

Bat Activity Survey (BAS)
on behalf of

Daray Properties
For

Caersalem
The Rise
Pant
Dowlais
Merthyr Tydfil CBC
CF48 2BN



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Project Overview

Client	Daray Properties
Site / Job	Caersalem, The Rise, Pant, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil CBC, CF48 2BN
Report Type	Bat Activity Survey (BAS)
Report Reference	LT470
Grid Refence	SO 06588 09025

Versioning and Quality Assurance

Status	Date	Author(s)	Reviewed by
Draft	01.09.2026	Nic Aldridge	Sam Haycock
Version 1	07.09.2026	Nic Aldridge	Sam Haycock

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Executive Summary

The owners of Caersalem are preparing a planning application to Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council (the local planning authority), for the demolition of the existing former church and the construction of two residential units, alongside associated landscaping works. To support the planning application process, a survey for the presence of bats and birds was undertaken.

Following the results of a Preliminary Roost Assessment, this report contains the results from one dusk activity survey, conducted in accordance with national survey standards.

A single roost supporting a minimum of one bat has been identified within Building A. The roost comprises a day roost for common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*), with the bat emerging from the upper roof, near the corner between the north-western and north-eastern elevations. The emergence was recorded independently by surveyors positioned at the north-western and north-eastern elevations, confirming a single individual rather than two separate bats; no evidence of a maternity roost was identified. The presence of additional species roosting elsewhere within the structure cannot be entirely ruled out, given the range of crevice-type potential roost features (PRFs) identified during the Preliminary Roost Assessment.

Of the 33 recordings made during the dusk emergence survey, three species were identified commuting and foraging near the site: common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*), and Whiskered/Brandt's bat (*Myotis mystacinus/brandtii*). When the conservation significance of the site is considered, the impact is assessed as low, due to the presence of a day roost for a small number (a minimum of one) of common pipistrelle. The presence of a confirmed roost and of foraging/commuting bat activity nonetheless contributes to local bat conservation value (Collins, J. (Ed.) (2023)).

All bat species and their places of rest are fully protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), and the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. The legal protection for bats concerns impacts from disturbance, loss of roost locations, modifications to roosts and loss of access or obstruction to roost locations. As impacts of this nature will arise during any proposed works, a European Protected Species (EPS) licence will be required from NRW before any work proceeds.

Birds were also considered at the same time as the bat surveys. The building supports features that could be exploited by nesting birds, particularly house sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) (a CAT1 species), and no active nest was identified during the survey visits. All nesting birds, their chicks' eggs and active nests are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). As nesting opportunities have been identified, a precautionary approach will be required. Therefore, mitigation for bird species and general advice on the legal status of breeding birds is given in this report.

Recommendations are presented in Section Five.

Under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 the planning authority has a statutory duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity. Details of planned site enhancements are also made in this report.

This Executive Summary is intended to provide an overview of the assessment of the proposed development site based on information received by Little Wing Ecology (CYF) at the time of production. This Executive Summary should be read in conjunction with the full report.

SECTION ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Little Wing Ecology (CYF) was commissioned to undertake a Preliminary Roost Assessment and Bat Activity Survey of a site known as 'Caersalem, Pant, Merthyr Tydfil.' The survey was undertaken to inform the client of any constraints and associated planning requirements with regards to protected species, and to inform a planning application. For the purposes of this report, the structure will be referred to as 'Building A.'

The owners of Building A are preparing a planning application to Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council (the local planning authority), for the demolition of the existing former church and the construction of two residential units, alongside associated landscaping works.

Bats were identified as the group of animals with the potential to be affected by the planning proposal, and in this regard the objectives of the survey were:

- Determine the presence/likely absence of bat roost(s) at Building A.
- Determine the species of bat present.
- Determine the type of roost present (maternity, day roost etc).
- Identify any bat foraging or commuting behaviour in relation to the location.
- Consider if there will be impacts on bats from the proposed works.
- Consider if nesting birds are present which might be affected by the development proposals.
- Gather sufficient information to enable appropriate recommendations, inform mitigation and licencing.

Following the results of a Preliminary Roost Assessment, this report contains the results from a dusk activity survey, undertaken during the summer months of 2026, conducted in accordance with national survey standards. The survey was carried out with the purpose of identifying the presence/likely absence of bat roosts at Building A. Following survey, an assessment of the likely impact that the proposed works will have on bat interest at the site was carried out. This report has been prepared with recommendations for enhancement features, to improve opportunities for local species post-development.

1.2 Site Description

Located at National Grid Reference (NGR) SO 06588 09025 (Appendix A), at an altitude of 329m above Ordnance Datum (OD), Caersalem is situated off Trevor Close, Pant, Merthyr Tydfil, and is accessed via Trevor Close, the main service road. The total site area is approximately 890m². The field survey was conducted on 8th July 2026 (Preliminary Roost Assessment) and 23rd August 2026 (dusk activity survey).

1.3 Policy and Legislation

In Wales, all bat species and their roosts are legally protected, by both domestic and international legislation. This means you may be committing a criminal offence if you:

- Deliberately take, injure, or kill a wild bat.
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat in its roost or deliberately disturb a group of bats.
- Damage or destroy a place used by bats for breeding or resting (roosts) (even if bats are not occupying the roost at the time).
- Possess, advertise, sell or exchange a bat, or part of a bat species found in the wild in the EU (dead or alive).
- Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a bat roost.

The framework for this protection is provided within three pieces of legislation from the Government of Wales and the UK Government.

These are:

- The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019
- The Environment (Wales) Act 2016
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) – as amended

Additional information on the legal scope of these acts can be found in the Appendix, and a link to the full documentation can be found in, 'References and Bibliography.'

SECTION TWO: THE SURVEY METHOD

2.1 Desktop Survey (Bats)

Available records for bats were provided by the South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (SEWBRc).

2.2 Desktop Survey (Habitat)

A review of aerial photography was undertaken to assess the provision of suitable foraging and commuting habitat within proximity to Building A. This information was used in combination with a review of statutory designated sites, via the Data Map Wales website, including Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) to help in confirming the presence of bat species locally.

Bats are considered cryptic species and therefore it can be difficult to confirm whether they are present or not. Although the provision of local biological records would provide a range of information; such records can only be relied upon as relative where they are reasonably recent and when supplied by an experienced bat surveyor. It was therefore considered necessary to undertake a detailed survey regardless of the data search results, as this is most likely to be beyond the acceptability of current data as defined in BS 42020:2013 Biodiversity: Code of practice for planning and development and will not be as effective as spending time examining and/or monitoring the buildings for the presence of bats.

2.3 Preliminary Roost Assessment

A potential nest and roost assessment survey was carried out on the interior and exterior of Building A by an experienced ecologist and Natural Resources Wales (NRW) licenced bat worker. The external fabric of the structure was methodically inspected using close-focusing binoculars and a high-powered torch for potential access points such as gaps in the fabric of the building, beneath lifted roof materials or other gaps in the roof. Loose flashing, smudge marks and droppings on walls directly below eaves and gables etc were also searched for. A description of the building, including construction material and current condition was recorded. Internally, the building was searched using a high-powered torch to identify possible links to exterior roost entrances and clear signs of presence via urine staining, feeding remains, odour, piles of droppings, live bats, and bat carcasses. The space was also examined in the dark to identify areas where the presence of light would identify potential entry points for birds and bats. The aim of this survey was to determine the actual or potential presence of bats and the need for further survey and/or mitigation. During the field survey, an assessment of the habitats on-site and beyond the site boundary was undertaken. The aim of this was to identify potential commuting and foraging corridors, and suitable foraging sites. This enabled the suitability of the location for bats to be determined.

Nesting birds were also considered at the time of the survey, with the surveyor looking for signs of bird activity, nests, nest building, feeding at nest sites, and evidence of collections of bird droppings, feathers, or any other indications of use by birds.

2.4 Additional Ecological Considerations

Whilst a full ecological appraisal was not undertaken at the site, a note was made of any additional ecological considerations identified during the survey. For ease of reference, these have been included within the results section of this report (Section 3).

2.5 Limitations of the Survey Method

A record was made of any constraints that limited the results of this survey report and is presented in Section 3.

2.6 Activity Surveys

Following the PRA and in line with guidelines set out in, 'Bat Conservation Trusts Good Practice Guidelines (Collins, J. (Ed.) (2023),' Building A was subsequently categorised for the level of risk of supporting bats, and recommendations made as to the requirement for dusk activity surveys to determine the presence/likely absence of roosting bats, species identification, population size, roost type, and the requirement for any associated mitigation. If required, dusk survey(s) for bats will be conducted no less than 21 days apart. During any subsequent activity surveys, sufficient surveyors were required to adequately cover all features identified during the PRA. Nocturnal bat surveys are undertaken May to mid-September, inclusive. Taking a precautionary approach, and dependent on the outcome of these surveys, additional survey work may be required; but only if higher than expected activity is recorded. Details of our surveyors and their experience is recorded in Appendix D.

2.7 Equipment (Activity Surveys)

The equipment used for dusk activity surveys provides high quality recordings of bat calls, which are analysed using BatSound and AnalookW software. Recordings are annotated by the surveyors to provide contextual information on bat behaviour and flight patterns. At Little Wing Ecology (CYF) we use Pettersson D240x time expansion bat detector and Tascam DR-05X Portable Digital Recorder, Peersonic RPA3B full spectrum recorders and Anabat SD2 Frequency Division detectors. As night vision aids (NVA) we use a MELCAM Video Camera Camcorder 1080P IR Night Vision Digital Camera and Nightfox Swift 2 Pro. Audio for the NVAs is supplemented by an Anabat SD2. In addition, we use Audiomoth – a full-spectrum acoustic logger, based on the Gecko processor range from Silicon Labs.

SECTION THREE: RESULTS

3.1 Desktop Survey Results

No part of the site falls within a statutory site of nature conservation interest, such as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), National Nature Reserve (NNR) or Local Nature Reserve (LNR). The site does not fall within a National Park; the nearest, Bannau Brycheiniog (Brecon Beacons) National Park, lies approximately 1.1km to the north-west. The nearest statutory sites of interest are presented in Table 3.1 below.

Table 3.1: Local statutory sites of nature conservation interest

Site Name	Designation	Distance from Site
Mynyddoedd Llangynidr a Llangatwg, Cefn yr Ystrad a Chomin Merthyr	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	≈340m north-east
Cwm Taf Fechan Woodlands	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	≈1.1km north-

Site Name	Designation	Distance from Site
		west
Nant Glais Caves	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	≈2.6km north-west
Cwm Glo a Glyndyrys	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	≈3.9km south-west
Cwm Cadlan	Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	≈10km west

Non-statutory designations recorded within the search area include Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland at approximately 1.1km north-west and 1.9km west of the site.

3.1.1 Local Biological Records

Records for bats and birds were obtained from the South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (SEWBReC, LERC reference 0267-418) for a 1km search radius centred on Building A. A total of 588 species records were returned, comprising 156 records for bats (Chiroptera) and 432 records for birds. No records were returned on or directly adjacent to the site (i.e. within 0–20m); the nearest record was at 228m.

Bat (Chiroptera) records accounted for 156 of the total returns (26.53%), all of which relate to CAT1 priority species, spanning 14 taxa at distances of between 327m and 2,964m. The nearest records were for lesser horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*) at 327m; Daubenton's bat (*Myotis daubentonii*), lesser horseshoe bat, and brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*) at 360m; and a further Daubenton's bat record at 502m. The most frequently recorded taxa were lesser horseshoe bat (50 records, 327–2,964m) and greater horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*) (16 records, 532–2,956m), followed by unidentified *Myotis* species (13 records), pipistrelle species aggregate (11 records), common pipistrelle (11 records, 532–1,228m), soprano pipistrelle (10 records, 532–1,228m), brown long-eared bat (9 records, 360–1,248m), unidentified *Plecotus* species (9 records), noctule (*Nyctalus noctula*) (7 records), unidentified *Nyctalus* species (6 records), Eurasian serotine (*Cnephaeus serotinus*) (6 records, 532–801m), Daubenton's bat (3 records, 360–533m), unidentified *Pipistrellus* species (3 records), and Natterer's bat (*Myotis nattereri*) (2 records, 547–1,187m).

Bird records accounted for 432 of the total returns (73.47%), of which 82.18% related to CAT1 species, at distances of between 228m and 2,958m. The nearest three records, all at 228m, were for magpie, bullfinch and rook. CAT1 species recorded within the search area included red kite, kestrel, house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) (10 records, 369–1,207m), barn owl, swift (*Apus apus*), and a wide range of common passerine and wetland bird species. The remaining 77 bird records (13 taxa) were non-CAT1: 69 records across 10 species were CAT2 (Conservation Concern), 2 records across 2 species were CAT3 (Locally Important), and 6 records related to a single CAT4 (Invasive) species, Canada goose (*Branta canadensis*).

3.2 Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA)

A Preliminary Roost Assessment was conducted on 8th July 2026 by the author. Weather conditions during the survey were recorded and are presented in Table 3.2 (below). Details of the surveyor's experience are presented in the Appendix.

One structure was present on site at the time of the survey: Building A, a former church.

During the Preliminary Roost Assessment, several features offering potential roosting opportunities for bats were identified within the building fabric.

Construction and Condition:

Building A is a late 1970s, block and brick-built former church of trussed, pitched roof construction, with a hipped ridge. The roof covering comprises composite slate tiles to the front elevation and concrete tiles to the rear, with concrete ridge tiles throughout. Bargeboards are uPVC, and rainwater goods are uPVC. A breathable membrane is present throughout the roof structure, indicative of roof renewal having taken place within the past 30 years. The building is well maintained, with all materials recorded as being in good condition.

Potential Roost Features (PRFs) identified:

Minor lifted roof tiles were recorded on the south-eastern and north-western elevations; the associated gaps are likely too small to support occupation by bats. Minor gaps between the uPVC bargeboards and the brick surface were recorded on the south-eastern, north-eastern, and south-western elevations, and are likely too small to support occupation by bats. A gap was identified beneath the hipped ridge at the northern corner of the building, providing potential access to a cavity of unknown proportions. Multiple gaps were also recorded in the interior structural fabric within the roof space, including within blockwork and at an exposed wall plate.

Evidence of Bats found:

No evidence of bat occupation (droppings or other signs) was recorded within the accessible parts of the structure during the survey, and no evidence to suggest use by a maternity roost was encountered. This absence of evidence applies to the accessible areas inspected; the cavity associated with the ridge gap PRF could not be directly inspected, and its condition therefore remains unconfirmed.

Roof Space:

Internal access was available to the whole of the trussed roof space, within which no evidence of bat occupation was recorded.

Cellar(s):

No cellars were identified within Building A.

Evidence of Bats:

No direct or indirect evidence of bats (droppings, feeding remains, staining, or live/dead bats) was recorded during the internal or external inspection of Building A.

Mature Trees:

No mature trees with bat roost potential were identified within the curtilage of Building A. Mature hedging and shrub planting are present at the site boundary, but no trees exhibiting cavities, cracks, or other features with potential to support roosting bats were recorded.

Roost potential was assessed as low, with breeding bats not identified as a concern. No classic hibernation sites (e.g. cellars or underground spaces) were recorded within Building A; however, as the identified PRFs include crevice-type

gaps of a kind that can be used by hibernating pipistrelle species, a precautionary approach is recommended for any works undertaken during the hibernation period (October to April inclusive). Given the range of crevice-type PRFs identified (bargeboard and tile gaps, and a ridge gap of unknown extent), the features present were considered capable of supporting crevice-dwelling species such as common pipistrelle, and a minimum of one dusk emergence survey was recommended prior to demolition, in line with the low roost potential rating and the proposed works. Photographic evidence supporting the PRA is presented in Appendix C.

Table 3.2: Field Survey Details and Weather Conditions

Date	Timings (BST)		Notes, Sunset Times	Weather Conditions		
	Start	End		Variable	Start	End
08.07.2026	10.00	12.00	PEA / PRA	Temp (°C)	15.5	16
				Cloud Cover (Oktas)	0	0
				Precipitation	Nil	Nil
				Beaufort Scale	F1	F1
23.08.2026	20.00	21.50	Dusk Activity Survey	Temp (°C)	18.4	13.0
			Sunset: 20.19	Cloud Cover (Oktas)	1	0
				Precipitation	Nil	Nil
				Beaufort Scale	F1	F2

3.3 Habitat and Satellite Imagery — Suitability for Commuting and Foraging

The site's boundary vegetation, comprising a species-poor hedge to the south-west and introduced shrub planting to the south-east, offers low suitability for commuting bats, being fragmented and lacking large, on-site trees. Adjacent linked residential gardens provide limited connectivity to green infrastructure beyond the site, including a small area of amenity greenspace and tree cover immediately to the south, which may function as a minor stepping-stone feature. Pant Cemetery to the west supports more established tree cover and represents a more significant commuting resource at the landscape scale, though it is not directly linked to the site by continuous vegetation. The Nant Morlais, lying to the east beyond intervening housing, is similarly separated from the site by a lack of continuous vegetated linkage, limiting connectivity to low.

The introduced shrub planting provides low to moderate suitability foraging habitat, offering seasonal nectar and invertebrate interest. Amenity grassland, hardstanding, and boundary walls are considered of low to negligible suitability. No water bodies lie on or adjacent to the site; the nearest, a reservoir, lies approximately 500m to the south-east.

3.4 Evidence of Protected Species

A day roost for common pipistrelle was confirmed within Building A during the dusk activity survey undertaken on 23rd August 2026, with a single bat recorded emerging from the upper roof, near the corner between the north-

western and north-eastern elevations. No direct evidence (e.g., droppings) were recorded within the accessible areas of the structure during the Preliminary Roost Assessment; the roost was confirmed on the basis of an observed emergence, recorded independently by surveyors positioned at both the north-western and north-eastern elevations. In addition to the confirmed day roost, the site was used for commuting and foraging by common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, and Whiskered/Brandt's bat.

3.5 Suitability for Hibernating Bats

No cellars or other classic hibernation sites (e.g. cellars or underground spaces) were identified within Building A. As the identified PRFs include crevice-type gaps of a kind that can be used by hibernating pipistrelle species, and pipistrelles are known to hibernate in buildings, a precautionary approach will be applied for any works undertaken during the hibernation period (October to April inclusive).

3.6 Evidence of Nesting Birds

The features identified during the PRA also provide opportunities for nesting birds, and in particular house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), a CAT1 priority species. No active nest was identified during the survey visits.

3.7 Bats — Results of a Preliminary Roost Assessment

Building A has been identified as a structure with one potential roost site that could be used due to its size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat. Locally, habitat connectivity to the wider landscape is limited, though features such as Pant Cemetery and the Nant Morlais corridor may be used by bats for flight paths at the landscape scale.

The initial categorisation of roost potential is made irrespective of species conservation status, which will be fully evaluated if presence is confirmed through further survey effort. Should subsequent bat activity surveys reveal higher levels of bat activity or confirm a roost of greater significance, this initial assessment will require reassessment and potential re-categorisation in accordance with current guidelines.

Following guidelines set out in 'Bat Conservation Trust's Good Practice Guidelines (Collins, J. (Ed.) (2023))', Building A was categorised as being of low risk, with breeding bats not identified as a concern, requiring a minimum of one dusk survey for bats. This represented the minimum recommended number of visits for a structure of this risk category. One dusk activity survey was undertaken, on 23rd August 2026, meeting the minimum recommended survey requirement.

3.8 Activity Survey Recordings

On 23.08.2026, 33 recordings were made of bats emerging from Building A. A single common pipistrelle was recorded emerging from the upper roof, near the corner between the north-western and north-eastern elevations, with the emergence recorded independently by surveyors positioned at the north-western and north-eastern elevations. The remaining recordings comprised common pipistrelle (19 in total, including the emergence), soprano pipistrelle (7), and Whiskered/Brandt's bat (7), predominantly associated with commuting and foraging activity around the building and over the hardstanding and amenity grassland to the south. A minimum of three species were recorded.

A bat activity plan is presented in Appendix F and raw data for observations is presented in Appendix G.

3.9 Roost Characterisation

During one dusk observation, a minimum of one bat was recorded emerging from Building A. The entrance was identified at the upper roof, near the corner between the north-western and north-eastern elevations. Due to the single location used and the single species recorded, this is assessed to be a day roost for common pipistrelle. The emergence was recorded independently by surveyors positioned at the north-western and north-eastern elevations, confirming that this represents a single bat rather than two separate individuals; no evidence of a maternity roost was identified. Bats are often silent on exit from a roost, and these are likely the same species as recorded in the same portion of the structure, i.e., common pipistrelle. Given the range of crevice-type PRFs identified during the PRA.

3.10 Infrared Video Survey

In addition to active monitoring using bat detectors, an infrared camera was deployed during the dusk activity survey as a night vision aid (NVA). Infrared monitoring imagery is presented at Plate A within Appendix E.

3.11 Additional Ecological Constraints (Results)

Visibility of the exterior of the structure was good, and access was available to all areas of the site, allowing a thorough inspection of the majority of potential roosting features. However, full internal inspection was not possible in respect of the cavity associated with the ridge gap identified at the northern corner of the building; this feature could not be directly accessed, and its condition therefore remains unconfirmed. A comprehensive assessment of this feature would require appropriate access equipment and safe working protocols to enable full inspection.

3.12 A Summary of Evidence

Table 3.3: Summary of Evidence

Survey Location	Species (Recorded)	Notes
Building A	Common pipistrelle, Soprano pipistrelle, Whiskered/Brandt's bat	Droppings: No droppings were recorded within the accessible areas of the structure. Live sightings: During one dusk observation, 33 recordings were made by three surveyors, including a single emergence of one common pipistrelle from the upper roof near the north-western/north-eastern corner, recorded independently by surveyors at both elevations. Species identified included common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, and Whiskered/Brandt's bat. Roost Type: Day roost for common pipistrelle

3.13 Impact Assessment

Evidence was recorded for protected species on-site during the survey. Based upon the results from the desktop survey and field survey, the uncompensated re-development potential impacts have been summarised as follows (impacts are assessed in the absence of mitigation):

- The loss of a bat roost(s);
- Direct injury/killing/disturbance of bats;
- A reduction in the Favourable Conservation Status (FCS) of bats in the local area; and
- An offence under relevant UK wildlife legislation, including the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations.

When the nature conservation significance of the site is considered against recognised criteria ('Bat Mitigation Guidelines' (current edition), 'Good Practice Guide: NRW Approach to Bats and Planning October 2015' and 'IUCN Red List of Threatened Species'), the nature conservation significance of the site is assessed to be low, due to the presence of a day roost for a small number (a minimum of one) of common pipistrelle. If unmitigated, the scale of this development is not considered likely to result in significant adverse effects on the wider local bat population, although direct impacts to the confirmed roost and to individual bats will occur without appropriate mitigation. Three species were identified commuting/foraging near Building A: common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, and Whiskered/Brandt's bat (Least Concern – IUCN Red List).

SECTION FOUR: CONCLUSIONS

Summary of Findings

The bat survey of Building A, a former church located in the settlement of Pant, Merthyr Tydfil, comprising a Preliminary Roost Assessment and one dusk activity survey conducted in the summer months of 2026, has provided sufficient evidence to characterise the roost present and assess potential impacts.

A single day roost for common pipistrelle, supporting a minimum of one bat, has been confirmed within Building A, with the emergence located at the upper roof, near the corner between the north-western and north-eastern elevations. No evidence of a maternity roost was identified, and breeding bats are not considered a concern at the site. Given the range of crevice-type PRFs identified, the presence of additional bats roosting elsewhere within the structure cannot be entirely ruled out.

A minimum of three bat species were recorded utilising the immediate area for commuting and foraging activities: common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, and Whiskered/Brandt's bat. A total of 33 bat recordings were made during the single survey night.

The site benefits from limited connectivity to foraging habitat in an otherwise urbanised townscape. Pant Cemetery and the Nant Morlais corridor represent more significant landscape-scale commuting resources, though neither is directly linked to the site by continuous vegetation, and on-site habitat suitability for commuting and foraging bats is generally low.

Conservation Significance

The nature conservation significance of the confirmed roost is assessed as low under current guidance criteria ('Bat Mitigation Guidelines' (current edition), 'Good Practice Guide: NRW Approach to Bats and Planning October 2015' and 'IUCN Red List of Threatened Species'). The site supports a day roost for a small number (a minimum of one) of common pipistrelle, a widespread and abundant species of Least Concern. No maternity roost, hibernation roost, or Annex II species were confirmed at the site.

The surrounding landscape provides limited direct habitat connectivity from the site itself, although Pant Cemetery and the wider upland landscape of Bannau Brycheiniog National Park to the north-west support more significant semi-natural habitat at the landscape scale. No Annex II or other priority bat species were confirmed roosting,

commuting, or foraging at the site; all species recorded (common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, and Whiskered/Brandt's bat) are widespread and of Least Concern.

Legal Implications

The confirmed presence of a roosting bat triggers statutory protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Any proposed development activities affecting Building A will require appropriate licensing and mitigation measures to ensure compliance with legal obligations and to maintain the Favourable Conservation Status of the local bat population.

SECTION FIVE: RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the results of this report, it is recommended that the following conditions be included in the plans:

Roost Identified Recommendation 1 (Applying for an EPS Licence): Building A supports a day roost for a small number of common pipistrelle bats (minimum one). Bats and their breeding sites and resting places are protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2019. Where these species are present and a development proposal is likely to contravene the legal protection, they are afforded, the development may only proceed under licence issued by NRW, having satisfied the requirements set out in the legislation.

A core principle of the proposed mitigation is the replacement of bat roosts within the new residential units. Two replacement roost features are proposed, as detailed below.

Replacement Roost 1: New Residential Units: An integrated bat box, suitable for use by common pipistrelle, should be incorporated into the southern elevation of 50% of the proposed residential units. The box should be positioned to receive full or partial sun, sited at least 3m above ground (ideally 6m), and located away from any source of artificial light in accordance with the sensitive lighting scheme. This measure would provide a replacement roosting resource and deliver a net enhancement for bats at the site.

Replacement Roost 2: New Residential Unit: An integrated bat box, suitable for use by common pipistrelle, should be incorporated into the western elevation of 50% of the proposed residential units, to provide a variety of thermal conditions across the site and support roost-switching behaviour, a recognised feature of pipistrelle ecology. As with Roost 1, the box should be positioned to receive full or partial sun, sited at least 3m above ground (ideally 6m), and located away from any source of artificial light in accordance with the sensitive lighting scheme.

Subject to planning consent being granted by the local planning authority, an EPS licence will be required to facilitate the proposals. The EPS licence is issued under Regulation 55 of the Habitats Regulations by NRW. Once the planning application has been approved, the applicant must appoint a suitably qualified ecologist, known as the Ecological Clerk of Works (ECW), to prepare:

- European Protected Species Licence – Application form
- European Protected Species Licence – Method Statement

The application form and method statement are prepared to detail how the requirements of the Habitats Regulations will be met for managing the effects on bats during the renovation works. In addition, the applicant is also required to collate and pass on to the appointed ecologist the following documents:

- A copy of the 'Local Planning Authority Decision Notice.'
- A copy of either the Delegated Decision report or committee meeting minutes (whichever format was used to approve the planning application).

- Local Planning Authority Consultation Form.
- Architects' drawings containing the location of the bat mitigation measures (detailed above), any proposed external lighting and any proposed changes to the landscaping around the development.

Once the planning application has been approved, it is advised that the ecologist is engaged as early as possible, as there can be a waiting time of approximately 40 working days / 8 calendar weeks for NRW to process the application, in addition to the time it takes to prepare and collate the documents. NRW now charge for issuing an EPS licence, but the exact charge is assessed on a case-by-case basis. It is not possible at this time to indicate what any likely charge might be.

Additional Survey: No further survey is recommended at this time for Building A. If works do not start within two years of the most recent survey (i.e., August 2028), further survey may be necessary to reconfirm the roost status and the suitability of the mitigation measures detailed below.

Timing of Works: No maternity or hibernation roost has been identified at Building A, which is considered to be of low conservation significance (Reason *et al.*, 2025), with breeding bats not a concern. The development is not restricted by time of year, and the project must demonstrate that the local bat population's Favourable Conservation Status will be maintained through appropriate mitigation. As pipistrelle species are known to hibernate in buildings, a precautionary approach will be followed with reference to the wall plate, lintels, window frames and any exposed cavities for any works conducted during the winter months (October to April inclusive). Work during the winter months will be conducted in line with the method statement under the direct supervision of a suitably experienced and licenced person. All works must be undertaken during daylight hours with no use of artificial light at night.

Order of Works: Appropriate works for the development at Building A will include:

- The provision of a temporary roosting location prior to works commencing.
- The capture/exclusion of bats at the start of works.
- The removal of existing roost features prior to demolition.
- The demolition of Building A.
- The construction of the new residential units, incorporating the replacement roost features detailed above.
- Provision of appropriate external lighting.

Capture/Exclusion of Bats & the Start of Work: An Ecological Clerk of Works (ECW) will need to be appointed to advise on the best location for temporary roosts and mitigation features. The ECW will also provide a toolbox talk to the building contractor on the specific requirements relating to bats and will remain on-site during specific works such as the erection of scaffolding, if applicable, and the stripping of bat roost features. The ECW will also be on-site when the roost features are removed prior to demolition, when the replacement roosting features are incorporated into the new residential units, and prior to the strike of scaffolding, to inspect the placement and suitability of the new features.

Once scaffolding has been erected or a cherry-picker/telehandler is on-site, the ECW will attend the site to apply exclusion devices (if required) to the known roosting location, in the form of a one-way gate using acetate sheets, bubble wrap or other effective material. Works may commence the day after, following a toolbox talk given to all site workers by the ECW about bats and bat behaviour. Due to the presence of the known roosting location, the ECW will need to be present during the removal of materials from significant areas of the building, including roofing materials at the eaves. At the same time that the exclusion devices are affixed, two Beaumaris Bat boxes, or similar artificial roosts, should be installed within the curtilage of the owner's property, providing access to adjacent habitat. If necessary, bats can be relocated from here and have access to several suitable buildings within the curtilage of the property.

In general, bats seek warm places, and for this reason boxes should be located where they will receive full/partial sun, although installing features in a variety of orientations will provide a range of climatic conditions. Boxes should be positioned at least 3m (ideally 6m) above ground to prevent disturbance from people and/or predators. The most suitable location is at the southern or eastern elevations, directly below the eaves. Provided the boxes remain unaffected by artificial light, they may be erected on part of the structure that is to remain unaffected by works (including scaffolding), i.e., the boxes will not need to be removed to complete the works and then re-attached. The ECW will advise on suitable locations for the boxes, which may include the installation of a free-standing pole, such as those used with 'Rocket Bat Boxes' (The Nestbox Company).

Works may start with the stripping of the bargeboards and roofing materials, to expose the roost and discourage further roosting activity by bats. This activity must be undertaken with a sympathetic approach, with all roof coverings and bargeboards removed carefully, by hand, i.e., lifted vertically to prevent scraping. Once all roosting features have been removed, works may proceed without supervision by the ECW. In the unlikely event that a bat is discovered when the ECW is not present on-site, all works must cease, and the ECW contacted for advice before proceeding.

The Modification / Replacement of Existing Roosts: As the day roost will be destroyed during demolition of Building A, provision must be made within the new residential development to provide suitable replacement roosting features, as detailed above.

Recommendation 2 (Hibernation potential): As pipistrelle species are known to hibernate in buildings, a precautionary approach will be followed. Any works with regards to Building A during the winter months (October to April inclusive) are to be supervised by a suitably qualified and experienced bat ecologist under the direction of a method statement. This to be included in the Ecological Method Statement (above).

Recommendation 3: A Sensitive Lighting Scheme: To prevent any adverse impact on the potential commuting and foraging habitats for bats post-development, the provision of any permanent lighting on-site will require a sensitive lighting scheme. A lighting plan for the site must be functional and directional only, kept to a minimum, and service only the public areas of the proposed development (as required for safety and security). It must be achieved using baffles and screens, if necessary, to ensure no light spill on any retained or planted vegetation (including off-site vegetation, where there is a potential to impact animals using nearby habitat features). The sensitive lighting scheme must follow advice detailed in 'Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK: Technical Guidance Note 08/23' (2023) (Appendix H). No external lighting is to be installed along the northern or western boundary of the site to prevent adverse impacts on the adjacent habitat features. Between March and September (inclusive), external lighting during the development period is to be limited to that which is necessary for safety and security, kept to a minimum, and where possible, works restricted to daylight hours. This is required to prevent incidental impacts on commuting and foraging bats at the site.

Recommendation 4 (Nesting Birds): All nesting birds, their chicks, eggs and active nests are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). If a nest is discovered during works and is active, it must be left undisturbed until all chicks have fledged. If any features associated with nesting birds require alteration during the bird breeding season, a further inspection by a suitably qualified ecologist is required no more than 24 hours before this process commences. If an active nest is found during a site inspection, an exclusion zone around the nest will be established to preserve this feature until the chicks have fledged. To compensate for the loss of nesting bird habitat, an appropriate number of bird boxes must be installed on nearby trees or structures before site operations have been completed; precise specifications and numbers will be advised once final layout designs have been finalised, though suitable models will be of woodcrete construction to ensure longevity. These measures will allow the development to conform to current protective legislation as laid out in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (plus amendments).

Recommendation 5 (Enhancement features): Implementation of the enhancement features for net-gain biodiversity as outlined in the green infrastructure statement, further detailed in Section Six of this report.

SECTION SIX: BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT

In accordance with the provision of Chapter 6 of 'Planning Policy Wales' (Distinctive and Natural Places) and Local Planning Policy, biodiversity enhancement measures should be incorporated into the landscaping scheme of any proposed works to maximise the ecological value of the site.

Enhancement Features: Under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, public authorities (including local councils and the National Parks) 'must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of functions in relation to Wales, and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems, so far as consistent with the proper exercise of those functions.' This replaces the section 40 duty in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act 2006), in relation to Wales, which states that 'all public authorities have a statutory duty to conserve biodiversity in all of their functions.'

Local authorities are legally required to make efforts to protect and enhance wildlife and its habitat, and this is executed, in part, through the requirement of an ecological assessment for planned development sites. We therefore recommend the following principles of design should be followed.

Enhancement for Bats: In line with the National Planning Policy Framework, the development should aim to enhance the site for bats. One Integrated Bat Box, or similar artificial roost, should be installed on the southern or western aspect of each proposed new residential unit, with the purpose of providing roosting habitat for species such as pipistrelle. In general, bats seek warm places, and for this reason boxes should be located where they will receive full/partial sun, although installing features in a variety of orientations will provide a range of climatic conditions. Position boxes at least 3m (ideally 6m) above ground to prevent disturbance from people and/or predators. The most suitable location is at the southern elevation, directly below the eaves.

Enhancement for Birds: This area is to be enhanced to provide additional opportunities for breeding birds. One Pino Build-in Swift Box, or similar, should be attached to the northern/eastern aspect of each proposed new residential unit. The nesting box must be of a woodcrete construction to ensure longevity.

Enhancement for Hedgehogs: To maintain and enhance connectivity for hedgehogs, one Eco Hedgehog Hole Plate, or similar (approximately 13cm × 13cm), will be incorporated at the base of each new boundary fence.

Botanical Enhancements (Planting and Landscaping)

To mitigate for the potential loss of trees and scrub, maintain connectivity, and increase biodiversity, a native, wildlife-friendly hedge will be planted at the boundary of the site to maintain connectivity and provide opportunities for shelter and foraging, together with native shrubs such as Downy Birch (*Betula pubescens*), Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), and Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) incorporated within landscaped areas. For hedgerow planting, a double-row arrangement is recommended, with rows at least 40cm apart and 4–6 plants per metre, reflecting the importance of hedgerows for UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority species.

To provide foraging habitat for bats, night-scented, nectar-rich planting should be incorporated to support foraging invertebrates and, in turn, foraging bats. Recommended species include Common Evening Primrose (*Oenothera biennis*), a hardy biennial with yellow flowers that open at sunset, releasing a sweet fragrance that acts as a beacon for moths; Night-Scented Stock (*Matthiola longipetala*), a traditional British cottage garden species releasing an evening aroma; and Nicotiana (*Nicotiana glauca*), a jasmine-scented ornamental tobacco species with pale flowers that stand out under moonlight.

Where any new planting is introduced, vigilance should be maintained for the introduction or spread of invasive non-native species, and any such occurrences should be reported and managed appropriately.

SECTION SEVEN: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Encountering a Protected Species During Works

If at any point during works a protected species is encountered on-site, it is essential that all work is to cease and that a suitably experienced ecologist is contacted for advice.

Expiration of This Report

This report is valid for two years. In the event that works do not start within two years of the survey date (i.e., August 2028) further survey and assessment will be necessary to qualify the results of this report and its recommendations.

REFERENCES

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South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (SEWBRc). (2026). *Biodiversity data search, reference 0267-418*. Cardiff: SEWBRc.

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Appendix A: Site Location

Date: September 2026
Produced by: Little Wing Ecology
Our Reference: LT470/a
Author: N S Aldridge

Legend

- Site location



QGIS Development Team, <2026>. QGIS Geographic Information System. Open-Source Geospatial Foundation Project.

Appendix B: A Site Plan

Date: September 2026
Produced by: Little Wing Ecology (CYF)
Our Reference: LT470/a
Author: N S Aldridge

Legend

- Building
- Boundary



QGIS Development Team, <2026>. QGIS Geographic System. Open-Source eospatal Foundation Project.

Appendix C: Site Photography



Building A (Former Church): Exterior – North-east elevation (left) and north-west elevation (right) – Late 1970s, block and brick-built church with cement and trussed roof construction. Bargeboards are uPVC, the building has cement roof and ridge tiles, and uPVC rainwater goods. The building is well maintained, and materials are in a good condition.



Building A (Former Church): Exterior – South-east elevation – Late 1970s, block and brick-built church with cement and trussed roof construction. Bargeboards are uPVC, the building has composite slate cement roof tiles, concrete ridge tiles and uPVC rainwater goods. The building is well maintained, and materials are in a good condition.



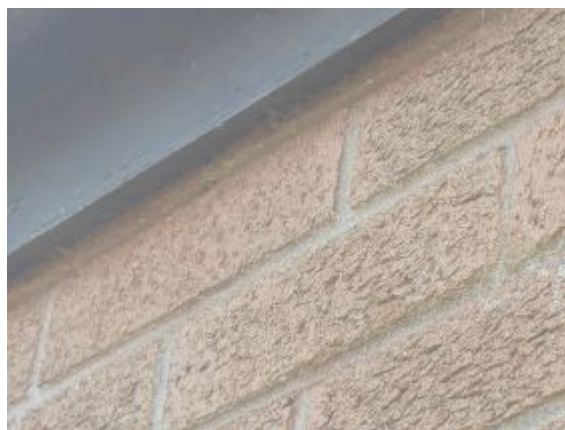
Building A (Former Church): Exterior – South-eastern elevation – minor lifted tiles likely with gaps too small to support occupation but bats.



Building A (Former Church): Exterior – North-eastern elevation – Minor gaps between uPVC Bargeboards and brick surface likely too small to support occupation but bats.



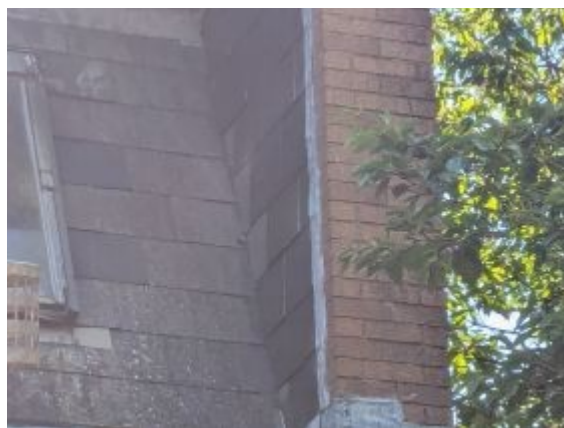
Building A (Former Church): Exterior – South-eastern elevation – Minor gaps between uPVC Bargeboards and brick surface likely too small to support occupation but bats.



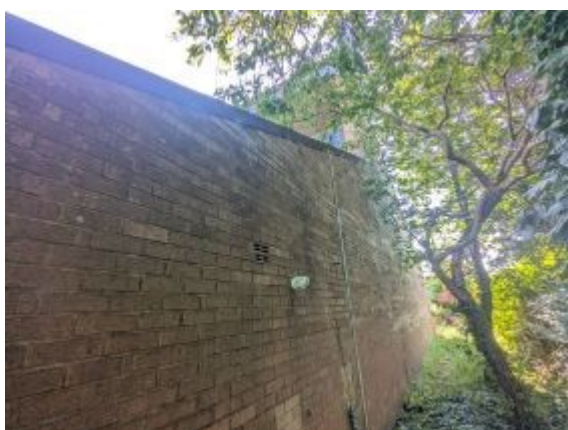
Building A (Former Church): Exterior – South-eastern elevation – Minor gaps between uPVC Bargeboards and brick surface likely too small to support occupation but bats.



Building A (Former Church): Exterior - South-western elevation – Minor gaps between uPVC Bargeboards and brick surface likely too small to support occupation but bats.



Building A (Former Church): Exterior - North-western elevation – minor lifted tiles likely with gaps too small to support occupation but bats.



Building A (Former Church): Exterior - South-western elevation – Minor gaps between uPVC Bargeboards



Building A (Former Church): Exterior - PRFs – Northern corner – Gap identified under hipped ridge providing a

and brick surface likely too small to support occupation but bats.	potential access point to a cavity of unknown proportions.
	
Building A (Former Church): Interior – Storage space - No evidence of occupation by bats. No droppings.	Building A (Former Church): Interior – Trussed roof present. A breathable membrane is present throughout the structure suggesting roof renewal has taken place over the past 30 years. PRFs - Multiple gaps in structural materials including blockwork and exposed wall plate. No evidence of occupation by bats. No droppings. No evidence to suggest occupation by maternity roost was encountered.
	
Building A (Former Church): Interior – Trussed roof space. Access available to whole of loft space. No evidence of occupation by bats. No droppings. No evidence to suggest occupation by maternity roost was encountered.	Building A (Former Church): Interior – Trussed roof space. Access available to whole of loft space. No evidence of occupation by bats. No droppings. No evidence to suggest occupation by maternity roost was encountered.

Appendix D: Meet our Survey Team

Nic Aldridge (NA) is an ecologist with Little Wing Ecology and the author of this report. He is a licensed bat worker (S091427/1) with over 20 years' experience in education and conservation and over eight years' experience surveying built-structures, open habitats, and woodlands for bats. Following a degree in Botany and Zoology, Nic completed an MSc in Wildlife Management, Conservation and Control at the University of Reading. He has practical experience in field-based research with a focus on invertebrate and vegetation diversity and producing phase 1 habitat surveys and habitat management plans. He is experienced in hand netting common pipistrelle and soprano pipistrelle from maternity roosts, has carried out the ringing of Daubenton's bats as part of a multi-year project on the species and has undertaken monitoring work on several important lesser horseshoe bat roosts. Nic writes EPS licence applications, ecological reports and provides Ecological Clerk of Works services. He has attended courses with the Bat Conservation Trust to improve his knowledge and skills and has led voluntary projects to develop habitats and collect species data. Nic founded Little Wing Ecology in 2021 as a not-for-profit, to use the skills and expertise of an ecological consultancy to work with the local community, support local conservation projects and provide training and education for the next generation of ecologists.
Elizabeth Winstanley (LW) is a Nature Recovery Officer with a large Conservation Organisation, and a wildlife surveyor with Little Wing Ecology. She has over ten years' experience working in practical conservation. Following a degree in Outdoor Education, Liz volunteered with The Wildlife Trust before taking on her current responsibilities. She has held her current position since 2015. During this time, Liz has undertaken numerous surveys and monitoring projects, including work on butterfly transects, phase 1 habitat surveys, reptile and amphibian surveys, upland monitoring, BTO bird box round, intermediate tree survey and inspection, dormouse training and recording, bumblebee conservation – bee walks and many more. Currently Liz is responsible for the management of seven Nature Reserves including four SSSIs. Liz has also attended several training sessions to develop her knowledge, understanding and practical skills in bat monitoring and bat ecology.
Tracey Cotterell (TC) is employed by the NHS as a Porter and a wildlife surveyor with Little Wing Ecology. Tracey has a lifelong love of nature and enjoys spending her spare time volunteering with organisations such as The Welsh Wildlife Trusts, Blaenavon Heritage and the TRF (Trail Riders Fellowship). She enjoys being outdoors, whether in a working capacity or for personal interest such as running, riding, or surfing. She has volunteered throughout her life in roles as varied as an NHS First Responder, to working for the Wildlife Trust. During this time, she has gained skills in volunteering with environmental conservation matters, and through being a signaller in a search and rescue team. Tracey enjoys the responsibility of conserving the surrounding environment, learning, and helping to regulate human activities to minimise direct and indirect negative impacts on both flora and fauna. Tracey has also attended several training sessions to develop her knowledge, understanding and practical skills in bat monitoring and bat ecology.
Yvette Amos (YA) is a wildlife surveyor with Little Wing Ecology. She has a lifelong love of nature and enjoys spending her spare time and vacations centred around nature and wildlife focused destinations. Yvette enjoys being outdoors, where she expresses her love of photography along with her interest in the natural world. She is experienced in data collection at a high level, having formerly worked for Cardiff University, School of Social Sciences and Computer Science. Yvette has attended several training sessions to develop her knowledge, understanding and practical skills in bat monitoring and bat ecology and is dedicated to gaining experience in nature conservation, wildlife management and ecology.
Richard Farr (RF) is a wildlife surveyor with Little Wing Ecology. Richard has a life-long love of nature and has previously worked with the Gwent Wildlife Trust, where he gained a wide set of practical skills and experiences which have developed his knowledge and understanding of ecology and conservation at a range of the Trust's Local Nature Reserves. He has recently completed his bachelor's degree in ecology and conservation science at the University of the West of England (UWE), which has allowed him to develop knowledge and skills in numerous areas including field/survey techniques, geographical information systems, consultancy, habitat management/identification, data collection, data analysis using software such as RStudio. He has attended multiple training sessions to further develop skills and knowledge in bat monitoring, bat ecology, conducting surveys and associated reports.
Libby Cotterell (LC) is a full-time student and a wildlife surveyor with Little Wing Ecology. She has a lifelong love of nature and the outdoors and enjoys learning new skills and engaging in practical work, in order to have a positive impact on local conservation issues. Libby has attended several training sessions with Little Wing Ecology to develop her knowledge, understanding and practical skills in bat monitoring and bat ecology.
Elise Winstanley (ELW) is a full-time student and a wildlife surveyor with Little Wing Ecology. She previously ran a college newspaper and is committed to community engagement - both in her academic life and in the local community, as shown by her willingness to integrate herself into the towns of both Ebbw Vale and Lampeter. Elise is currently studying creative writing and has a keen interest in nature and habitat preservation. She has attended several training sessions with Little Wing Ecology to develop her knowledge, understanding and practical skills in bat monitoring and bat ecology.
Nadine Morgan (NM) is a County Ecologist with a Local Authority and wildlife surveyor with Little Wing Ecology, with over 15 years' experience of working in conservation. Following a degree in Physical Geography, Nadine volunteered with a Wildlife Trust and with the Countryside Team in a Local Authority before becoming employed in a Local Authority as a Biodiversity Officer. She held this position since 2010 before taking on the role of County Ecologist in 2020 and has held this position since. She has been a Full member of CIEEM since 2022. During this time responsibilities have included, delivering environmental education, working with community groups, carrying out practical conservation on several Local Nature Reserves, conducting ecological surveys on Phase 1 Habitats, reptile & amphibian, curlew monitoring and also bat surveys. The results of surveys have been used to inform the writing of ecological management plans for several sites. Nadine has attended many ecological training sessions to enhance her knowledge and skills.
Sam Haycock (SH) is a founding director of Little Wing Ecology and a commercial assurance executive with a national company. Sam has over 20 years' experience in the education sector and four years' experience managing two rural enterprise companies, of which she was a director for three years. She brings a broad range of interdisciplinary skills to her role at Little Wing Ecology where she has responsibility for editing, reviewing, data management and finances. In 2021, Sam became a founding director of Little Wing Ecology, as a social enterprise, that aims to use the skills and expertise of an ecological consultancy, to work with the local community, support local conservation projects and provide training and education for the next generation of ecologists and conservationists.

Appendix E: Infrared Monitoring (NVA Image Quality)

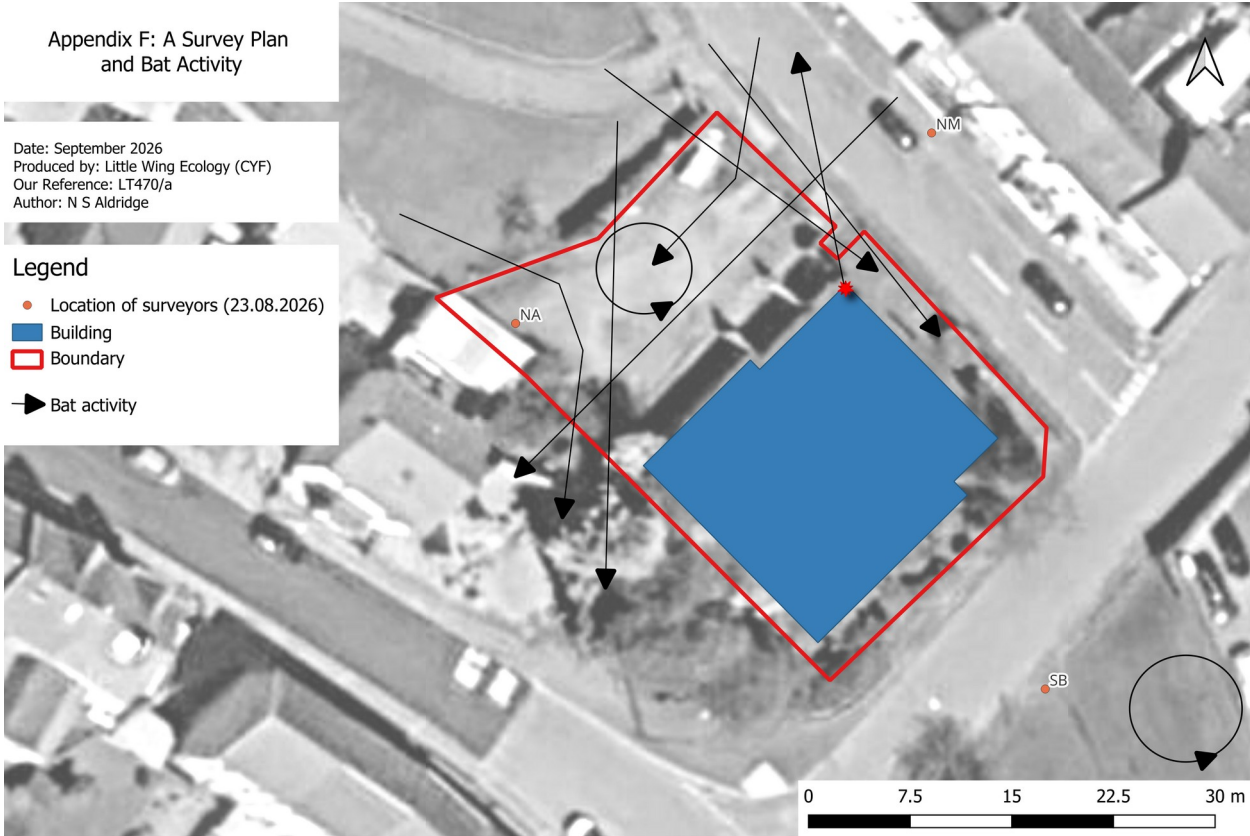


Appendix F: A Survey Plan
and Bat Activity

Date: September 2026
Produced by: Little Wing Ecology (CYF)
Our Reference: LT470/a
Author: N S Aldridge

Legend

- Location of surveyors (23.08.2026)
- Building
- Boundary
- Bat activity



QGIS Development Team, <2026>. QGIS Geographic System. Open-Source eospacial Foundation Project.

Appendix G: Activity Survey – Recordings (Raw data)

DATE	Time (start)	Time (end)	SPECIES (COMMON)	No	Surveyor's Position	OBSERVER'S NAME	COMMENT	CLASS OF SITE
23.08.2026	20.46	20.46	Common pipistrelle	1	NW	Nic Aldridge	Emergence from the upper roof, near the corner between the north-western and north-eastern elevation.	Day roost
23.08.2026	20.52	20.59	Common pipistrelle	2	NW	Nic Aldridge	Foraging around hard standing	Foraging
23.08.2026	20.54	21.34	Common pipistrelle	3	NW	Nic Aldridge	Recorded - not observed	
23.08.2026	20.48	21.04	Soprano pipistrelle	1	NW	Nic Aldridge	Foraging around hard standing	Foraging
23.08.2026	21.04	21.01	Soprano pipistrelle	3	NW	Nic Aldridge	Commuting across the hardstanding	Commuting
23.08.2026	20.54	21.09	Whiskered/Brandt's	1	NW	Nic Aldridge	Commuting north to south past the building	Commuting
23.08.2026	21.09	21.10	Whiskered/Brandt's	1	NW	Nic Aldridge	Recorded - not observed	
23.08.2026	20.45	20.45	Common pipistrelle	1	NE	Nadine Morgan	Emergence from the upper roof, near the corner between the north-western and north-eastern elevation.	Day roost
23.08.2026	20.39	21.35	Common pipistrelle	7	NE	Nadine Morgan	Recorded - not observed	
23.08.2026	20.59	21.05	Whiskered/Brandt's	2	NE	Nadine Morgan	Commuting north to south along the street	Commuting
23.08.2026	21.09	21.20	Whiskered/Brandt's	3	NE	Nadine Morgan	Recorded - not observed	
23.08.2026	20.51	20.51	Common pipistrelle	1	South	Sheryl Beck	Foraging over amenity grassland to the south	Foraging
23.08.2026	21.04	21.39	Common pipistrelle	4	South	Sheryl Beck	Recorded - not observed	
23.08.2026	20.54	20.54	Soprano pipistrelle	1	South	Sheryl Beck	Foraging over amenity grassland to the south	Foraging
23.08.2026	21.00	21.00	Soprano pipistrelle	1	South	Sheryl Beck	Commuting over amenity grassland to the south	Commuting
23.08.2026	20.58	20.58	Soprano pipistrelle	1	South	Sheryl Beck	Recorded - not observed	

Appendix H: Bat Friendly Lighting Scheme

Bat sensitive lighting schemes must follow advice details in 'Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK: Technical Guidance Note 08/23' (2023), available here: <https://www.bats.org.uk/news/2023/08/bats-and-artificial-lighting-at-night-ilp-guidance-note-update-released>

A lighting plan is required to prevent any adverse impact upon the potential roosting, commuting and foraging habitats of bats adjacent to the Site (post development), specifically on the nearby mature trees. Lighting for the site must be functional and directional only and kept to a minimum, servicing the public areas of the proposed development (as required for safety and security). It must be achieved using baffles and screens, if necessary, to ensure no light spill on any retained or planted vegetation (including off-site vegetation - where there is a potential to impact animals using the nearby habitat features).

- A sensitive lighting scheme is recommended and must be created. The sensitive lighting scheme must follow advice detailed in 'Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK: Technical Guidance Note 08/23' (2023) and comprise of:
- Light fixtures, filaments, light spill and artificial light must be directed away from bat roost entrances, both existing and those to be created as part of the mitigation;
- Luminaries are to be LED only, due to their sharp cut-off, lower intensity, good colour rendition and dimming capability. Luminaires must have a warm white spectrum (ideally <2700 Kelvins), reducing the blue light component and increasing the red-light component;
- Luminaries must feature peak wavelength highs of 550nm to avoid the component of light most disturbing to bats;
- Heights of fixtures must be carefully considered to minimise light spill. Only luminaries with an upward light ratio of 0% and with good optical control must be used;
- Luminaries must always be mounted on the horizontal, i.e., no upward tilt;
- Any external security lighting must be set on motion sensors and short (15 second) timers;
- As a last resort, accessories such as baffles, hoods or louvres must also be used, with light directed away from any natural features and must not encroach outside the Site boundaries, particularly the surrounding trees, hedgerows, and other vegetation in the landscape.

Appendix I: Biodiversity Enhancement Features

Category	Product / Feature / Information	Availability
Bats	Integrated Eco Bat Box	https://www.nestbox.co.uk/products/integrated-eco-bat-box
Bats	Beaumaris Bat Box	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/beaumaris-bat-box.html?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjw65-zBhBkEiwAjqRMLWbfTavFlgGTV2ry0OGQEWnqN0eVseleG460NUffHmi6NAF2TcGZhoCsKEQAvD_BwE
Bats	Bat Access Tiles: Slate	https://beddoesproducts.com/
Bats	Bat Access Tiles: Terracotta	https://spicertiles.co.uk/product/bat-access-tiles/
Bats	F2 Schwegler Bat Box	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/bat-box-45.html
Bats	2FN Schwegler Bat Box	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/bat-box-55.html
Bats	Eco Rocket Bat Box (Pole mounted)	https://www.nestbox.co.uk/products/eco-rocket-bat-box
Bats	Eco Kent Bat Box	https://www.nhbs.com/eco-kent-bat-box
Birds	1SP Schwegler Sparrow Terrace	https://www.nhbs.com/1sp-schwegler-sparrow-terrace
Birds	No10 Schwegler Swallow Nest	https://www.nhbs.com/no-10-schwegler-swallow-nest?bkfno=174809&ca_id=1495&adlocale=uk&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCOjw8MG1BhCoARIsAHxSiQn8rz11Yabuq80zjBuXHmQn9XgWQgdwqh6TCQceJk6cZwCXiJN-ezAaAnb9EALw_wcB
Birds	Schwegler 2m nest box 32mm red	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/schwegler-2m-nest-box-32mm-red.html
Birds	Vivara Pro Seville 32mm WoodStone Nest Box	https://www.nhbs.com/vivara-pro-seville-32mm-woodstone-nest-box?bkfno=234956&ca_id=1495&adlocale=uk&gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjw1emzBhB8EiwAHwZZxQ3ycKKX1WfX_vPwy4H0tmx0d8U47PSFg_oRKWOUi01vGrNPv2budhoC43AQAvD_BwE
Birds	B1 Schwegler Nest Box	www.nhbs.com
Birds	2H Schwegler Open-fronted Boxes	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/wildlife-nest-boxes/bat-boxes/open-front-bird-box.html?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCOjAvP-6BhDyARIsAJ3uv7aypY-bcsAx5YH2rJcAcIpCz_NWr9076Gf_H17_TlvvuoRxUQ51BEwaAkWaEALw_wcB
Birds	Bilbao Nest Box	www.wildcare.co.uk
Botany: Seeds	Species-rich Neutral Grassland (Lawn)	https://www.cumbriawildflowers.co.uk/habitats/neutralhaymeadowmix
Botany: Seeds	Native Woodland Under-canopy Mix: Wildflowers and Native Woodland Under-canopy Mix: Grasses	https://www.pitchcare.com/products/shade-hedgerow-woodland-wildflower?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAiA3JCvBhA8EiwA4kujZoajG-WP6tDAjs71P4QXzKHYYHzOnsDjaD0cfr0j9fwOW1kwRX0LdLxoCqp8QAvD_BwE
Botany: Seeds	Seed Mix: Pond Edge	https://britishpondplants.co.uk/products/pond-edge-seed-mix#:~:text=Pond%20Edge%20Seed%20Mix&text=The%20first%20consists%20of%2030,the%20wildflowers%20at%20only%201g.
Botany: Saplings	Traditional hedgerow mix	https://hedgelink.org.uk/hedgerows/hedgerow-biodiversity/
Botany: Trees	Standard Downy Birch Tree	https://www.tree-shop.co.uk/product/downy-birch-betula-pubesces/
Botany: Trees	Standard Rowan	https://www.ashridgetrees.co.uk/p/garden-trees/sorbus/aucuparia-mountain-ash-rowan
Botany: Trees	Standard Hazel	https://shop.woodlandtrust.org.uk/hazel
Botany: Trees	Standard Sessile Oak	https://www.ashridgetrees.co.uk/p/garden-trees/oak-quercus/petraea-sessile?utm_campaign=20731047289&utm_medium=cpc&utm_source=google&utm_content=&utm_term=&utm_marketing_tactic=20731047289&utm_creative_format=&utm_source_platform=g_x&gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAiA8Lu9BhA8EiwAag16bwJvcGfDm5rQgcflzRTVAgPmF9yIL1YwpnOZDmt8OCfXJV0frx8qoBoCX18QAvD_BwE
Ponds	Froglife: Just Add Water: How to Build a Wildlife Pond	https://www.froglife.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/JAW2014-for-printing-HLF1.pdf
Invertebrates	RSPB: Wildlife Friendly Compost Heap	https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/nature-on-your-doorstep/garden-activities/how-to-start-composting/?

		channel=paidsearch&gclid=Cj0KCQjwwiSIBhD6ARIsAESamp6-9xxJryl2FHYIveETaKoRcR-IXSZkFv6N749eOOlwGZ4ix6F7-caAjckEALw_wcB&gclsrc=aw.ds
Invertebrates	Bee Bricks	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/wildlife-nest-boxes/insect-habitat/solitary-insects/greenblue-bee-brick.html?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjw1emzBhB8EiwAHwZZxQhTPLq1vLIUmTcvOq5w_jD941qKkCx5Nsnlh4NVwijJe7wxAnkazhoCggUQAyD_BwE
Invertebrates	Schwegler Clay and Reed Insect Nest	www.nhbs.com
Habitat management	Plantlife: Managing a Small Meadow for Wildlife	https://meadows.plantlife.org.uk/3-maintaining-meadows/managing-meadows-of-all-sizes-with-mowing/
Habitat management	Woodland Trust: How to Plant a Tree	https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/advice/how-to-plant/
Hedgehogs	Vivara Pro WoodStone Hedgehog House	https://www.wildcare.co.uk/wildlife-nest-boxes/other-mammal-nest-boxes/hedgehogs/woodstone-hedgehog-house-10506.html?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAiA9bq6BhAKEiwAH6bgoG61jaD7qZxLkHiCns8zdc5xCwnaFe-yOFvsp_pt2WZgavkUqzftthoCjdMQAvD_BwE
Hedgehogs	Eco Hedgehog Hole Plate	https://www.nestbox.co.uk/products/eco-hedgehog-hole-plate?_pos=2&_sid=cfc475fd2&_ss=r
Amphibians	An Amphibian Hibernacula: English Nature: Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines.	https://www.froglife.org/
Planting for bats	Common Evening Primrose (<i>Oenothera biennis</i>): A hardy biennial with yellow flowers that pop open at sunset, letting off a sweet fragrance that acts as a beacon for moths.	https://www.naturescape.co.uk/product/evening-primrose/
Planting for bats	Night-Scented Stock (<i>Matthiola longipetala</i>): An absolute classic for the traditional British cottage garden, releasing an incredible evening aroma.	https://www.chilternseeds.co.uk/item/848/matthiola-longipetala-seeds?srsltid=AfmBOorMGfMJaf0-0gkxFj5a_sjP03rXaWl2T6z3w2tX_Bli1_1xj3h
Planting for bats	Nicotiana (<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>): Jasmine-scented ornamental tobacco plants with pale flowers that stand out under pale moonlight.	https://www.chilternseeds.co.uk/item/898/nicotiana-glauca-sensation-mixed-colours-seeds?srsltid=AfmBOorFZSz-EB2T8fOUaLsT1qFrW1kmcc01PzWOfIF3cNKGXdBdBC3W

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Mae Little Wing Ecology (CYF) wedi paratoi'r Adroddiad hwn at ddefnydd y Cleient neu ei Asiantau uchod yn unig yn unol â'n telerau busnes, y cyflawnwyd ein gwasanaethau oddi tanynt. Ni roddir unrhyw warant arall, wedi'i mynegi neu ei hawgrymu, ynghylch y cyngor proffesiynol sydd wedi'i gynnwys yn yr Adroddiad hwn nac unrhyw wasanaethau eraill a ddarperir gennym ni. Ni all unrhyw barti arall ddibynnu ar yr Adroddiad hwn heb gytundeb ysgrifenedig penodol ymlaen llaw gan Little Wing Ecology (CYF).

Mae'r asesiadau a wnaed yn rhagdybio y bydd y safle(oedd) a'r cyfleusterau yn parhau i gael eu defnyddio i'w pwrpas presennol heb newid sylweddol. Mae'r casgliadau a'r argymhellion yn yr Adroddiad hwn yn seiliedig ar wybodaeth a ddarparwyd gan eraill ac ar y dybiaeth bod yr holl wybodaeth berthnasol wedi'i darparu gan y partïon hynny y gofynnwyd amdani. Nid yw gwybodaeth a gafwyd gan drydydd partïon wedi'i dilysu'n annibynnol gan Little Wing Ecology (CYF).

Cynhyrchwyd gan:	Little Wing Ecology (CYF) (Cwmni Di-elw Cyfyngedig trwy Warant)
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Cyfeiriad:	24 Stryd Alma, Bryn-mawr, Blaenau Gwent, NP23 4DY
E-bost:	nic@littlewingecology.cymru
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About Us

Little Wing Ecology is a not-for-profit ecological consultancy serving the South Wales Valleys and beyond. We combine professional expertise with community impact, delivering high-quality ecological services while reinvesting in local nature and people.

We are a small ecological consultancy dedicated to providing accessible and pragmatic services that uphold the highest standards of conservation.

Our Services

Survey and Assessment Services:

- Preliminary Ecological Appraisals and Roost Assessments
- Comprehensive bat, reptile, and eDNA surveys
- European Protected Species License Applications

Planning and Implementation Support:

- Mitigation planning and Green Infrastructure Statements
- On-site development support services

Our Mission

As a Consultancy, we use our experience, expertise, and commitment to conservation to provide an accessible and pragmatic service that upholds the highest standards of environmental protection.

As a Not-for-Profit Social Enterprise, we reinvest our profits to create lasting positive change. We collaborate with valleys communities, conservation groups, local authorities, and partners to advance our three core commitments:

A. Helping Nature

We champion biodiversity recovery and resilience through:

- Habitat restoration and enhancement initiatives
- Designing built environments that work with wildlife
- Supporting long-term conservation monitoring that informs future protection efforts

B. Working with People

We believe in empowering communities through meaningful engagement with nature:

- Creating employment, training and volunteer pathways that build ecological skills and confidence
- Fostering the next generation of conservation champions
- Strengthening the connection between people and their natural environment

C. Supporting Communities

We invest in the places and people we serve:

- Reinvesting locally in nature-positive projects and community development
- Promoting environmental education that builds understanding and stewardship
- Providing expertise to support worthwhile causes and community-led initiatives

Our Vision: A thriving South Wales Valleys where nature and communities flourish together, supported by practical conservation action and shared environmental stewardship.

Adroddiad Arolwg gan



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ECOLOGY

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