



PROPOSED FLYING START DEVELOPMENT:

**LAND AT DOWLAIS PRIMARY SCHOOL,
DOWLAIS,
MERTHYR TYDFIL**

ECOLOGICAL REPORT

OCTOBER 2021

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Ecological Report

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Drawing number	Title
TS1428 PA-03	Dowlais Flying Start - Site Modifications

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

A reptile survey was requested by Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council of a proposed Flying Start site in the grounds of Dowlais Primary School. Celtic Ecology and Conservation Ltd was commissioned to undertake the survey on the site of the school.

The work involved a habitat assessment of the site's ability to provide suitable habitats for reptiles and a refugia survey of the site. Recommendations for further survey and actions as necessary are made.

In addition, an assessment of a tree in respect of bats was made as it is a requirement that the tree be felled to facilitate the development.

There are no statutorily designated sites within 1km of the site notified for biological reasons.

There is one Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) within 1km of the site.

The site is comprised entirely of intensively managed amenity grassland currently used as a school playing field. There is an area of woodland and scrub immediately adjacent to the playing field as well as the school buildings themselves.

The existing buildings will not be affected by the proposed development and therefore no bat roosting habitat will be affected.

The trees potentially at risk from the project are classified as being of negligible ecological importance for roosting bats.

No evidence of any protected species was recorded within the site boundary. The site does not provide habitat for any protected species.

No invasive non-native species were observed on the site.

It is considered that no further ecological surveys are required.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SUMMARY

No reptiles were recorded anywhere within the proposed development site.

There is no suitable reptile habitat on or adjacent to the development site.

The mature sycamore standard does not provide bats with potential roost features.

1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is approximately 0.08ha in extent and is located immediately to the north of Dowlais Primary School in Merthyr Tydfil (centred on NGR SO 07030795) (Figures 1 & 2; **drawing TS1428 PA-03**).

The proposed development's planning boundary encloses an area of intensively managed amenity grassland dominated by perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*), cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*), Timothy (*Phleum pratense*) and fescues (*Festuca* sp.) to the north of the school. The location has been chosen to minimise the loss of playing field area.

The grassland lies to the south west of an area of woodland dominated by sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) planted to provide a landscape feature, possibly at the same time as the school was built.

There is a single mature sycamore within the footprint of the proposed Flying Start building.

The site is bordered to the south west by Gwernllwyn Road, the south by the school with roads and houses beyond in all directions.

There is no public access to the site.

Figure 1 – general location of the proposed Flying Start building at Dowlais Primary School



(Image courtesy of Google Earth)

Figure 2 – detail of the proposed Flying Start building at Dowlais Primary School (approximate location outlined red)



(Image courtesy of Google Earth)

1.3 ECOLOGY

1.3.1 Reptiles

Reptiles are cold blooded, meaning they have to rely on external heat sources to warm their blood sufficiently to allow foraging and other activity. During the winter they are in brumation (similar to hibernation), emerging in April (or when the temperatures are consistently warm enough). Males tend to emerge before females, to enable them to prepare for mating. Females emerge a few weeks later and mating takes place. Female reptiles in the UK generally breed every other year to allow them to build up sufficient energy reserves. Grass snakes are the UK's only egg-laying reptile, eggs are laid in summer in warm piles of decomposing vegetation (or similar) and left to develop and hatch on their own. Young reptiles are born/hatch in late summer/early autumn. Brumation (hibernation) starts again as temperatures fall in the autumn.

The four more commonly occurring species of reptile in the UK (adder (*Vipera berus*), grass snake (*Natrix natrix*) slow worm (*Anguis fragilis*) and common lizard (*Lacerta vivipara*) have different preferences for habitat and diet. Adders generally prey on small mammals in drier habitats, grass snakes primarily hunt amphibians in wetter areas and aquatic habitats, slow worms take small, slow-moving invertebrates and inhabit drier areas and common lizards prey on small, faster-moving invertebrates and tolerate both wet and dry habitats.

1.3.2 Bats

British bats are small flying nocturnal mammals that feed exclusively upon insects. There are 17 species resident in Britain, ranging in size from the small pipistrelle species up to the larger noctule (*Nyctalus noctula*), serotine (*Eptesicus serotinus*) and greater horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*). Bats are active from April through to October and hibernate when insects are in short supply in the winter months. Bats emerge from hibernation in late March - early April and move into their transition / intermediary roosts. Female bats will move to maternity sites by the beginning of May and will give birth to a single baby between June and early July. The baby is reared solely by the mother and is weaned and independent by end of August. After breeding, bats move to transition / intermediary roosts and females will visit males at mating roosts. During the autumn, bats feed voraciously to gain weight for the hibernation ahead.

Although traditionally trees, caves and rock faces were used by roosting bats and are still used, many different structures are used nowadays by bats, which take advantage of readymade (man-made) roosts. Structures used frequently include bridges, ice-houses, pill-boxes, disused railway tunnels, houses and barns etc. Bats have home ranges which vary from species to species; from just 3-4km from the roost for the smaller bats while the larger noctule may fly 20km or more. Threats to bats include habitat destruction and the severance of commuting routes, use of agricultural pesticides, intensification of farming methods and deliberate persecution by man. Bats have few natural predators; however, the domestic cat is probably the most efficient predator.

1.4 LEGISLATION

1.4.1 Conservation Of Habitats & Species Regulations 2019

European Union legislation required that member states designate sites for the protection of habitats and species included in the annexes of both Council Directive 92/43/EC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna (the Habitats Directive) and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (the Birds Directive). This legislation was implemented in the UK by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) ("the Habitat Regulations"). This results in sites being designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas respectively (SPAs) and the protection of particular species. Offences under this legislation include:

- Deliberately (or recklessly in Scotland) capture, injure or kill a bat
- Deliberately (or recklessly in Scotland) disturb a bat in a way that would (significantly in Scotland) affect its ability to survive, breed or rear young (or hibernate or migrate in England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or (significantly in England, Wales and Scotland) affect the local distribution or abundance of the species.
- Damage or destroy a roost (this is an 'absolute' offence)
- Possess, control, transport, sell, exchange or offer for sale/exchange any live or dead bat or any part of a bat

It should be noted that whilst the UK is no longer a member state, the protection enacted under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 will continue to apply in UK law through the Conservation of Habitat and Species (amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 and the European Withdrawal Act 2018.

It is possible to undertake damaging activities under the auspices of a Protected Species Licence issued by Natural Resources Wales which provides a derogation from the Regulations, meaning that an otherwise illegal operation carried out under licence is lawful.

1.4.2 Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981

1.4.2.1 Reptiles

The four more common reptile species mentioned above are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) against killing, injury and sale.

Smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*) and sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*) are not found in this area, having very specific geographical distribution within Britain, and so will not be referred to in this report despite the higher legislative protection afforded to them.

1.4.2.2 Bats

The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) is the legislation for England and Wales for nature conservation, making it an offence to:

- Intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat in or at a roost;
- Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a roost;
- Intentionally destroy, damage or otherwise disturb a roost (whether bats are present or not); and
- Intentionally or recklessly kill, injure or take (capture) a bat.

1.4.3 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 sets out the requirement for the 'sustainable management of natural resources' together with new ways of working to achieve this. Part 1 of the Environment Act sets out Wales' approach to planning and managing natural resources at a national and local level with a general purpose linked to statutory 'principles of sustainable management of natural resources' defined within the Act.

Section 6 – Biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty

Section 6 under Part 1 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 introduced an enhanced biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty (the S6 duty) for public authorities in the exercise of functions in relation to Wales.

The S6 duty requires that public authorities must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity so far as consistent with the proper exercise of their functions and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems.

Section 7 - Biodiversity lists and duty to take steps to maintain and enhance biodiversity

This section replaces the duty in section 42 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) (NERCA 2006). The Welsh Ministers will publish, review and revise lists of living organisms and types of habitat in Wales, which they consider are of key significance to sustain and improve biodiversity in relation to Wales.

The Welsh Ministers must also take all reasonable steps to maintain and enhance the living organisms and types of habitat included in any list published under this section, and encourage others to take such steps.

Part 1 of the Act, including Sections 6 and 7, came into force on May 21, 2016.

Other elements of NERCA 2006 may still apply.

1.4.4 The Wellbeing Of Future Generations Act 2015

The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act became law in April 2015 and is concerned with improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

It will make the public bodies in Wales listed in the Act think more about the long-term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach.

To help public bodies achieve the same vision, the Act puts in place seven well-being goals. Linked to the goals a set of National Indicators are currently under development to help measure whether we are achieving the goals including the Resilient Wales goal.

Resilient Wales' goal

'A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).'

The Well-being of Future Generations Act recognises the importance of nature and its biodiversity. The resilient Wales' goal will help with nature recovery objectives in Wales.

The Act establishes a statutory Future Generations Commissioner for Wales to support the public bodies listed in the Act to work towards achieving the well-being goals.

The Act also establishes Public Services Boards (PSBs) for each local authority area in Wales. PSBs are tasked with improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area by working to achieve the well-being goals.

1.4.5 Other

Planning Policy Wales (Welsh Government, 2018) and Planning Policy Wales Technical Advice Note 5: Nature Conservation and Planning (Welsh Assembly Government, September 2009) set out the protection given to wildlife (sites, habitats and species) by the planning system operational in Wales.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 REPTILES

2.1.1 Habitat Assessment

The habitat assessment looked for features that would be attractive to reptiles such as:

- South facing banks;
- Varied profile ground form;
- Basking areas;
- Vegetation cover;
- Structurally diverse vegetation;
- Potential brumation (hibernation) sites;
- Evidence of suitable prey sources;
- Connectivity to other potentially suitable reptile habitat; and
- Levels of disturbance/land management.

2.1.2 Field Survey

Target areas of potential reptile habitat were identified, and squares of approximately 0.5m² roofing felt ('refugia') were laid down at a rate of approximately 1 every 15 - 20m around the boundary of the development site. This was carried out when the ground vegetation was dry, in order to prevent plant matter under the tins from rotting due to wet conditions, as this would deter reptiles from seeking refuge under them.

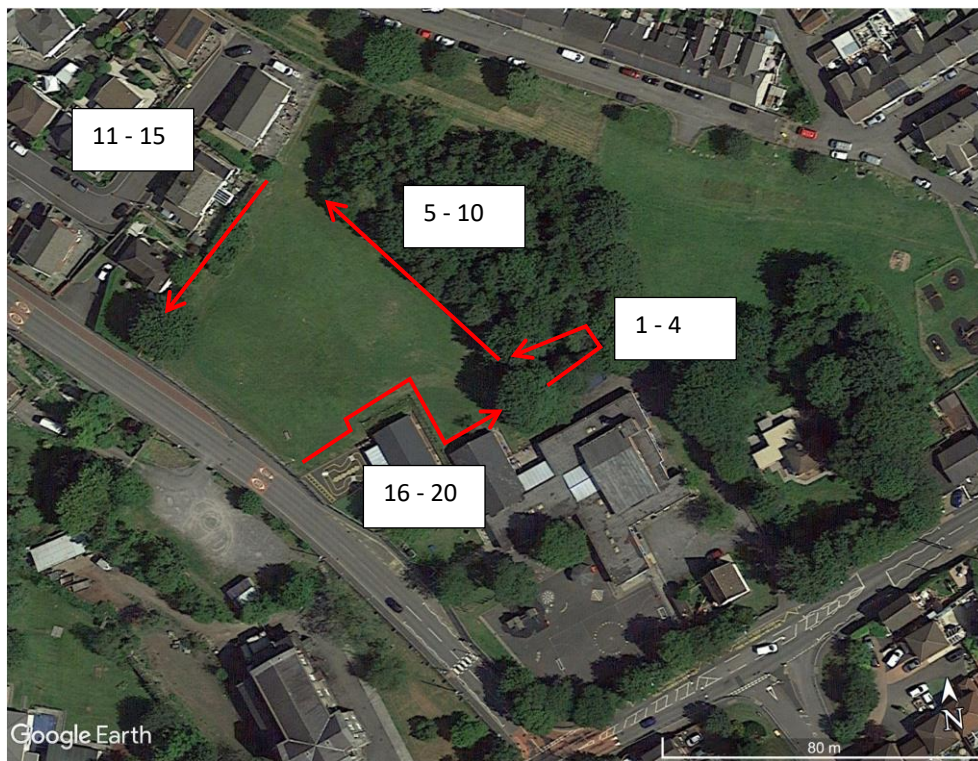
20 refugia were put out in May 2021 in suitable target areas of habitat across the site and allowed to 'bed in' for at least two weeks. This time period generally will allow any reptiles in the area to discover and begin to use them as a regular basking site. Areas that were surveyed are shown at **Figure 3**. Hugh Dixon MCIEEM BSc (Hons) from Celtic Ecology and Conservation undertook all the subsequent refugia checks. Each and all refugia were checked seven times under suitable weather conditions and temperatures in order to determine the presence, or otherwise, of reptiles in the area.

The refugia were checked on the following dates:

- 27/05/2021 - mats down;
- 11/06/2021;
- 18/06/2021;
- 25/06/2021;
- 06/07/2021;
- 02/09/2021;
- 15/09/2021; and
- 24/09/2021 - end of survey.

If reptiles were found, the location, species, number of animals and sex were noted. These locations were then plotted.

Figure 3 – location of refugia at the proposed Flying Start building at Dowlais Primary School (lined red)



2.1.3 Constraints

Human disturbance (amenity grassland mowing) removed/destroyed approximately four refugia in the survey area. However, it was considered that overall this did not pose a constraint to the survey outcome as the habitats were considered to be generally sub-optimal or unsuitable.

2.2 BATS

The trees on the site at risk from the development were subject of an assessment by a bat licensed ecologist on 5th February 2021 to assess their potential to support bats. The assessment also aimed to identify any features that may be used by bats for roosting purposes.

Tree inspections were undertaken in accordance with current best practice¹. Each tree or discrete group of trees was assessed from ground level to the canopy using close focusing binoculars and a high-powered torch. Potential roost features (PRFs) likely to be used by bats (see list below of features of interest) were noted and, where possible, were inspected using a torch and endoscope. Evidence of bat usage was also recorded where present. Each tree was recorded on a plan and scored, as detailed below.

Features include:

- Knot holes;
- Rot holes;
- Woodpecker holes;
- Hazard beams (cracks/splits in major limbs);

¹ Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists - Good Practice Guidelines (Collins, J (Ed). BCT, 2016

- Other vertical or horizontal cracks and splits (e.g. frost cracks)
- Loose and partially detached bark;
- Tear outs
- Man-made holes;
- Cankers with cavities;
- Other hollows e.g. butt rots;
- Double leaders forming compression joints;
- Gaps between overlapping branches / stems;
- Gaps behind partially detached ivy with stem diameters in excess of 50mm; and
- Bat, bird and dormouse boxes.

In addition to features of interest, evidence of bats was searched for including:

- Live and dead bats;
- Bat droppings;
- Staining below PRFs;
- Characteristic scratches;
- Smell of bats and/or droppings; and
- Noise (squeaking) made by bats.

The trees inspected were graded according to Table 1 below and, where appropriate, identified on a plan.

Table 1 - tree classification (BCT 2016)

Tree grade	Category description
Negligible	Negligible habitat features likely to be used by bats
Low	A tree of sufficient size and age to contain PRFs but with none seen from the ground or features seen with only some very limited roosting potential
Moderate	A tree with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status
High	A tree with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat.

2.2.1 Constraints

None.

3 RESULTS

3.1 BIOLOGICAL DATA SEARCH

There are no records of reptiles held by the South East Wales Biological Record Centre (SEWBRc) within 1km of the proposed development site (confirmatory letter at **Appendix B**).

It is known that there are records of reptiles from the common land to the north of Dowlais and Pant.

There is one Site of Importance for Nature Conservation within 1km of the development site.

3.1.1 Statutory Sites

Not applicable.

3.1.2 Non-Statutory Sites

There is 1(no.) locally notified site within 1km of the development site, the Blaenmorlais Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs). See **Table 2** for details.

Table 2 - non-statutorily designated sites within 2km of the proposed Crofty Road development site:

Site	Designation	Grid reference	Area (ha)	Reason for designation	Distance away (m)
Blaenmorlais	SINC	SS952952	5	A large area supporting a mosaic of upland habitats at the western edge of Merthyr Common. Mainly acid grasslands with some acidic flushes, grass-heaths, dry heathlands, marshy grasslands and smaller areas of wet heathland. The flushes are particularly rich and hold populations of round-leaved sundew, bog asphodel, lesser skullcap and common cotton-grass. The site also contains small disused quarries (Garth Quarries) and acid screes. A section of the Nant Morlais within the site has steep valleysides with rocky outcrops. A large pond in the south of the site supports floating bur-reed, a regionally rare plant, and several uncommon dragonflies. Grayling butterfly is present in the quarries and the site is likely to be important for a range of ground-nesting birds. To the north the site contains an area of limestone spoil tips supporting unimproved upland calcareous grassland, as well as some limestone outcrops and scree. These habitats are species rich, and support a population of the nationally rare mossy saxifrage as well as many regionally rare and scarce species, including limestone bedstraw, brittle bladder-fern, dwarf thistle and green spleenwort.	872

Despite it being of a **high** ecological importance at a **regional (county)** level, the identified SINC site is at a distance from the development site whereby it will not be affected by the proposed development.

Additionally, none of the features for which it was notified are replicated on the development site. Therefore, this classification and site will not be considered further in this report.

3.2 SPECIES

3.2.1 Reptiles - Habitat Assessment

The amenity grassland is considered to be sub-optimal habitat for reptiles due to high intensity of management i.e. regular mowing by grounds maintenance personnel. This general unsuitability is increased by the presence of the woodland immediately next to the grassland which shades the areas of grass which might be used by reptiles. The grassland does slightly face and slope south and west and is therefore likely to be warm enough for reptiles. There is very limited hibernation habitat in the woodland and within the scrub on the survey areas north western boundary.

Access to the site for reptiles is limited by the roads to the south, south east and north east. The survey area is also bounded by a stone wall to the north west which, although it does not extend the length of the boundary, will reduce the chances of reptiles getting onto the site.

The site is regularly used by the school for sports education and other teaching activities.

The regular management and use of the site are considered to reduce the availability of prey for reptiles as well as remove all cover and sheltering opportunities.

3.2.2 Reptiles - Refugia Survey

No reptiles (or any other fauna) were recorded during any of the refugia survey check visits. Toads and one frog were also recorded using or in close proximity to artificial refugia. **Table 3** below details survey results.

Table 3 - Results of Reptile Survey

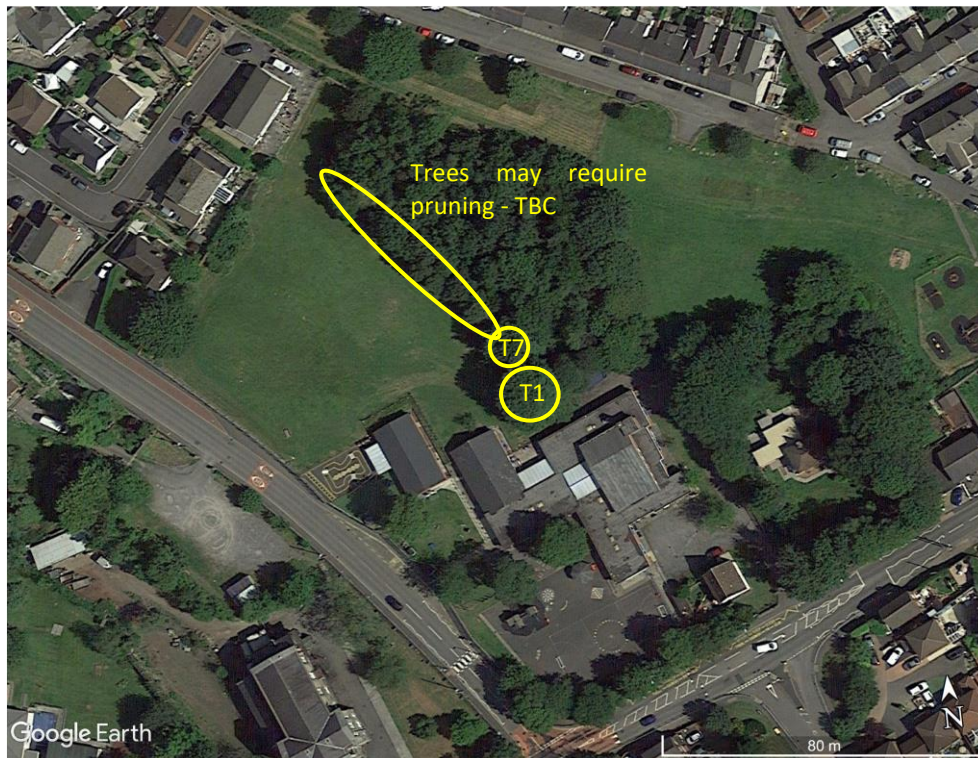
Visit no.	Date	Time	Temp (°C)	Weather conditions	Species (and no. found)	Life stage & gender (M/F)	Location (refugia hedge no.)
1	11/06/2021	09.00 – 09.15	Start: 15°C End: 15°C	Overcast, wind F1	-	-	-
2	18/06/2021	09.00 – 09.15	Start: 14°C End:14°C	100% cloud. No wind	-	-	-
3	25/06/2021	11.45 – 12.00	Start: 14°C End:14°C	100% cloud. No wind	-	-	-
4	06/07/2021	10.00 – 10.15	Start: 15°C End:15°C	100% cloud. Wind F2(3)	-	-	-
5	02/09/2021	10.45 – 11.00	Start: 12°C End:12°C	100% cloud. Wind F1	-	-	-
6	15/09/2021	08.00 – 08.15	Start: 13°C End:13°C	100% cloud. No wind	-	-	-
7	24/09/2021	09.00 – 09.15	Start: 14°C End:14°C	60% cloud. Wind F1	-	-	-

3.2.3 Bats – Ground Based Tree Assessment

None of the trees with the potential to be affected (T1 & T7) by the Flying Start scheme development were found to have any potential roost features useable by bats.

None of the trees on the woodland edge appeared to provide bats with potential roost features.

Figure 4 – location of trees potentially affected by the proposed Flying Start building at Dowlais Primary School (starred yellow)



(Image courtesy of Google Earth)

3.3 INCIDENTAL OBSERVATIONS

None.

4 REPTILES – EVALUATION, IMPACT CHARACTERISATION AND ASSESSMENT

4.1 REPTILES - EVALUATION

Reptiles are protected by UK legislation and therefore they are of **medium** to **high national** ecological importance.

The site appears to be of **negligible - low** value to reptiles due to the intensity of amenity grassland management and use by the school. Additionally, it is likely to prove difficult for reptiles to access the site.

The habitats surrounding the survey area are likely to be regularly disturbed and are considered to sub-optimal.

4.2 REPTILES - IMPACT CHARACTERISATION

As no animals were found on the site, it is considered that there will be no adverse impacts on this group as a result of the development. .

4.3 REPTILES – IMPACT ASSESSMENT WITHOUT MITIGATION

It is considered that there will be **no adverse** impacts on reptiles as a result of site clearance.

4.4 REPTILES - MITIGATION MEASURES

As no reptiles were found on the site, mitigation is not required.

4.5 REPTILES – IMPACT ASSESSMENT WITH MITIGATION

It is considered that there will be **no adverse** impacts on reptiles as a result of the development.

4.6 REPTILES – SIGNIFICANCE OF THE IMPACT

Without mitigation:

It is anticipated that the significance of the impact is **neutral**.

With mitigation:

It is anticipated that the significance of the impact is **neutral**.

5 BATS – EVALUATION, IMPACT CHARACTERISATION AND ASSESSMENT

5.1 BATS - EVALUATION

All bats are **internationally** important as they are protected by European law. Therefore, any roost where they are found is of **high** ecological importance.

Within the context of the site and the proposed development, it is considered that as none of the surveyed trees provide bats with any potential roost features, they are of **negligible** ecological value to and for bats.

5.2 BATS - IMPACT CHARACTERISATION

As no bats, evidence of bats or potential roost features useable by bats were found on the site, it is considered that there will be no adverse impacts on roosting bats as a result of the development. Bats will continue to be able to forage over and around the site on completion of the development.

5.3 BATS – IMPACT ASSESSMENT WITHOUT MITIGATION

It is considered that there will be **no adverse** impacts on bats as a result of site clearance.

5.4 BATS - MITIGATION MEASURES

As no bats were found on the site, mitigation is not required.

5.5 BATS – IMPACT ASSESSMENT WITH MITIGATION

It is considered that there will be **no adverse** impacts on bats as a result of the development.

5.6 BATS – SIGNIFICANCE OF THE IMPACT

Without mitigation:

It is anticipated that the significance of the impact is **neutral**.

With mitigation:

It is anticipated that the significance of the impact is **neutral**.

6 ENHANCEMENTS

As part of the planning permission consenting process, various enhancements were requested by the Local Planning Authority's ecologist.

As reptiles were not identified on the site, a Reptile Mitigation Strategy will not be required.

However, the following measures will be implemented:

- EITHER a Schwegler 1WQ (or similar) bat box will be erected on the new Flying Start building (the location to be determined by the ecologist, but preferentially facing between south east and south west at a minimum height (if possible) of 3.5m above ground level; OR a pole mounted bat box (design at **Appendix C**) to be located by the ecologist in consultation with the school and Flying Start design team;
- Integrated bird boxes in the form of 1(no.) Schwegler 1SP sparrow nest terrace and 2(no.) Woodstone Built in Swift Nest Box A will be built into building facing between south and west in locations to be determined by the ecologist in consultation with the Flying Start design team;
- A wildflower area to benefit pollinating insects will be created. The area will be no less than 100m² and be planted with a combination of seed mixes such as Emorsgate ESG2 – Fine Grassland Mixture sown with ESF2 – Wild Pollen And Nectar Flowers (or similar) to provide a native species wildflower area. The preferred location will be in the swales proposed on the north western and south eastern side of the new Flying Start building (as per **drawing TS1428 PA-03**); however, this will be determined in consultation with the Flying Start design team and Dowlais Primary School.
- Other landscape planting e.g. native species trees may be implemented on a like for like basis using native species of as local a provenance as possible as necessary in the event that there will be any loss of trees from the site. The preferred location for this is along the Gwernllwyn Road boundary.

NOTE: where and if close boarded fencing is required, holes 150mm x 50mm will be provided at no less than 10m intervals at the base of the fence(s) along its length to allow the free passage of hedgehogs across and around the site.

7 CONCLUSION

No evidence of reptiles was observed on the site.

No evidence of bats was observed on the site, with none of the trees offering this group any potential roost features.

The site is considered to be of a negligible to low ecological importance at a local level to and for reptiles and roosting bats.

No further ecological surveys are considered necessary. Mitigation is not required.

Ecological enhancements will be included in the final design and implemented on site at the request of the Local Planning Authority's ecologist.

APPENDIX A - PHOTOGRAPHS

Plate 1 – T1 on right & woodland edge



Plate 2 – woodland edge



Plate 3 – view across the site (looking north west)



Plate 4 – T1



Plate 5 – detail of T1



APPENDIX B – SEWBREC LETTER



12th October 2021
SEWBRc
15 Talbot Road
Tablot Green
Pontyclun
CF72 8AD

Mr Hugh Dixon
Celtic Ecology and Conservation Ltd
374 Cowbridge Road East
Cardiff
CF5 1JJ

Dear Mr Hugh Dixon,

We have conducted a customised biodiversity data search for the location 'Land at Dowlais Primary School, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil' (Grid reference: SO07030795) seeking to identify any reptile (Class Reptilia) records within a 1km radius of the site. We can confirm that SEWBRc currently holds no records for reptiles within this search area.

There is one SINC (Site of Importance for Nature Conservation) within the search boundary, identified as 'Blaenmorlais' for which the relevant citation details have been forwarded to you.

Yours sincerely,

Naomi Rich

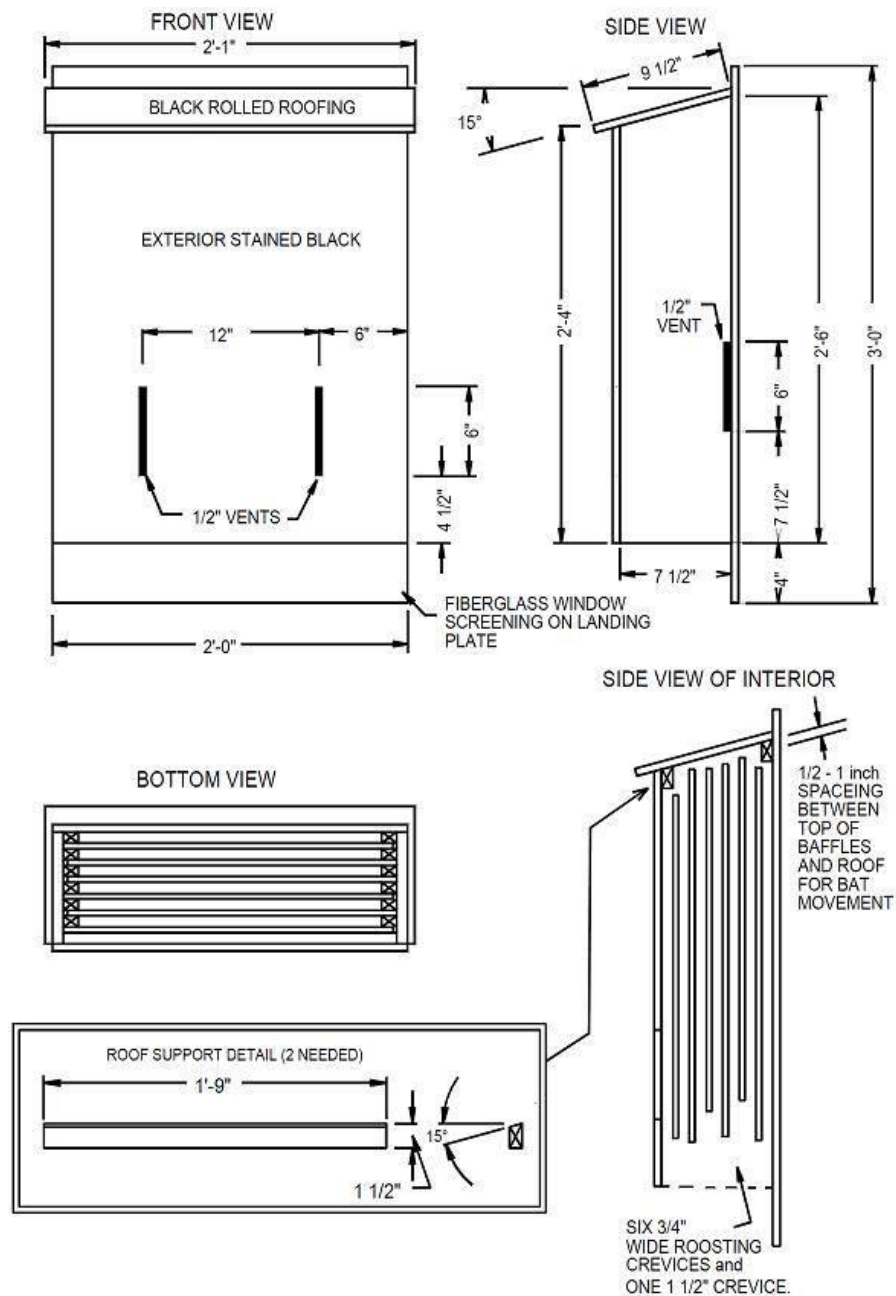
Naomi Rich

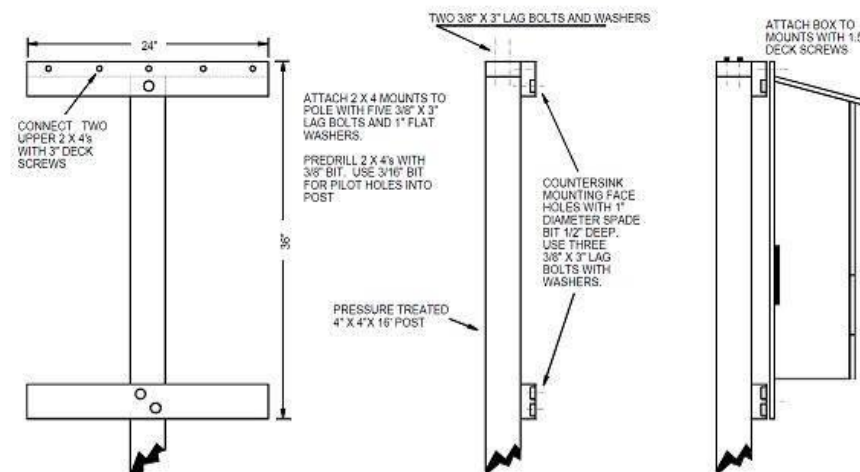
Naomi Rich
Biodiversity Data and Enquiries Officer
South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre



APPENDIX C – POLE MOUNTED BAT BOX DESIGN

Detail of “American style” bat box enhancement to be mounted with the base of the box at least 3.5m above ground level (e.g. on a telegraph pole or similar)





NOTE: "off the shelf" versions are available e.g. <https://www.nhbs.com/pole-mounted-maternity-bat-box> OR <https://www.wildcare.co.uk/pole-mounted-roost-maternity-single-double-bat-box.html>

APPENDIX D – SITE MODIFICATIONS DRAWING

