

**Consultation Response from Biodiversity Officer**
**KC Ecology**
**2018/94080 adj, 1, Marsh Lane, Birkenshaw, BD11 2DT**
**Erection of extensions and alterations to convert barn to dwelling**
**Date Responded:**
**25/03/2019**
**Responding Officer:**
**Tom Stephenson**
**Responding Ref:**

### Assessment

Based on the survey information the proposals are unlikely to affect roosting bats or nesting barn owl, but there is potential to destroy active bird nests if works are undertaken during the bird breeding season. A condition has been suggested below to avoid this impact.

All proposals are required to provide biodiversity net gains where opportunities exist. In this case the survey information indicates that kestrel are active in the area and are using the barn for roosting. A net gain can be provided by erecting a kestrel nest box on a tree within the vicinity (this could be along the access route included in the redline boundary), as suggested in the report. A condition has been suggested below to secure this.

### Advice to planning officer

No objection subject to the following conditions.

### Suggested conditions

1. No removal of hedgerows, trees or shrubs or works to or demolition of buildings or structures that may be used by breeding birds shall take place between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 31<sup>st</sup> August inclusive, unless a competent ecologist has undertaken a careful, detailed check of vegetation for active birds' nests immediately before the vegetation is cleared and provided written confirmation that no birds will be harmed and/or that there are appropriate measures in place to protect nesting bird interest on site. Any such written confirmation should be submitted to the local planning authority.

Reason: to prevent significant ecological harm in respect of direct impacts to birds, their eggs, nests and young and to accord with policy PLP 30 (as modified) and the requirements of section 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

2. A nest box designed specifically for use by kestrel shall be installed in a mature tree within the application area at height of at least 5 m with a clear light on site to adjacent open habitat. Hereafter the boxes shall be retained. Prior to occupation of the dwelling hereby approved, photographic evidence showing the correct installation shall be submitted to the local planning authority for approval.

Reason: to provide a biodiversity net gain in accordance with policy PLP 30 (as modified) and the requirements of section 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

### References