

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: David Cross
From: Matt Davies (Ecologist)
Ext: 5278

Memo number: 4

Date of previous memo: 16/01/2023

Date: 15/02/2023

SUBJECT: P/22/0326 | Conversion of chapel into 8 flats with associated refurbishment works, demolition of rear vestry annexe and creation of dedicated car parking area. | Brynhyfryd Chapel Thomas Street Treharris

Chapel building, garages, grassland and scrub. Nearby woodland and wooded river corridor.

Documents submitted in support of the application detailed above:

1. Bat Survey: Brynhyfryd Chapel, Thomas Street, Treharris, CF46 5AA. Version, 1.0. Date, December 2022. Ecological Services Ltd.
2. Bat Friendly Working Methodology: Brynhyfryd Chapel, Treharris, Brynhyfryd Chapel. Version, 1.0. Date, December 2022. Ecological Services Ltd.
3. Block Plan Drawing No. SD481 02. Date received, 16/12/2022
4. Proposed Elevations. Brynhyfryd Chapel, Thomas Street, Treharris, Drawing number SD48106A. Date Nov 22.
5. Proposed Layouts. Brynhyfryd Chapel, Thomas Street, Treharris, Drawing number SD48105B. Date December 22.

Comments and questions

- o Despite the negative results from the bat survey work (Document 1), the recommendation to undertake the works under a method statement (Document 2) is entirely appropriate given the previous possible roost record and the possibility of hibernating bats.

NB ideally, works to sensitive areas (with ecological supervision) would be undertaken outside of any cold periods during the winter months in order to reduce the risk of disturbing bats that may be hibernating.

Could a statement to this effect please be added to Document 2?

In addition there should be gaps included in boundaries for hedgehogs. This also needs to be added to Document 1 and onto the plans for the scheme. Apologies for not picking up on this before.

- o The ivy, buddleia etc on the walls of the Chapel would be suitable for nesting birds. This needs to be noted within Documents 1 and 2 with mitigation measures included.

- Document 5, the '200 sq metres of amenity space laid to grass' will be labelled with the following seed mix:
 - Flowering Lawn Mixture EL1
(<https://wildseed.co.uk/product/mixtures/complete-mixtures/special-habitat-mixtures/flowering-lawn-mixture/>) – or equivalent. This is a mixture that responds well to regular mowing, so it will be suitable for amenity use, whilst still providing some ecological benefit.
- The applicant's architect has confirmed there is to be no external lighting.