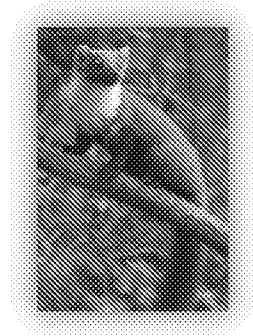


New Forest Ecological Consultants

Martin and Julia Noble

Specialists in Reptile, Amphibian and Mammal Surveys



REPORT

Report for Ms Dawn Appleton
Henry Adams Planning Ltd
Rowan House
Baffins Lane
Chichester
West Sussex PO19 1UA

Subject Phase 1 Biodiversity Survey

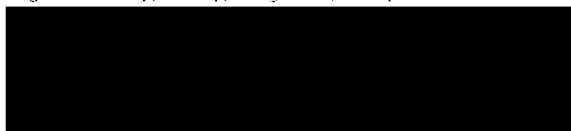
Address of Survey Land at :-
43 & 45 Pevensey Road
Bognor Regis
West Sussex PO21 5NY

Planning Authority West Sussex District Council

Planning Reference No. None at present

Date of Report 9 August 2017

Keepers Cottage, Holmsley, Burley, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 4HY



BIODIVERSITY CHECKLIST

New Forest Ecological Consultants

The following three pages comprise a tabulated version of the checklist required by Hampshire Local Planning Authorities to accompany any planning application

Date of survey	27	June	2017
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Map Reference	SU	922	998
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Site Address

Land at :-
43 & 45 Pevensey Road
Bognor Regis
West Sussex PO21 5NY

DESIGNATED SITES AND PRIORITY HABITATS

	Within	Present Yes/No	Possible Impact	Details
SAC	500 m	No	None	
SPA	500 m	No	None	
RAMSAR Site	500 m	No	None	
SSSI	500 m	No	None	Bognor Reef SSSI is at c. 1.3 Km
Local Nature Reserves	100 m	No	None	The Brooks LNR is at 1.9 Km
Broad-leaved Woodland	100 m	No	None	
Veteran Trees	100 m	No	None	
Water Courses	100 m	No	None	
Wetlands	100 m	No	None	
Flower-rich Grassland	100 m	No	None	
Heathland	100 m	No	None	
Mature Hedgerow	100 m	No	None	

If the answer to any possible impact above is Yes then a Biodiversity Statement must be submitted with the Planning Application. This should include survey results for any of the species listed below which might be present on the site

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Will the development affect structures or land on or adjacent to the site with any of the following features

	Yes/No
Clay-tiled pitched roofs	No
Loft spaces	No
Hanging tiles	No
Wooden wall cladding	No
Open soffits	No
Underground structures	No
Bridge structures	No
Dense climbing plants	No
Large agricultural buildings	No
Derelict buildings in a rural location	No
Mature deciduous woodland	No
Field hedgerows over 2 metres tall and over 0.5 metres thick	No
Scrub well-connected to woodland or hedgerows	No
Old or veteran trees	No
Trees with holes, cracks, cavities or heavy vegetation	No
Trees with a girth greater than 1 m dbh	No
Large pond within 200 m	No
Mature or overgrown garden over 0.25 Ha	No
Rough grassland	No
Derelict land, railway land, allotments	No
Flower-rich grassland	No

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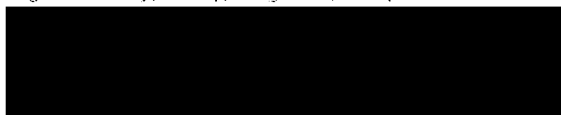


PROTECTED SPECIES

Are any of the following species known or suspected to be present on the site

SPECIES	Present	Details
Bats (all species)	No	No roosting habitat for bats on development site
Barn Owl	No	Survey revealed no signs of Barn Owls
Breeding Birds	No	No evidence of birds nesting on development site
Dormouse	No	Habitat unsuitable
Otter	No	Habitat unsuitable
Badger	No	No signs of badgers on site. Nearest record is at c. 1.1 Km
Water Vole	No	Habitat unsuitable
Sand Lizard	No	Habitat unsuitable
Smooth Snake	No	Habitat unsuitable
Adder	No	Habitat unsuitable
Grass Snake	No	Habitat unsuitable
Common Lizard	No	Habitat unsuitable
Slow Worm	Possible	Limited area of poor quality habitat on site
Great Crested Newt	No	No suitable habitat on site. Nearest record is at c. 13 Km
Natterjack Toad	No	Unsuitable habitat
Salmon or Sea Trout	No	No suitable aquatic habitat on site
White-clawed Crayfish	No	No suitable aquatic habitat on site

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PHASE 1 BIODIVERSITY SURVEY OF LAND AT 43 & 45 PEVENSEY ROAD, BOGNOR REGIS

Survey carried out on - 27 June 2017

Map Ref of Property - SU 922 998

SITE DESCRIPTION

The site consists of the south-western ends of two adjoining gardens at 43 & 45 Pevensy Road in the suburbs of Bognor Regis. The total area of the proposed development, including outbuildings, is approximately 1,350 sq metres in area. The two existing houses and a part of each garden are to be retained and are excluded from the proposed development.

Intended vehicle access to the site is via a space between the two existing dwelling houses and each house will retain an element of the existing garden adjacent to each of the houses.

Each of the two gardens consists mainly of well-tended grass lawn edged with mature shrubs and trees. Some of the trees have Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) placed on them and will be excluded from the proposed development. Each garden is bounded on three sides by a 2 metres "larch-lap" fence. A list of the main tree species present can be found on page 8.

It is understood that formerly No 45 had a large open ditch at the south-western end of the garden which is believed to have formed part of a drainage system for the nearby properties. This is now believed to have been superseded by a culverted drainage system and there is no standing water on the site.

It is understood that the owners of the properties intend to seek planning permission for the construction of two detached dwellings on the site

New Forest Ecological Consultants were asked by Ms Dawn Appleton of Henry Adams Planning Ltd. to carry out a phase one biodiversity survey of the site to identify the presence or absence of any of the legally protected wildlife species listed below and where appropriate to gain some idea of the numbers and species involved. *See appendices 3 – 4 for photographs of the site.*

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LEGISLATION

Several species of wildlife are protected under UK legislation, notably the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (and subsequent amendments) and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. The habitats of some of the species are also protected under the Conservation (Natural Habitats etc) Regulations 2010

The protected species are listed below. They fall into two main groups.

The first group comprises the European Protected Species which in general are protected against being disturbed, injured or killed. In addition, any place used as a refuge or resting place is legally protected and it is an offence to disturb them while using that refuge. It is also an offence to damage, destroy or prevent access to these places.

The second group consists of species which are protected against being intentionally or recklessly killed or injured or sold but their habitat is not normally protected. The four common species of reptiles fall into this category.

Badgers are protected against being killed or injured under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992. Additionally their setts are protected against disturbance or damage under the same legislation.

Birds and their nests are protected during the nesting season.

Licences may be obtained from Natural England to carry out any of these otherwise illegal acts.

Local Planning Authorities may grant planning permission subject to any issues pertaining to legally protected species being resolved.

European Protected Species

Bats (all species) (*Chiroptera*)

Otter (*Lutra lutra*)

Dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*)

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*)

Smooth Snake (*Coronella austriaca*)

Sand Lizard (*Lacerta agilis*)

Natterjack Toad (*Epidalea calamita*)

Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*)

Sea Trout/Salmon (*Salmo trutta*)

White-clawed Crayfish (*Potamobius pallipes*)

Other Protected Species

Water Vole (*Arvicola amphibius*)

Badger (*Meles meles*)

Polecat (*Mustela putorius*)

Common Lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*)

Slow Worm (*Anguis fragilis*)

Grass Snake (*Natrix natrix*)

Adder (*Vipera berus*)

There are a few other protected species but these have not been recorded from this part of the UK.

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METHOD

General

On 27 June 2017 a phase one ecological survey of the site was carried out looking for species or habitats of interest. In particular the following groups of species were searched for :-

Bats

A powerful torch was used to search for signs of the presence of bats in the garages and outbuildings. These signs could include droppings on floors or other horizontal surfaces or adhering to walls or windows; traces of grease from bat fur on woodwork or staining from bat urine. Any potential points via which bats might gain access to the buildings from the outside and any accessible crevices and holes were closely checked for signs of the actual presence of bats or signs of past bat usage. A pair of binoculars was used to examine the external surfaces of the walls and roofs of the buildings.

None of the trees on the site provided potential roosting habitat for bats. Therefore no specific survey was carried out for these species.

Birds

The shrubs and outbuildings on the site were searched for the presence of the nests of any bird species.

Badgers

The site was surveyed for signs of the presence of badgers such as setts, latrines, pathways, footprints etc. The National Biodiversity Network (NBN) Atlas database was searched for records of badgers in the vicinity of Bognor Regis.

Reptiles

The site was surveyed for any habitat which might support reptiles. This could include long, tussocky grass or heather, low scrub, log piles etc.

Amphibians

No specific survey was carried out for amphibians as there was no standing water on or near the site. The National Biodiversity Network Atlas database was consulted for any records of Great-crested Newts in the vicinity of the proposed development.

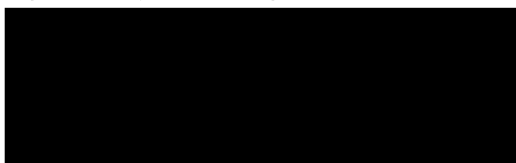
Other Protected Species

A visual survey of the site was carried out, searching for field signs of any other of the legally protected species listed above or any habitat which might support them.

Legally Protected Areas

The Defra website – www.magic.gov.uk – was consulted to identify any legally protected areas of land within 500 metres of the site of the proposed development.

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RESULTS

Bats

None of the trees or buildings on the site provided suitable roosting habitat for bats and no bats were noted during the survey.

Birds

No bird nests were noted during the survey.

Badgers

No badger setts were noted on the site. The NBN Atlas database indicated that the nearest record for this species was at c. 1.1 Km distance.

Reptiles

Although no signs of reptiles were found within the two gardens, the edges of the proposed development area contained overgrown flower borders which could provide habitat for Slow Worms (*see conclusions section*).

Amphibians

No specific survey was carried out for amphibians due to the lack of any suitable aquatic habitat on the site. A search of the NBN Atlas database indicated that the nearest recorded breeding site for Great-crested Newts was at c. 13 Km distance.

Trees Recorded on Site

The following tree and shrub species were identified. N.B. most of these are non-native species.

No 45 Pevensey Road

Black Pine	<i>Pinus nigra</i>
Cabbage Palm	<i>Cordyline australis</i>
Apple	<i>Malus sp.</i>
Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>
Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>
Horse Chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>
Pedunculate Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>
New Zealand Privet	<i>Griselinia littoralis</i>
Buddleja	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>

43 Pevensey Road

Cherry	<i>Prunus avium</i>
Japanese Maple	<i>Acer palmatum</i>
Staghorn Sumac	<i>Rhus typhina</i>
Buddleja	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>
Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Cherry Laurel	<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>
Pear	<i>Pyrus sp.</i>
Cabbage Palm	<i>Cordyline australis</i>
Chusan Palm	<i>Trachycarpus fortunei</i>

A few other species of ornamental shrubs were present but they could not be identified with certainty.

Other Protected Species

No evidence was found for any of the other legally protected species during this survey. However an adult fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) together with a currently used fox earth was noted in the garden of No. 45.

Legally Protected Areas

The Defra website indicated that there were no legally protected areas recorded within 500 metres of the proposed development. (*See page 2 for further details*)



CONCLUSIONS

Bats

Due to the absence of any potential roosting habitat for bats, no evidence of the presence of these species was found on the site. However at present the gardens could provide good foraging habitat for bats and it is considered that the proposed construction of two additional buildings would be likely to reduce the flying area available for bats. However it is concluded that this could be mitigated for by the provision of additional native broadleaved planting within the proposed development and a bat box incorporated in one of the proposed new buildings (*see mitigation method statement on page 10*)

It is concluded that no further survey work on these species would be justified.

Badgers

No signs of badgers were noted on the site and no further consideration need be given to this species.

Birds

No bird nests were found during the survey but there would be a potential risk of disturbing any birds nesting on or near the proposed development site by any work carried out between April and September in any year (*see mitigation method statement*).

Reptiles

No signs of reptiles were found during the survey. However it is possible that some, notably Slow Worms, could be present and therefore it is important that prior to any construction work, the vegetation within the proposed working area on the site should be reduced in height so as to discourage reptiles from remaining or taking up residence there (*see mitigation method statement*).

Amphibians

No aquatic habitat exists on the site and the nearest known pond supporting a breeding population of Great-crested Newts is at c. 13 Km distance. This is well beyond their generally accepted home range so no further consideration need be given to this species.

Trees

Several of the larger trees have had Tree Preservation Orders placed on them and they will of course be retained. In addition as many other trees on the north-western and south-eastern edges of the site as possible will be retained. It is understood that some additional tree planting will take place on the site although no specific details of this are available as yet.

Other Legally Protected Species

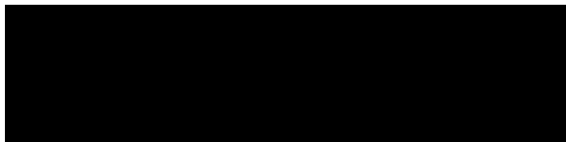
It is considered that there would be no detectable impact on any other protected species. While foxes and their earths receive no specific legal protection, wild animal welfare considerations would preclude causing them physical distress. Thus great care would need to be taken during the potential fox breeding season (*February – June*) if the use of any heavy machinery is planned on the site.

Legally Protected Habitats

The nearest legally protected area to the site was at c. 1.3 Km distance. At this distance it is concluded that there would be no detectable impact on this area caused by the proposed development.

It is presumed that any foul-water and surface drainage created by the proposed development will be channelled into the nearby public sewage system.

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MITIGATION METHOD STATEMENT

- 1) Any new lighting scheme for the site will take into consideration the potential presence of bats foraging in the local area and the scheme will minimise potential impacts to any bats using the trees, hedgerows and buildings by avoiding unnecessary artificial light spill through the use of directional light sources and shielding.
- 2) A bat box will be affixed high up on the south-east face of unit 4. This will be a Schwegler 1FQ box (*see appendix 2 for precise location*).
- 3) An area across the south-west end of each garden measuring c. 3 metres in depth will be retained as uncut vegetation and fenced off during the period of construction on the site. This will be planted with native shrubs, predominately Hazel and retained indefinitely as a wildlife feature within the garden.
- 4) Prior to the development process the vegetation within the proposed working area will be cut regularly to deter any reptiles from taking up residence there. This will be carried out sensitively using hand-held strimmers, with the intention of encouraging any reptiles present to move into the retained uncut areas at the south-west ends of the two existing gardens.
- 5) Care will be taken to avoid damage to the fox earth at the south-western end of the garden of No 45.
- 6) If any work is to be carried out during the bird nesting season (Apr – September) then care will be taken to locate any occupied nests and to avoid disturbing them.
- 7) Should any protected species be found during the course of the development then work will be stopped immediately and New Forest Ecological Consultants will be contacted for further advice.

HABITAT ENHANCEMENT

Local planning authorities are expected to require some element of habitat enhancement as a condition of granting any planning permission. In this instance as habitat enhancement, a balancing pond will be provided at the south-western end of the gardens. The precise location of the pond has yet to be defined. In addition some planting of native broad-leaved trees and shrubs will take place on the site.

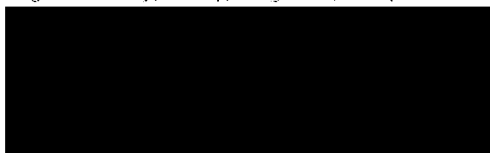
Martin Noble

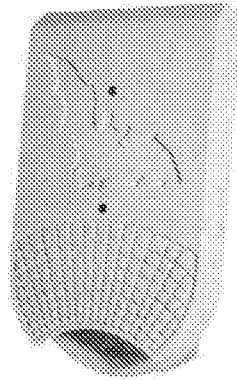
9 August 2016

Appendices

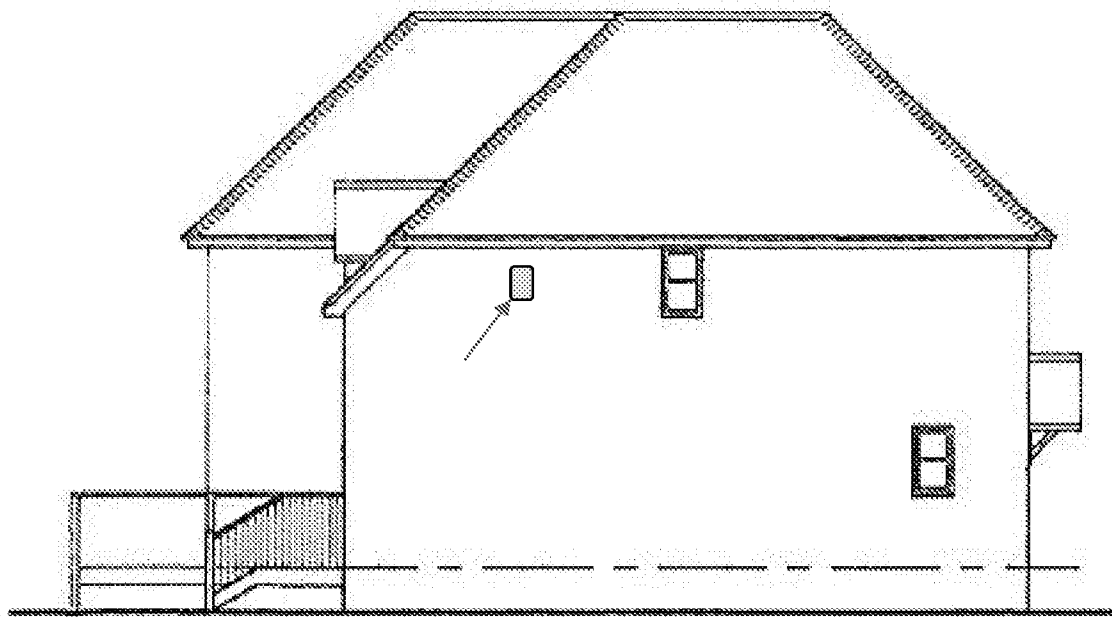
- 1) Schwegler 1FQ Bat Box
- 2) Location of bat box on south-east facing wall of Unit 4
- 3) Photograph of garden of No 43 Pevensey Road from the south-west
- 4) Photograph of garden of No 45 Pevensey Road from the north-east

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Schwegler 1FQ Bat Box



South East Elevation

Location of bat box on south-east wall of proposed Unit 4 (arrowed)

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View of garden of No. 43 Pevensy Road from the south-west



View of garden of No. 45 Pevensy Road from the north-east

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