

# INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: Caroline Pulley  
From: Ecologist/Countryside Officer  
Ask for: Matt Davies  
Ext: 5278  
Memo number: 5  
Date: 13/12/2019

SUBJECT: P/19/0069 2 PLYMOUTH HOUSE, MILBOURNE TERRACE, MERTHYR TYDFIL, CF47 OUL

NB I am still in disagreement with some of the statements included within the report, however, I am now going to focus instead on the important outcomes for the scheme in terms of ecology – see below.

1. Potential Roost Feature (PRF) Inspection surveys to be undertaken before removal of onsite trees with PRFs. Works to stop if bats are found and a European Protected Species Licence secured before resumption (as specified within the report).
2. The enhancement measures I have asked for have not been added into the report or the relevant drawings (593-07 and 592-02C). This needs to be done.
  - 3x integral bat box - one on 3 of the 4 houses
  - 2x sparrow terrace – one on 2 of the 4 houses
  - 3x other bird boxes in a range of types, e.g., 32mm access hole, 45mm access hole and open fronted. These can be sited on trees/vegetation within the site (under the direction of the ecologist).

NB both the bat boxes and the sparrow terraces need to be a permanent addition and these therefore will have an **integral** design. Wooden boxes are not acceptable.

The bat boxes will be positioned as high as possible on the south eastern elevations of Plots 1, 2 and 3 (facing Plymouth House) so that they are on elevations with the least amount of windows. The sparrow terraces will be positioned as high as possible on the north western elevations of Plots 1 and 2.

3. The Reptile and Nesting Bird MS still doesn't really make sense to me. I would suggest, replacing the specified receptor site and hibernacula and methodology with the following:
  - Cut a 13x13cm hole in the existing western boundary fence adjacent to the retained garden area in the southern corner of the site (both to benefit hedgehogs and to allow reptiles an 'escape route' if required)

- Install a low gabion wall (filled with stone) set up as a seat to provide hibernation opportunities for reptiles in the retained garden area in the southern corner.
  - Undertake the directional cut as set out in the MS, but leaving the retained garden area in the southern corner uncut and therefore more attractive to reptiles.
  - Following the directional cuts fence off the retained area with reptile-proof fencing.
  - The fencing will be kept in place and retained until the construction is complete and the gardens have been re-instated.
4. NB 2x further gaps (13cm x 13cm) will be created hole in the existing western boundary fence to allow passage of hedgehog around the site.
5. I previously asked for the following - *‘a structure suitable as a night roost to be provided in the proposed development, could double-up as, for example, a wood-store, bike shelter etc. **Details** will need to be added to the report.’*

Vague reference has been made to this within the report, however, more detail is required. A basic design needs to be submitted and its proposed position added into the site drawings.

I have marked up some plans to illustrate both the reptile mitigation strategy and the mitigation and enhancement measures required (see following pages).

Provided this information is satisfactorily added into the report and drawings I would have no further objections.



NB suggestion for adding a low gabion wall filled with stone possibly set up as seating (this would create hibernacula-type habitat suitable for reptiles)

Retained garden area for reptiles (fenced off following directional cuts). Fencing will be removed following end of development



A. Added FFL to burgage plot - 13.05.2019  
B. revised parking layout - 13.05.2019  
C. Added on store - 10.12.2019

Direction of cuts

### Key

a - c → 13x13cm gaps for Hedgehog (plus to serve as 'escape routes' for reptiles during directional cut) - a to be added before the directional cut - b and c can be added following completion of construction.

1 - 3 → Integral bat boxes

A - B → Integral sparrow terraces

### KEY:

Existing level 100.000  
Proposed level +100.000  
Existing fence  
Existing stone wall  
TPO  
Vegetation - part owned by MTCRO

Enhancements should be included within the final design. A Schwager 150' Sparrow Terrace will be mounted on the western elevation of plot 1 and 3. A Schwager 150'



