property.



(Picture shows chain-link fencing on the ground to the front of the property amongst shingle).



(Picture above shows the front of the property which has been boarded down to the ground – showing the shingle where the chain-link fencing has been located).

The chain link fence is also installed in the neighbouring property as well, during or after the badger exclusion all three sides of the wooden part of this property were closed off to prevent the badgers from getting back into this area. I understand this was undertaken some years ago and is still in very good condition when I surveyed this site, it's obviously has been very successful and therefore there are no badgers underneath the front part of this property or any where else on this site.



## **DEMOLITION OF THE PROPERTY:**

As this site has history of badgers being beneath the front of the wooden area of the property, demolition will have to be undertaken in a certain way to stop the badgers from regaining entry.

On-site discussions will need to be had with the owner & the demolition company, and works must be overseen by myself to ensure work is undertaken in a proper manner and the badgers do not regain entry.

## **CONCLUSION:**

There are no badgers on-site, the demolition of this building must be overseen by a badger consultant to ensure the badgers do not regain entry during the demolition process. If the sheds are to also be demolished a survey should be conducted to confirm there is no badger activity to either shed in the rear garden before they are also demolished.