

**BAT SURVEY OF THE WHITE HORSE PUBLIC
HOUSE, WRAWBY STREET, BRIGG, NORTH
LINCOLNSHIRE**

**FINAL
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DOCUMENT CONTROL

TITLE: Bat Survey of the White Horse Public House, Wrawby Street, Brigg, North Lincolnshire

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ISSUED BY: Dave Hughes

CHECKED BY: Vanessa Tindale

APPROVED BY: Dave Hughes

ISSUED TO: Charlotte Strachan
Absolute Design
Riverside View
Newham Road
Truro
Cornwall
TR1 2SU

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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

COMMISSION	ESL (Ecological Services) Ltd has been commissioned by Absolute Design to undertake a bat survey of the White Horse Public House, Wrawby Street, Brigg, to inform a planning application for an extension and refurbishment programme.
METHODS	The survey was carried out on 25 July 2014 by an ecologist with a Natural England bat survey licence (plus an assistant) using standard methods.
RESULTS	No evidence of past or present use by bats was found.
RECOMMENDATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. No further survey is work is considered necessary in advance of determining the application and given the nature of the proposed works, no specific mitigation or compensation for bats is required.2. Bats are transient creatures and the presence of individual bats can rarely be totally ruled out. If any bats are found at any stage of the work, then all activity in that area must stop immediately and advice must be sought from ESL (01522 539325). Work in other areas can continue with caution.3. Bat surveys are just a snapshot in time this survey should be repeated if planning permission has not been granted by 1 June 2015.

BAT SURVEY OF THE WHITE HORSE PUBLIC HOUSE, WRAWBY STREET, BRIGG, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

COMMISSION	ESL (Ecological Services) Ltd has been commissioned by Absolute Design to undertake a bat survey of the White Horse Public House, to inform a planning application for an extension and refurbishment.
Site Location	Wrawby Street, Brigg, DN20 8JR. A site location plan showing the application area is given as Figure 1. A photograph location sheet is given in Figure 2.



Figure 1 Site location with application boundary (in red). Land Registry drawing provided by Absolute Design

Planning Authority	North Lincolnshire Council
SURVEY SCOPE	To evaluate any potential impacts on bats associated with the proposed works and provide relevant advice. A summary of relevant protected species legislation is given in Appendix 1.
Survey Date	24 July 2014
METHODS	
Desk Study	Lincolnshire Bat Group were asked to provide any records for the site and the immediate area.
Daytime Assessment Methods	Aided where necessary by a powerful torch, ladders and close-focusing binoculars, a visual search was made both internally and externally of the building. All undisturbed surfaces were inspected for evidence of past and

	present occupation by bats in the form of live animals, desiccated remains, droppings and urine or fur staining (BCT, 2012). Given the season, audible vocalisations were also listened for (English Nature, 2004).
Emergence Watch	24 July 2014. Sunset: 21:11hrs. Start & finish times: 20:55hrs. 22:30hrs. Weather conditions: Dry/warm c.22°C at 21:00hrs, clear sky.
Surveyors	David Hughes, Natural England bat survey licence No: CLS0653 (CL19 & CL20), plus an assistant.
Equipment	The surveyors used ultrasonic detectors and night vision equipment. Two static Anabat SD-1s were used to record general bat activity either side of the building.
RESULTS	
Desk Study	Lincolnshire Bat Group hold no records for the site. The nearest known roost is a common pipistrelle maternity colony in a building 190m to the south-east.
Daytime inspection	<p>The building is constructed of pebble dashed brick under a pitched roof covered by clay tiles lined with underfelt (Photograph 1). There are numerous extensions to the rear, all constructed of brick under hipped/pitched roofs covered by clay pantiles and mostly unlined (Photograph 2). There are no soffit boxes that bats could roost in and the short lengths of fascia board on the pub elevations are generally tight and revealed no evidence of use by bats. All of the doors and windows are securely boarded up.</p> <p>Internally, the roof timbers in the pub loft space had a covering of dust and cobwebs indicating no recent disturbance. The central storage building (Photograph 3) was open to the roof apex and again the timbers were dusty and cobwebbed. The smaller single-storey buildings elsewhere revealed no suitability for bats. A sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> in the rear car park (shown on Figure 2) has no potential for use by bats.</p>



Photograph 1 Building from the south-west



Photograph 2 Building from the north east

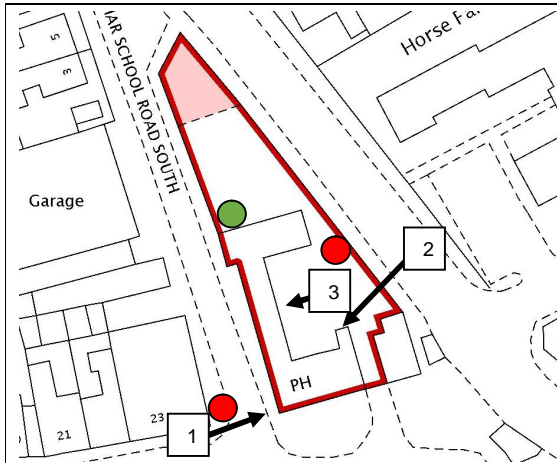


Figure 2 Photograph locations (numbered), emergency watch positions (red dots) and tree (green dot).



Photograph 3 Central storage building from the east.

Emergency watch	No bats were seen to emerge from the buildings after sunset. A common pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> was recorded foraging briefly around the tree in the rear car park at 21:50hrs.
Survey constraints	None.
DISCUSSION	
Interpretation of survey data:	<p>At the time of the survey no evidence was found to indicate past or present use by bats. The building, like most others in the local area, has potential for use, but on balance it is considered reasonably unlikely that further survey work would produce a different result.</p> <p>There are abundant niches in which birds could nest so any work that could affect breeding birds must be carried out outside the active season, which typically runs from mid-March to mid-August.</p>
RECOMMENDATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No further survey work is considered necessary in advance of determining the application and given the nature of the proposed works, no specific mitigation or compensation for bats is required. 2. Bats are transient creatures and the presence of individual bats can rarely be totally ruled out. If any bats are found at any stage of the work, then all activity in that area must stop immediately and advice must be sought from ESL (01522 539325). Work in other areas can continue with caution. 3. Bat surveys are just a snapshot in time this survey should be repeated if planning permission has not been granted by 1 June 2015.
REFERENCES	Bat Conservation Trust. 2012. <i>Bat surveys – Good practice guidelines</i> . 2 nd Ed. Bat Conservation Trust, London
	English Nature. 2004. <i>The Bat Mitigation Guidelines</i> . English Nature. Peterborough

APPENDIX 1

Summary of Legal Protection for Statutorily Protected Species

SUMMARY OF LEGAL PROTECTION FOR STATUTORILY PROTECTED SPECIES

1 BATS

1.1 In England, Scotland and Wales, all species of bats are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and as amended, including by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000. They are also protected under European legislation, being included on Schedule 2 of The Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2010. Taken together, this legislation makes it illegal, *inter alia* to:

- intentionally or recklessly kill, injure or capture a bat
- deliberately disturb a bat when it is occupying a roost
- damage, destroy or obstruct access to a bat roost

1.2 A bat roost is defined as being any structure or place that is used for shelter or protection, and since it may be in use only occasionally or at specific times of year, a roost retains such designation whether the bats are present or not.

2 BIRDS

2.1 The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 and as amended) protects all wild birds and their nests and eggs. Under this Act it is an offence to:

- kill, injure or take any wild bird
- take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built
- take or destroy the egg of any wild bird.

2.2 Bird nesting sites are not themselves protected when not in use and the common species are not protected from disturbance whilst occupying their nest-sites. However, certain rare breeding birds, listed on Schedule 1 of the Act (e.g. barn owls), are also protected against disturbance whilst building a nest or on or near a nest containing eggs or young.