

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: Caroline Pulley
From: Matt Davies (Ecologist)
Ext: 5278
Memo number: 3
Date of previous memo: 31/10/2022
Date: 23/11/2022

SUBJECT: P/22/0083 | Proposed barn conversion to form a residential dwelling | Tyla-Glas Farm Craig Y Hendre Bedlinog Treharris CF46 6SN

Document supplied in connection with the above application:

1. Tyla-Glas Farm, Bedlinog, Merthyr Tydfil. Bat Survey, Issue 1, **Version B**. October 2022. Be Ecological Ltd [***dated 01/11/22***]

Comments

- o More detail needs to be added to the table on page 13 of Document 1 (i.e., BLE calls recorded on the static detector) – specifically regarding the timings of the calls. When were the bat(s) using the space and what can be inferred regarding the numbers of bats and the type of roost present? How best to characterise the roost based on the information available?

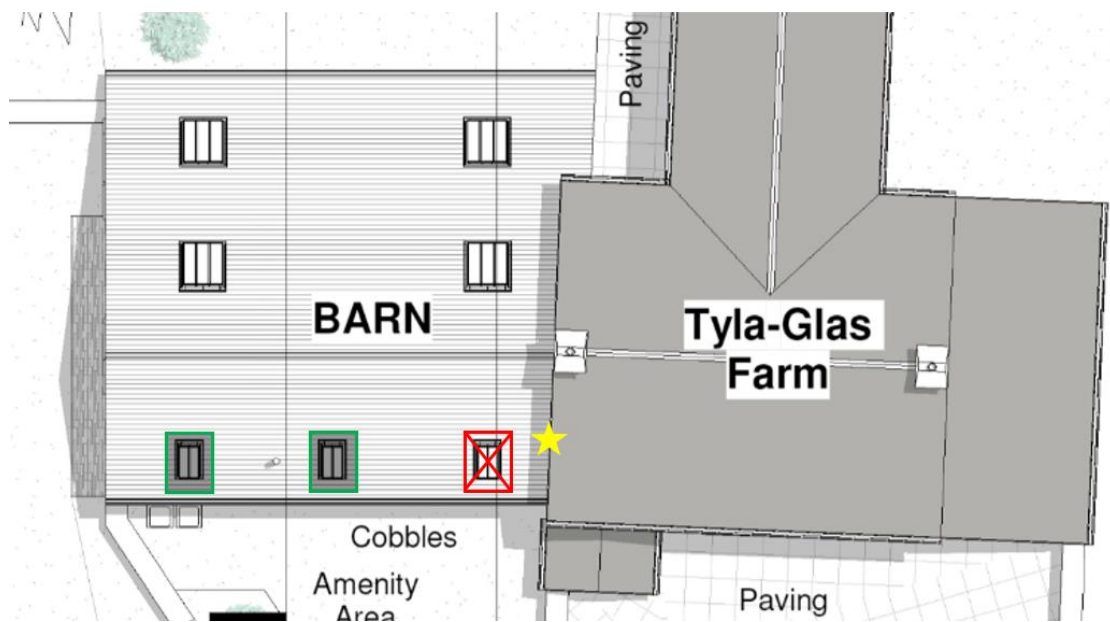
Other things to consider re BLE:

- 113 call sequences on a single night, for example, is not impossible for a single individual, but this could equally perhaps indicate higher numbers using the barn.
- BLE are also known to use crevices, so they may not have been visible (if present) when the barn was inspected during the bat activity survey work.
- No cameras (infra-red and thermal imaging) were used on the survey. This would make it more likely that BLE could be missed emerging from the barn given their relatively later emergence times and quiet calls.
- o There is some discrepancy regarding the numbers of common pipistrelles within the [likely] maternity roost, accessed under the bargeboard of the adjoining farmhouse (on the SW gable end):
 - Page 15 (4.6.1) and page 17 (4.7.2 & Conclusion) – a total of 35 common pipistrelles were seen to emerge from the farmhouse.
 - Page 18 (5.1) – here, only 23 common pipistrelles are referred to?

Corrections need to be made as appropriate.

- o A change in design regarding the roof lights is required. Document 1 suggests relocation of the roof lights on the south eastern elevation or the addition of

electric blinds that close at dusk. Electric blinds with no other mitigation will not be acceptable as these can fail or can be overridden. The common pipistrelle roost entrance on the south western gable end of the farmhouse is shown on the drawing below (yellow star). The best solution therefore, would be to remove the roof light on the south eastern pitch closest to the roost entrance (crossed in red). Low transmission glazing treatments will then be used for the remaining roof lights on the south eastern pitch (green boxes). NB light transmission through 'tinted' glass can be reduced with specially coated materials, similar to blackout glass or tinted windows, which can reduce visible light transmittance.



- Timings of works must avoid the most vulnerable times for bats (maternity season and the hibernation season), either in the autumn (October/November) or the spring (March/April).
- Drawings as submitted do not currently show any ecological mitigation/compensation or enhancement features (e.g., the bat loft space). These will need to be added. Also, the bird boxes/cups need to be marked on appropriate drawings for the scheme.
- Statement required regarding existing vegetation/trees and their importance for bat flight lines. Existing trees etc must therefore remain in place and be kept dark. Dark flight lines are also required for bat access to bat features post development. If there is to be external lighting, a lighting plan will be required.
- Page 22, point 8 refers to inspection of crevices. It should be stressed that this means wherever they occur within the structure (i.e., both externally and internally).
- Appendix A – not all images have captions and there are x2 Plate 11s on Page 29. The caption of the first Plate 11 may need amendment. It is hard to see a

dropping in the bottom left hand corner of the image? Perhaps the dropping could be circled?