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Building at Spooners
The Heath
Woolpit
Suffolk

ANGLIA DESIGN LLP

Bat Mitigation Strategy

Final

VERSION 2

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Document History and Status

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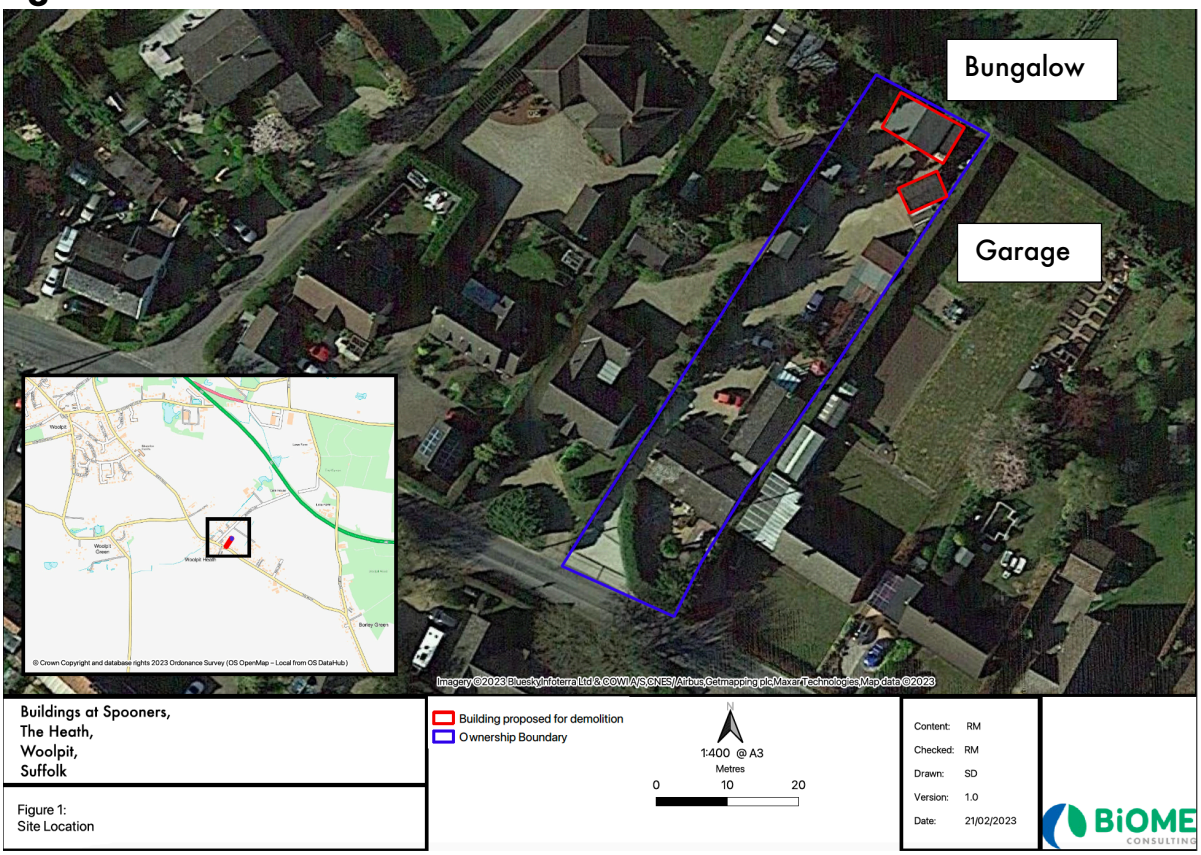
Contents

1. Introduction

BiOME Consulting Ltd was commissioned by Anglia Design LLP on behalf of the site owner (Mr Luke Gidney) to undertake a Preliminary Roost Appraisal (PRA) [1] and subsequent nocturnal (emergence/re-entry) bat surveys[2] in relation to the proposed demolition of a bungalow (and subsequent rebuild) and associated garage located at Spooners, The Heath, Woolpit, Suffolk (*'the site'*) (TL985615) **(Figures 1 & 2, Photograph 1)**.

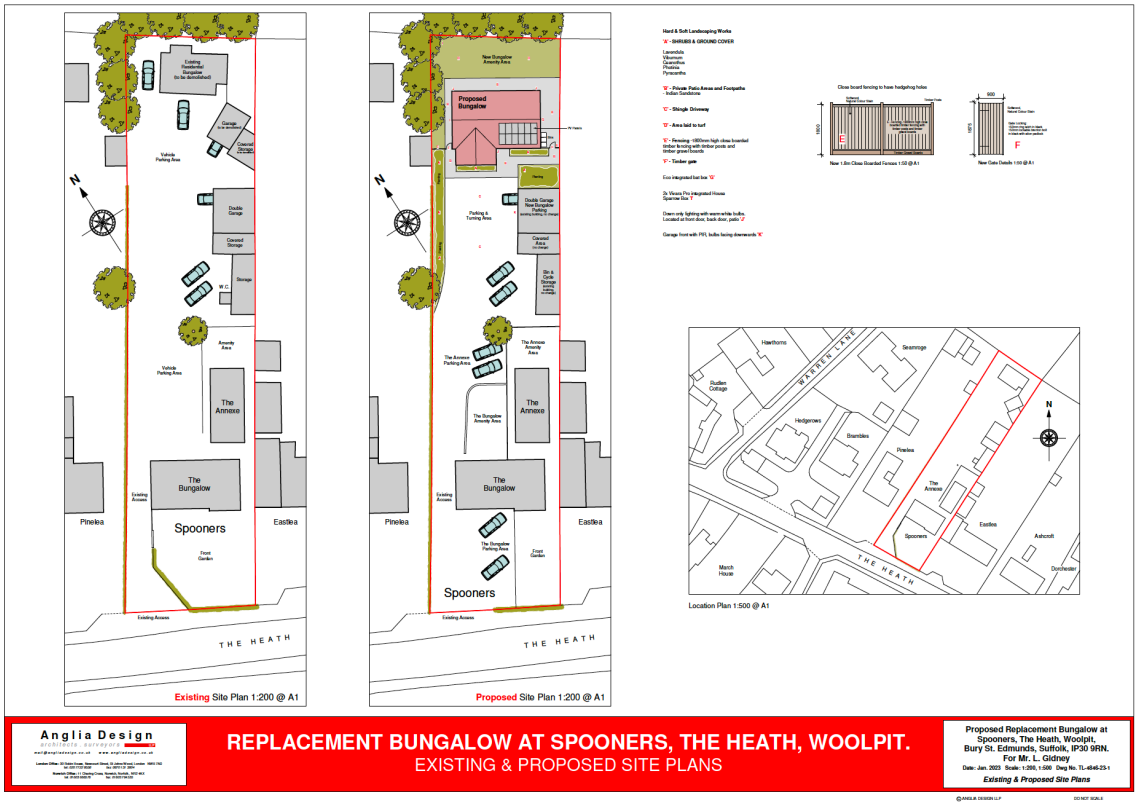
Figure 1. Site Location



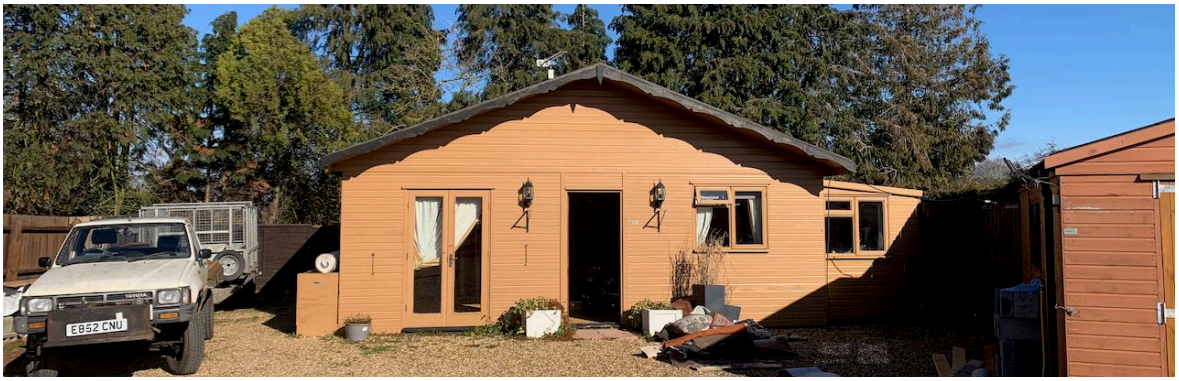
1 BiOME Consulting Ltd (2023). Buildings at Spooners, The Heath, Woolpit, Suffolk – Preliminary Roost Assessment Report

2 BiOME Consulting Ltd (2023). Buildings at Spooners, The Heath, Woolpit, Suffolk – Nocturnal Bat Survey Report

Figure 2. Site Plans



Photograph 1. Bungalow – south aspect



Following PRA and two nocturnal bat surveys the bungalow was confirmed to support a single day roosting Common Pipistrelle (found deceased during the PRA – no bats were recorded roosting during the two nocturnal surveys).

The confirmation of a bat roost within the bungalow to be demolished means that a licence from Natural England will be required to enable the proposed works to proceed lawfully. Given the identified roost is of low conservation status, the site can be registered under the Bat Mitigation Class Licence (BMCL) scheme through a Registered Consultant (RC).

This document details the mitigation strategy, which has been designed to ensure that the favourable conservation status of the local bat population is maintained going forward.

2. Suitably Qualified Ecologist

The mitigation strategy detailed within this report has been designed by BiOME Consulting Ltd.

Richard Moores MCIEEM (project director, BiOME) has obtained 140 European Protected Species bat mitigation licences since 2012 (including 88 sites registered through the Bat Mitigation Class Licence scheme). Richard is an experienced and qualified ecologist, full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) and holds top-level (Levels 3-4) Natural England licences to survey bats. Richard is a Natural England Registered Consultant (RC) for the Bat Mitigation Class Licence scheme.

3. Survey Results

The survey results are presented below.

3.1. Bungalow

3.1.1. Survey Details

3.1.1.1. Preliminary Roost Assessment

This survey recorded a deceased Common Pipistrelle on a window ledge of the bungalow, below what was considered to be an occasionally used day roost of likely a single bat within the window frame/broken vent (**Photographs 2 & 3**).

Photograph 2. Deceased Common Pipistrelle

Photograph 3. Common Pipistrelle droppings around window frame (with broken vent visible above)

No other bat evidence or Potential Roost Features (PRFs) were recorded in association with the bungalow. Consequently, a minimum of two nocturnal emergence/return to roost surveys of the bungalow were recommended to provide further information on the status of rooting bats within the bungalow.

[An adjacent garage was assessed to be of negligible value to roosting bats and no further survey work was considered necessary in relation to this building.]

3.1.1.2. Nocturnal Surveys

3.1.2. 3 May 2023 (dusk)

No bats were recorded roosting in the building during the survey.

A single Common Pipistrelle was recorded intermittently between 20.50 and 21.00 and then again at 21.23 and 21.28. No other bats were recorded.

3.1.3. 17 May 2023 (dawn)

No bats were recorded roosting in the building during the survey.

A single Common Pipistrelle flew through to the west at 04.23. No other bats were recorded.

3.1.4. Roost Information

Table 1 summarises the results of the bat surveys completed. The likely roost type based on the surveys completed is included below, along with an assessment of roost value[3].

Table 1. Bat survey results summary

Species	Maximum Number Recorded Roosting	Likely Roost Type (Maximum Value)	Roost Value
Common Pipistrelle	1	Day Roost	Local

The results of the PRA and three emergence/re-entry surveys are considered to be an accurate reflection of the status of roosting bats within the site.

3 Wray, S., Wells, D., Long, E., Mitchell-Jones, T., (2010). *Valuing Bats in Ecological Impact Assessment.*

4. Mitigation Strategy

4.1. Roost Impacts

The day roost of a single Common Pipistrelle will be lost as a result of the proposed demolition.

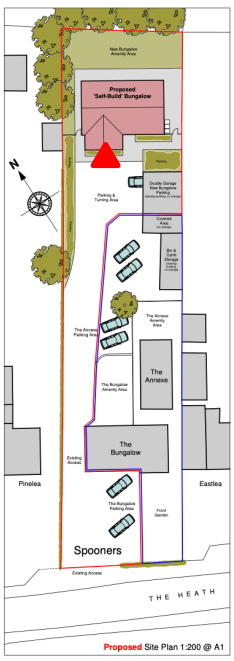
4.2. Work Timing and Exclusion

Works are to be scheduled at a time that would cause least disturbance, in the apparently unlikely event that the identified roost is still used. Given that Common Pipistrelle can remain in the same roost year-round (including during hibernation), the optimum period for completing works would be outside of the winter months. It is recommended that the identified roost is checked with an endoscope (by the licenced ecologist) and then blocked prior to demolition.

4.3. Bat Boxes

A single Ibstock type 'C' bat box will be integrated into the south-west gable end apex of the new build (**Figure 3**).

Figure 3. Location of compensation bat box (red triangle)



5. Monitoring

No monitoring is considered necessary.

6. Lighting

The compensation integrated bat box will remain unaffected by any new lighting.