

Ledgard Bridge Mills,
Mirfield

Dusk Emergence Bat Survey

August 2023

Report reference	1776b
Revision	1
Prepared by	Morgane Accault ACIEEM
Approved by	Toby Fisher CEnv MCIEEM
Issue date	Rev 1. 18 th August 2023

This report is valid for a period of 12 months from the issue date.

☎ 01765 600 799

✉ info@quantsenvironmental.com

🌐 quantsenvironmental.com

Quants Environmental Ltd, 65 Kirkby Road, Ripon, North Yorkshire. HG4 2HH

Contents

1	Introduction	3
2	Methodology	5
2.1	Personnel.....	5
2.2	Dusk Emergence Bat Survey.....	5
2.3	Limitations.....	5
3	Results	6
3.1	Dusk Emergence Bat Survey Results	6
4	Conclusions and Recommendations	8
4.1	Bats	8
	Appendix 1. Legislation and Conservation Context	9

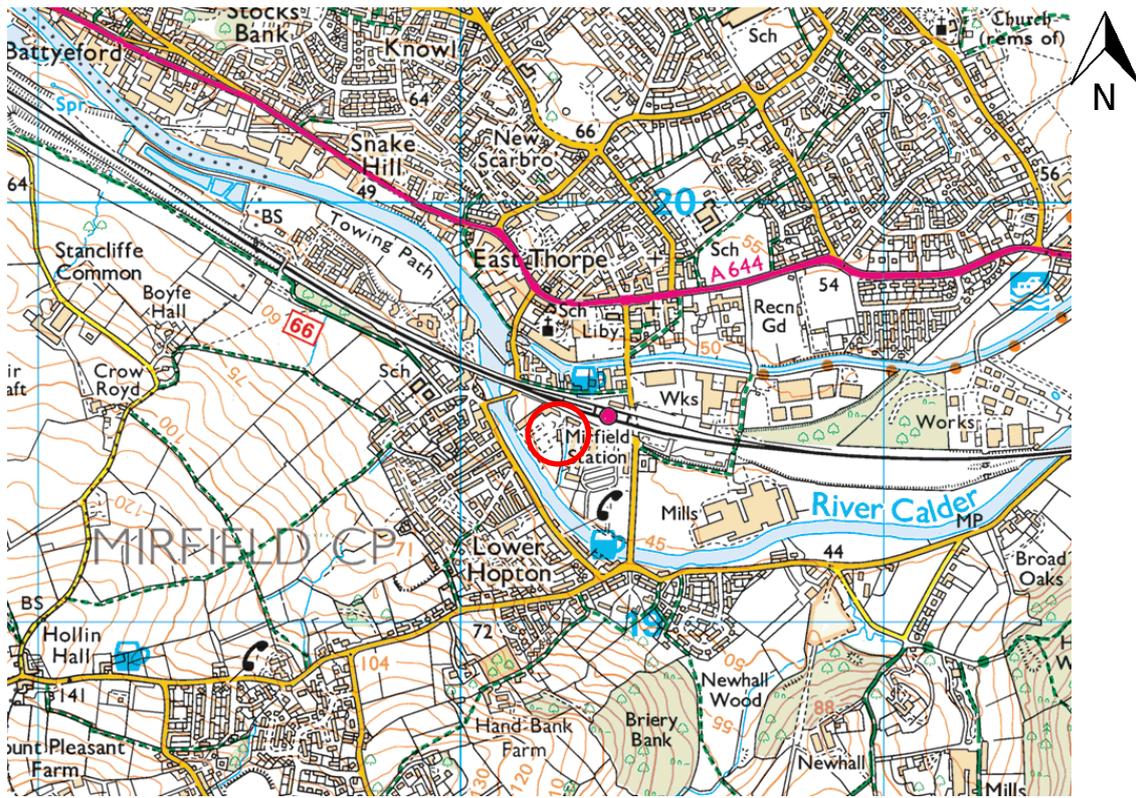
1 Introduction

- 1.1.1.1 This report presents the results of a Dusk Emergence Bat Survey undertaken on a building at Ledgard Bridge Mills, Mirfield, Huddersfield, Yorkshire WF14 8NZ.
- 1.1.1.2 The site is located at OS grid reference SE20231945 and comprises a single building. The site (see Figures 1 and 2) is located within the settlement of Mirfield and approximately 80 metres north-east of the River Calder.
- 1.1.1.3 The surveys have been undertaken to provide protected species information in relation to proposed development works at the site. The aims of the survey was to determine the presence/absence of any bat roosts in the building. Previous bat surveys have been undertaken at the building in 2017 and 2020; none of these surveys have identified a bat roost in the building:
- Quants Environmental Ltd. (2017). Ledgard Mills, Mirfield. Ecological Appraisal and Dusk Bat Survey. Ref. 1007.2. October 2017.
 - Quants Environmental Ltd. (2020). Ledgard Mills, Mirfield. Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Dusk Emergence Bat Survey. Ref. 1007c. September 2020.

Figure 1. Location of Surveyed Building (aerial imagery dated 2020)



Figure 2. Site location



© Crown copyright and database rights (2023) OS licence no. 100022861.

2 Methodology

2.1 Personnel

2.1.1.1 The survey was undertaken by Morgane Accault ACIEEM (Natural England Class Licence Registration No. 2022-11070- CL17 Survey Level 1) and Maxwell Caulton.

2.2 Dusk Emergence Bat Survey

2.2.1.1 The dusk emergence bat survey was undertaken on 16th August 2023. Two surveyors were present to provide adequate coverage of all potential bat roost feature emergence points. The surveyors used Echo Meter Touch 2 Pro and Pettersson D200 bat detectors.

Table 1: Dusk emergence bat survey conditions

Date	16 th August 2023
Sunset	20:34
Survey duration	20:19– 21:49
Weather conditions	Dry; 19°C – 17°C, cloud cover 10-15%, wind Bft 0.
Surveyors	Morgane Accault and Maxwell Caulton

2.3 Limitations

2.3.1.1 The dusk emergence bat survey was undertaken during suitable conditions within the optimum season for Bat Surveys (May to August/September). Sufficient surveyors were present to provide adequate coverage of all potential roost features. Overall, there were no significant limitations.

3 Results

3.1 Dusk Emergence Bat Survey Results

- 3.1.1.1 The results of the Dusk Emergence Bat Survey are summarised in Tables 2 and 3 below.
- 3.1.1.2 During the surveys, no bat roosts were identified and it is concluded that bat roosts are likely absent from the building.

Table 2. Dusk emergence survey results – Position 1 (north side of the building) (Maxwell Caulton) – 16th August 2023

Time	Species and notes
20:19 – 21:00	No activity
21:01	1 x Common Pipistrelle came from north, foraging then flew east
21:03	1 x Common Pipistrelle foraging northeast of building then flew down east side
21:05 – 21:16	2 x Common Pipistrelle foraging west & northeast of building
21:17 – 21:19	2 x Common Pipistrelle foraging around all sides of building
21:20	1 x Common Pipistrelle pass unseen
21:22	1 x Common Pipistrelle flew around building west to east
21:22	1 x Noctule pass unseen
21:26	1 x Common Pipistrelle foraging from north to west
21:28	1 x Common Pipistrelle flew west to east
21:29	1 x Common Pipistrelle pass unseen
21:32	1 x Common Pipistrelle pass unseen
21:37	1 x Common Pipistrelle pass unseen
21:38	1 x Noctule pass unseen

Table 3. Dusk emergence survey results – Position 2 (south-west side of the building) northeast (Morgane Accault) – 16th August 2023

Time	Species and notes
20:19 – 20:55	No Activity
20:56 – 21:03	1 x Common Pipistrelle pass unseen. Nearly constant calls
20:53	1 x Noctule pass unseen. Faint calls
21:02	1 x Noctule pass unseen
21:04 – 21:15	2 x Common Pipistrelle foraging by tree canopy to the east and low to the building on the south end
21:16 – 21:18	1 x Common Pipistrelle came from east. Foraging around position 2
21:20	Silent bat flying low north to south along west side of building. No call detected.
21:21	1 x Common Pipistrelle foraging above lawn to southwest of building
21:22	1 x Noctule pass unseen
21:22 – 21:27	1 x Common Pipistrelle foraging above lawn to southwest of building

Time	Species and notes
21:30	1 x Common Pipistrelle pass unseen
21:34	1 x Common Pipistrelle pass unseen
21:37	1 x Common Pipistrelle pass unseen & 1 x Noctule pass unseen

4 Conclusions and Recommendations

4.1 *Bats*

- 4.1.1.1 Based on the results of the surveys conducted, it is concluded that bats are not likely to roost in the building. No further surveys or mitigation for bat roosts is considered necessary.

Recommendations

- 4.1.1.2 Sufficient survey effort has been undertaken to confirm that bat roosts are likely absent from the surveyed building. No further surveys or mitigation measures are considered necessary. In the unlikely event that a bat or evidence of bats is found during works, work must stop immediately and advice sought from a suitably qualified ecologist before proceeding.

Appendix 1. Legislation and Conservation Context

European Protected Species (GCN, Otter, all Bats)

Great Crested Newt (GCN), otter and all British bat species are fully protected through The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 as European Protected Species (EPS). They also receive some protection through inclusion in Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Under the legislation, it is an offence to deliberately capture, injure or kill a GCN, otter or bat. It is an offence to damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of a GCN, otter or bat. It is also an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb a GCN, otter or bat while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection; or obstruct access to any structure or place which it uses for that purpose.

It is also an offence to deliberately disturb a GCN, otter or bat; in particular any disturbance which is likely (a) to impair their ability - (i) to survive, to breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young, or (ii) in the case of animals of a hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate; or (b) to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.

The 'appropriate authority' (Natural England in England) has powers to issue licences for various purposes including - (a) scientific or educational purposes... and (e) preserving public health or public safety or other imperative reasons of overriding public interest including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment. The appropriate authority shall not grant a licence under this regulation unless they are satisfied - (a) that there is no satisfactory alternative, and (b) that the action authorised will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of the species concerned at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. It is an offence for any person authorised by virtue of a licence to which this paragraph applies to contravene or fail to comply with any condition which the licence requires him to comply with.