

Bat Activity Report



Land east of Lodge Road,
Hurst

10th October 2024



Tyler
Grange

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Contents:

Summary	
Section 1: Introduction and Site Context	1
Section 2: Methodology	3
Section 3: Results	7
Section 4: Assessment and Conclusions	15
References	

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Bat Legislation and Conservation Status

Plans:

Plan 1: Bat Activity Survey Plan 16452/P06a



Summary

- S.1. This Bat Activity Report has been prepared by Tyler Grange Group Ltd (TG) on behalf of Mactaggart and Mickel Strategic Land. This report sets out the findings of bat activity surveys undertaken during 2024 at land east of Lodge Road, Hurst, hereafter referred to as the 'site'. This report provides an addendum to the Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) produced by Tyler Grange in 2024 (report reference **16542/R02a**) which should be read in conjunction with this report.
- S.2. As part of the EclA, the site was assessed for its potential to support foraging and commuting bats through a Daytime Bat Walkover (DBW) survey undertaken alongside the UK Habitat Classification surveys in December 2023. The site was assessed as having low suitability for foraging and commuting bats. As such, Night Time Bat Walkover (NTBW) and static detector surveys have been undertaken in line with the latest best practice guidance¹. Full methodology and results of the DBW are provided within the EclA report.
- S.3. The bat activity and static surveys found that the site is in use by an assemblage of common bat species such as common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, soprano pipistrelle *P. pygmaeus*, and noctule *Nyctalus noctula*, with occasional use by serotine *Eptesicus serotinus*, brown long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus*, Nathusius's pipistrelle *P. nathusii*, Myotis species *Myotis* spp., and potentially other *Nyctalus* species. Barbastelle *Barbastella barbastellus* calls were also recorded, one pass each at locations L02 and L03 in May, and two passes at location L02 in September.
- S.4. The transect/NTBW surveys showed that the hedgerows and treelines were in use by foraging and commuting bats, but the core grassland area had little to no activity. These key habitats which offer suitability to the bat assemblage, such as the lines of trees, hedgerows, and the ditches are largely being retained and enhanced within appropriate buffers as part of proposals.
- S.5. Appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures are expected to be incorporated into the Construction and Ecological Management Plan (CEMP), and a bat-sensitive lighting strategy (designed as per best practice), with particular care taken to avoid lighting on retained habitats including trees, hedgerows and the ditch as well as trees within bat roost potential. These are expected to be secured via a suitably worded planning condition, to ensure habitats suitable for roosting, foraging, and commuting bats are not impacted by increased lighting.
- S.6. In conclusion, through the retention of the lines of trees, ditches, and the majority of the hedgerows within suitable buffers, as well as new landscape planting and creation of more diverse grassland and new habitats not currently present on site such as ponds and orchards; foraging and commuting bats can continue to use the site post-development and the development would be in conformity with all relevant policy and legislation afforded to bats.

¹ Collins, J. (ed.) (2023) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th edition). The Bat Conservation Trust, London.



Section 1: Introduction and Site Context

- 1.1. This Bat Activity Report has been prepared by Tyler Grange Group Ltd (TG) on behalf of Mactaggart and Mickel Strategic Land. This report sets out the findings of bat activity surveys undertaken during 2024 at land east of Lodge Road, Hurst (OS Grid Reference SU 79474 73694), hereafter referred to as the 'site'. See **Figure 1.1** for the indicative red line boundary.



Figure 1.1: Indicative red line boundary (© Google Aerial Imagery 2024)

- 1.2. This report provides an addendum to an Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) produced by Tyler Grange in 2024 (report reference **16542/R02a**) which should be read in conjunction with this report.
- 1.3. The site is approximately 10.5 ha in size and comprises modified grassland, native hedgerows with trees, lines of trees, native hedgerows, and ditches. The entirety of the site is grazed by horses and donkeys. The village of Hurst lies immediately to the south and east, and to the west lies Lodge Road (B3030) and beyond that various grasslands and woodlands along the River Loddon.
- 1.4. As part of the EclA, the site was assessed for its potential to support foraging and commuting bats through a Daytime Bat Walkover (DBW) survey, alongside the UK Habitat Classification surveys, in December 2023. The site was assessed as having low suitability for foraging and commuting bats. As such, Night Time Bat Walkover (NTBW) and static detector surveys have been undertaken in line with the latest best practice guidance². Full methodology and results of the DBW is provided within the EclA report.
- 1.5. At the time of submission of the EclA, the 2024 surveys were incomplete, with only the first of the three scheduled NTBW and static detector surveys completed with data fully analysed, and these results were incorporated into the EclA. However, for ease and completeness, all

² Collins, J. (ed.) (2023) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th edition). The Bat Conservation Trust, London.

NTBW and static detector surveys have been included in this report so they can be read concurrently.

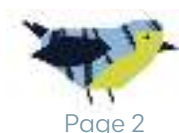
Purpose

- 1.6. This report:
- Uses background data (as included within the EcIA) and field surveys to determine the use of the site by foraging and commuting bats and the ecological importance of the assemblage;
 - Assesses the potential impacts to foraging and commuting bats associated with the development; and
 - Describes mitigation and enhancement proposals, together with planning controls to ensure their delivery, to ensure conformity with policy and legislation listed in Appendix 1.
- 1.7. This assessment and the terminology used are consistent with the 'Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment' published by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM).

Quality Control

- 1.8. All ecologists at Tyler Grange Group Limited are members of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) or are working towards membership and act under the direction of members. All abide by the Institute's Code of Professional Conduct³.

³ CIEEM (2022) Code of Professional Conduct, CIEEM, Winchester



Section 2: Methodology

Night Time Bat Walkover (NTBW)

- 2.1. NTBW were conducted on Thursday 27th June 2024 (spring visit), Tuesday 6th August 2024 (summer visit) and Monday 2nd September 2024 (autumn visit). The June survey, though later than the ideal period of April-May, is intended as a spring visit.
- 2.2. The dusk activity transect surveys used a combination of visual observation and echolocation detection techniques to identify any bat activity on the site. The surveys started at sunset and ended approximately two hours after sunset, in accordance with survey good-practice guidelines. Activity survey metadata is included in **Table 2.2** below.
- 2.3. One transect route was walked, designed to cover all potential features of interest across the site including the mature treelines, ditch, and hedgerows (see Bat Activity Survey Plan **16452/P06a** for transect route and results). Grassland was included as the main impact of the development was to the grassland, therefore it was useful to include to inform this assessment. In accordance with survey guidelines, the same transect route was followed on each surveys but with different start locations and alternate directions of travel for each survey.
- 2.4. Anabat Express detectors in transect mode, Elekon batloggers and/or Batbox Duet detectors were used during the dusk activity surveys. Echolocation calls were recorded and saved for post survey analysis. Recordings were analysed using software to examine any unidentified or queried calls.

Table 2.2: Activity survey metadata

Date	Surveyors	Timings	Conditions
27th June 2024	Jason Short, Jasmine Mackintosh	Start/Sunset: 21:23 End: 23:23	Wind (Beaufort): 15 Temp (°C): 14 Precipitation: Dry Cloud (% cover): 10
6th August 2024	Danial Winchester Jasmine Mackintosh	Start/Sunset: 20:42 End: 22:43	Wind (Beaufort): 16 Temp (°C): 18 Precipitation: Dry Cloud (% cover): 15
2nd September 2024	Danial Winchester Jasmine Mackintosh	Sunset: 19:46 Sunrise: 06:19	Wind (Beaufort): 1 Temp (°C): 20 Precipitation: Dry Cloud (% cover): 80

Static Detector Surveys

- 2.5. Further data was obtained from the deployment of automated detectors, which were placed in three locations in the site per season for a minimum of five consecutive nights (see the Bat

Activity Survey Plan **16452/P06a** for locations). The number of automated detectors deployed on site was taken from survey guidelines in relation to the quality of habitat on site for bats. The static detectors were set to begin recording 30 minutes before sunset and continue to record for 30 minutes after sunrise.

- 2.6. Full results are shown in **Section 3**, with the location reference numbers being shown on the Bat Activity Survey Plan **16452/P06a**. Static detector metadata is included in **Table 2.3** below.

Table 2.3: Activity survey metadata

Date	Sunset/ Sunrise	Weather Conditions at Sunset ⁴			
		Wind (Beaufort)	Temp (°C)	Precipitation	Cloud cover (%)
1st May 2024	Sunset: 20:27 Sunrise: 05:35	2	14	Dry	100
2nd May 2024	Sunset: 20:29 Sunrise: 05:33	3	11	Light rain	100
3rd May 2024	Sunset: 20:30 Sunrise: 05:31	1	11	Dry	100
4th May 2024	Sunset: 20:32 Sunrise: 05:29	1	14	Dry	100
5th May 2024	Sunset: 20:34 Sunrise: 05:27	2	13	Light rain	75
6th May 2024	Sunset: 20:35 Sunrise: 05:26	1	13	Light rain	100
7th May 2024	Sunset: 20:37 Sunrise: 05:24	1	14	Dry	0
8th May 2024	Sunset: 20:38 Sunrise: 05:22	1	17	Dry	50
5th June 2024	Sunset: 21:15 Sunrise: 04:49	1	10	Dry	100
6th June 2024	Sunset: 21:16 Sunrise: 04:49	1	13	Dry	0

⁴ Data from Time and Date (Available at: <https://www.timeanddate.com/weather/uk/reading/historic> [accessed 02/09/2024]) and Met Office (Available at: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk> [accessed 12/09/2024])

Date	Sunset/ Sunrise	Weather Conditions at Sunset ⁴			
		Wind (Beaufort)	Temp (°C)	Precipitation	Cloud cover (%)
7th June 2024	Sunset: 21:17 Sunrise: 04:48	3	14	Dry	100
8th June 2024	Sunset: 21:18 Sunrise: 04:48	1	12	Dry	0
9th June 2024	Sunset: 21:19 Sunrise: 04:47	2	14	Dry	50
10th June 2024	Sunset: 21:19 Sunrise: 04:47	1	9	Dry	0
11th June 2024	Sunset: 21:20 Sunrise: 04:47	1	12	Dry	50
12th June 2024	Sunset: 21:21 Sunrise: 04:46	2	12	Dry	25
2nd September 2024	Sunset: 19:46 Sunrise: 06:19	3	20	Dry	20
3rd September 2024	Sunset: 19:44 Sunrise: 06:20	2	18	Dry	50
4th September 2024	Sunset: 19:42 Sunrise: 06:21	3	16	Dry	100
5th September 2024	Sunset: 19:40 Sunrise: 06:23	3	18	Dry	100



Date	Sunset/ Sunrise	Weather Conditions at Sunset ⁴			
		Wind (Beaufort)	Temp (°C)	Precipitation	Cloud cover (%)
6th September 2024	Sunset: 19:37 Sunrise: 06:25	3	17	Light rain	100
7th September 2024	Sunset: 19:35 Sunrise: 06:26	2	20	Light rain	100
8th September 2024	Sunset: 19:33 Sunrise: 06:28	3	19	Dry	50
9th September 2024	Sunset: 19:31 Sunrise: 06:29	3	18	Dry	50
10th September 2024	Sunset: 19:28 Sunrise: 06:31	3	15	Rain earlier in day	100
11th September 2024	Sunset: 19:26 Sunrise: 06:33	4	11	Rain earlier in day	50
12th September 2024	Sunset: 19:24 Sunrise: 06:34	3	11	Dry	50

Section 3: Results

Static Detector Surveys

- 3.1. Static detector surveys found that the site is in use by an assemblage of common bat species such as common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, soprano pipistrelle *P. pygmaeus*, and noctule *Nyctalus noctula*, with occasional use by serotine *Eptesicus serotinus*, brown long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus*, *Myotis* species *Myotis* spp., and potentially other *Nyctalus* and *Pipistrellus* species. Barbastelle *Barbastella barbastellus* calls were also recorded, one pass each at locations L02 and L03 in May, and two passes at location L02 in September.
- 3.2. Overall, the assemblage of bat utilising the site is considered to be of **local ecological importance**.
- 3.3. Location numbers below correspond with those shown on the Bat Activity Survey Results Plan **16452/P06a**. **Tables 3.1 – 3.9** show recordings per species.

Table 3.1: Spring static survey results for L01 (numbers of passes)

Species	1st May	2nd May	3rd May	4th May	5th May	6th May	7th May	8th May	Total
<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	31	17	2	7	7	0	2	0	66
<i>Myotis</i> sp.	0	1	1	1	3	3	2	1	12
<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	22	9	0	9	5	1	7	0	53
<i>Nyctalus</i> sp.	11	0	2	23	19	1	11	0	67
<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	668	2294	1465	88	118	143	161	119	5056
<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	233	1079	1050	61	78	91	189	202	2983
<i>Pipistrellus</i> sp.	3	4	3	0	1	0	1	0	12
<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	3
Grand Total	968	3405	2523	190	232	239	373	322	8252

Table 3.2: Spring static survey results for L02 (numbers of passes)

Species	1st May	2nd May	3rd May	4th May	5th May	Total
<i>Barbastella barbastellus</i>	0	0	0	0	1	1
<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	10	16	3	13	0	42
<i>Myotis</i> sp.	0	0	1	2	1	4
<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	17	20	6	11	9	63
<i>Nyctalus</i> sp.	23	14	9	42	0	88



Pipistrellus pipistrellus	41	71	27	37	9	185
Pipistrellus pygmaeus	198	243	154	116	40	751
Pipistrellus sp.	0	0	2	2	0	4
Plecotus auritus	0	0	0	1	0	1
Grand Total	289	364	202	224	60	1139

Table 3.3: Spring static survey results for L03 (numbers of passes)

Species	1st May	2nd May	3rd May	4th May	5th May	6th May	7th May	8th May	Total
Barbastella barbastellus	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Eptesicus serotinus	8	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	12
Myotis sp.	0	3	0	2	2	0	0	1	8
Nyctalus noctula	6	11	2	2	3	3	2	0	29
Nyctalus sp.	16	5	0	6	2	0	4	0	33
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	276	810	77	17	19	54	7	8	1268
Pipistrellus pygmaeus	121	242	105	27	75	44	9	15	638
Pipistrellus sp.	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Plecotus auritus	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Grand Total	427	1074	185	54	102	101	25	24	1992

Table 3.4 Summer static survey results for L01 (numbers of passes)

Species	4th June	5th June	6th June	7th June	8th June	9th June	10th June	11th June	Total
Eptesicus serotinus	0	1	0	7	1	1	0	0	10
Myotis sp.	0	1	5	4	9	5	1	2	27
Nyctalus noctula	0	3	5	4	8	5	9		34
Nyctalus sp.	0	1	1	3	0	2	0	0	7
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	32	648	721	997	1545	1234	1339	2	6518
Pipistrellus pygmaeus	45	856	731	712	891	498	537	10	4280
Plecotus auritus	0	0	6	6	2	3	2	0	19
Grand Total	77	1510	1469	1733	2456	1748	1888	14	10895



Table 3.5 Summer static survey results for L02 (numbers of passes)

Species	4th June	5th June	6th June	7th June	8th June	9th June	10th June	Total
Eptesicus serotinus	0	1		1	0	0	0	2
Myotis sp.	0	1	2	1	5	0	0	9
Nyctalus noctula	1	4	2	7	7	2	4	27
Nyctalus sp.	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	0	7	9	8	23	4	12	63
Pipistrellus pygmaeus	7	10	12	14	16	12	16	87
Pipistrellus spec.	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Plecotus auritus	0	0	3	0	1	1	1	6
Grand Total	8	23	28	31	52	20	34	196

Table 3.6 Summer static survey results for L03 (numbers of passes)

Species	4th June	5th June	6th June	7th June	8th June	9th June	10th June	11th June	Total
Eptesicus serotinus	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Myotis sp.	0	1	1	4	2	1	0	0	9
Nyctalus noctula	1	1	3	3	3	4	1	2	18
Nyctalus sp.	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	133	17	29	32	32	27	42	2	314
Pipistrellus pygmaeus	50	12	62	39	22	47	118	4	354
Pipistrellus spec.	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
Plecotus auritus	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	5
Grand Total	186	33	95	78	60	82	162	9	705

Table 3.7 Autumn static survey results L01 (numbers of passes)

Species	2nd Sept	3rd Sept	4th Sept	5th Sept	6th Sept	7th Sept	8th Sept	Total
Eptesicus serotinus	0	5	2	0	1	1	0	9
Myotis sp.	3	1	2	0	0	2	0	8
Nyctalus noctula	4	5	9	18	0	0	0	36
Nyctalus sp.	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	144	154	115	38	8	62	54	575
Pipistrellus pygmaeus	42	129	60	41	0	16	12	300



Pipistrellus spec.	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	6
Plecotus auritus	8	11	0	9	1	0	0	29
Grand Total	203	307	190	106	11	83	66	966

Table 3.8 Autumn static survey results L02 (numbers of passes)

Species	2nd Sept	3rd Sept	4th Sept	5th Sept	6th Sept	7th Sept	8th Sept	9th Sept	Total
Barbastella barbastellus	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Eptesicus serotinus	4	15	11	1	46	33	25	0	135
Myotis sp.	2	6	11	2	0	7	1	0	29
Nyctalus noctula	0	8	6	0	1	3	6	0	24
Nyctalus sp.	2	2	0	0	0	2	1	0	7
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	70	404	143	18	231	248	339	52	1505
Pipistrellus pygmaeus	18	55	50	37	25	30	33	19	267
Pipistrellus spec.	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Plecotus auritus	1	3	3	2	9	11	4	2	35
Grand Total	97	493	225	60	312	337	409	73	2006

3.4.

Table 3.9 Autumn static survey results L03 (numbers of passes)

Species	2nd Sept	3rd Sept	4th Sept	5th Sept	6th Sept	7th Sept	8th Sept	9th Sept	Grand Total
Eptesicus serotinus	12	6	3	2	3	23	9	0	58
Myotis sp.	0	3	2	0	0	1	4	0	10
Nyctalus noctula	2	6	6	0	0	9	9	0	32
Nyctalus sp.	0	3	1	0	0	3	1	0	8
Pipistrellus sp.	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	1	6
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	27	45	84	9	0	29	145	766	1105
Pipistrellus pygmaeus	17	60	84	17	2	26	239	1065	1510
Plecotus auritus	0	7	2	2	0	7	13	6	37
Grand Total	58	131	184	30	5	100	420	1838	2766



Night-time Bat Walkover

- 3.5. The transect/NTBW surveys showed that the hedgerows and treelines were in use by foraging and commuting bats, but the core grassland area had little to no activity.
- 3.6. Locations of recordings, as well as the transect route, is shown on the Bat Activity Survey Results Plan **16452/P06a**. **Tables 3.10 – 3.12** list the bats recorded during the NTBW surveys.

Table 3.10 Spring NTBW on 27th June 2024

Time	Species	Activity/Comment
21:51	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen
21:53	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen
22:02	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	Heard but not seen
22:02	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen
22:04	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	Heard but not seen
22:12	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen
22:14	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen
22:16	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen
22:23	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen
22:34	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen
22:36	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	Heard but not seen
22:37	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen
22:42	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen
22:42	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen
22:45	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen along western boundary
22:45	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen along western boundary
22:51	<i>Myotis daubentonii</i>	Heard but not seen in south west corner
23:03	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen along the northern boundary
23:04	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen along the northern boundary
23:11	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen along the eastern boundary
23:19	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen along the southern boundary
23:23	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen along the northern boundary

Table 3.11 Summer NTBW on 6th August 2024

Time	Species	Activity/Comment
20:56	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen – Commuting in south west corner
21:09	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Continuous foraging circling east to north in the eastern corner
21:10 – 21:15	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Foraging
21:12	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Foraging and social calls
21:13	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging back and forth along the northern boundary
21:14 – 21:18	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging



21:15	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging and social calls
21:17 – 21:18	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Foraging
21:17	<i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>	Foraging along the northern boundary
21:20	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Foraging
21:22 – 21:26	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging along the northern boundary
21:31	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Foraging
21:34	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
21:35	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
21:35	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
21:36	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Heard but not seen along the western boundary
21:36	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen along the western boundary
21:37	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Commuting north along western tree line
21:39	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
21:39	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
21:43	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Heard but not seen along the western boundary
21:43	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen along the western boundary
21:43	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen along the western boundary
21:44	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
21:44	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
21:45	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging
21:47	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> x2	Foraging along the western boundary
21:47	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
21:47	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Foraging
21:49	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
21:50	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
21:51	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Foraging
21:51	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
21:52	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
22:03	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
22:05	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
22:05	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
22:09	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging



22:10	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
22:17	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
22:19	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Heard but not seen – foraging along the western boundary
22:24	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging
22:25	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging
22:25	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging
22:41	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging

Table 3.11 Autumn NTBW on 2nd September 2024

Time	Species	Activity/Comment
19:56	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Commuting in south west corner of site
20:04	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Foraging along south eastern boundary
20:07	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Foraging x2 along south eastern boundary
20:08	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Foraging x2 along south eastern boundary
20:11	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Foraging x2 along south eastern boundary
20:12	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging along south eastern boundary
20:17	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging along eastern boundary
20:18	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging along eastern boundary
20:18	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging along eastern boundary
20:19	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging along eastern boundary
20:20	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging along eastern boundary
20:20	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging along eastern boundary
20:28	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Foraging along northern boundary
20:29	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging along northern boundary
20:30	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging along northern boundary
20:33	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging along northern boundary
20:33 - 38	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Foraging along northern boundary
20:33	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i> x2	Foraging along northern boundary
20:35	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging along northern boundary
20:36	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i> x2	Foraging and social calls along northern boundary
20:39	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Constant foraging by mature tree in western field
20:39	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western field
20:40	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Constant foraging by mature tree in western field
20:40 - 41	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
20:41	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
20:43	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
20:44	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
20:44 - 45	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
20:47	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field



20:47 - 49	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
20:51	<i>Nyctalus noctule</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
20:51 - 53	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
20:56	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
20:57	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
21:00	<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
21:07	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
21:09	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
21:09	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging by mature tree in western area of field
21:17	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging along western boundary
21:23	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging within central area of field
21:23	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging within central area of field
21:27	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Foraging along western boundary
21:37	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Foraging along north western boundary



Section 4: Assessment and Conclusions

Proposed Development

- 4.1. The proposals for the site are for an outline planning application for up to 99 new homes, green infrastructure, open space, pedestrian and cycle links, recreational facilities and other associated infrastructure including offsite highways works and access points on Lodge Road and Tape Lane with required improvements (all matters reserved except access).

Assessment

- 4.2. Key habitats which offer suitability to the bat assemblage, such as the lines of trees, hedgerows, and the ditch are largely being retained and enhanced as part of proposals. In addition, measures to avoid impacts via light pollution (to be secured via planning condition) should seek to avoid light spill to these habitats. Whilst all linear features should be protected from impacts via light, key areas include the gap between trees T14 and T70, and along treelines TL1 and TL3 (all shown in the EclA report), as these areas had the highest number of bats utilising the habitat.
- 4.3. The site currently is almost all modified grassland. Habitat enhancements, including enhancements to retained linear features, as well as habitat creation of ponds, neutral grassland, and tree planting, are expected to improve the overall habitat provision of the site for bats. Inputs to a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) may include measures to manage habitats on site for bats, such as creating ecotones between tree, hedgerow, grassland, and freshwater habitats.

Conclusions

- 4.4. Appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures are expected to be incorporated into the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), and a bat-sensitive lighting strategy (designed as per best practice⁵), with particular care taken to avoid lighting on retained habitats including trees, hedgerows and the ditch as well as trees within bat roost potential. These are expected to be secured via a suitably worded planning condition, to ensure habitats suitable for roosting, foraging, and commuting bats are not impacted by light.
- 4.5. In conclusion, through the retention of the lines of trees, ditches, and the majority of the hedgerows as well as new landscape planting and creation of more diverse grassland and new habitats not currently present on site such as ponds and orchards; foraging and commuting bats may continue to use the site post-development and the development would be in conformity with all relevant policy and legislation afforded to foraging and commuting bats.

⁵ Institute of Lighting Professionals, Bat Conservation Trust, 2023, Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK Guidance Note GN 08 / 23, Warwickshire

Appendix 1: Bat Legislation and Conservation Status

- A1.1. As European protected species, all UK bats receive legal protection in England under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (CoHSR) 2017 (as amended) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (as amended).
- A1.2. All British species of bat are listed on Schedule 2 of the CoHSR 2017 as European Protected Species (EPS). Regulation 41 (1) makes it an offence to:
- Deliberately capture or injure an EPS;
 - Deliberately disturb an EPS;
 - Deliberately take or destroy the eggs of an EPS; and/or
 - Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of an EPS.
- A1.3. All British bats are listed in Schedule 5 of the WCA. Section 9 of the WCA affords protection to Schedule 5 animals against:
- Intentional killing, injuring or taking;
 - Possessing (including parts or derivatives);
 - Intentional or reckless damage, destruction, or obstruction of any structure or place used for shelter, or protection; and/or
 - Selling, offering or exposing for sale (alive or dead, including parts or derivatives).
- A1.4. All British bats are also listed at Schedule 6 of the WCA, and as such under Section 11 (1) of the WCA cannot be killed or taken by certain methods, such as traps and nets, poisons, automatic weapons, electrical devices, smoke/gases etc.
- A1.5. Several British bat species are listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006, which states that decision-makers such as Local Planning Authorities must have regard to Species of Principal Importance (SoPI) in all their activities, including when making decisions on planning applications.
- A1.6. The following bat species are SoPIs: barbastelle *Barbastella barbastellus*, Bechstein's *Myotis bechsteinii*, brown long-eared, greater horseshoe *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*, lesser horseshoe *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, noctule, and soprano pipistrelle. These are the species found in England which were identified as requiring action under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) and which continue to be regarded as conservation priorities under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework.



Plan:

Plan 1: Bat Activity Survey Plan 16452/P06a



Land east of Lodge Road, Hurst
Bat Activity Report

16452_R03_10th October 2024_SC



Legend

Indicative red line boundary

Transect route

Static detector locations

Bat Species

Eptesicus serotinus

Nyctalus noctula

Nyctalus sp.

Pipistrellus pipistrellus

Pipistrellus pygmaeus

Plecotus auritus

Myotis



Project	Land east of Lodge Road, Hurst
Drawing Title	Bat Activity Survey Plan
Scale	As Shown (Approximate)
Drawing No.	16452/P06a
Date	September 2024
Checked	MJ/CGS



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