

**Sent:** 08 September 2025 07:48

**Subject:** 2025/92166 at location Red House Museum, Oxford Road, Gomersal, Cleckheaton, BD19 4JP

Please see ecological commentary below:

### **Designations**

No issue

### **Onsite habitats and species**

The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal is reasonable and acceptable.

- There are recommendations for bats (trees), reptiles, birds, hedgehogs, and invasive species.
- A CEMP (with PWMS for bats and reptiles), lighting strategy and protection for remaining trees, and an invasive species survey and management plan will be conditioned.
- Enhancements will also be conditioned.

The Preliminary Bat Roost assessment, with presence/absence surveys report is reasonable and acceptable.

- Building 1, 2 were assessed as having low potential (1 survey required) and building 4 was assessed as having moderate potential (surveys required) for roosting bats.
- The presence/absence surveys confirmed that no bats were observed to emerge from the buildings. As a result, it is highly unlikely that there are roosting bats in any of the buildings.
- The CEMP should include precautionary working methods for the buildings.

### **BNG**

The PEA report indicates a net loss of 0.37 habitat units. There is a deficit of 0.55 habitat units for a statutory 10% net gain.

If offsite gain is required, it will need to be secured with a section 106 agreement. If a section 106 agreement is needed, we recommend the applicant provides sufficient information for the heads of terms of an agreement prior to determination of the application

In addition to the information already provided, this information would comprise:

- A plan that follows the UK Habitat Classification showing the spatial locations of the habitats represented in the enhancement and/or creation tabs of the biodiversity metric (i.e. the target habitats).
- The georeferenced spatial data used to create both above plans (in either .shp or .gpkg format) and written permission to share this data with West Yorkshire Records Centre.
- A 30-year Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP)

**Reason: To ensure the development delivers a biodiversity net gain on site in accordance with Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990**

### **Suggested conditions**

#### Habitats / Species

A condition for a CEMP: Biodiversity (Construction Environment Management Plan) is advised, e.g. No works shall take place until a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP: Biodiversity) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The CEMP (Biodiversity) shall include the following:

- a) Summary of potentially damaging activities

- b) Identification of "biodiversity protection zones"
- c) Practical measures (both physical measures and sensitive working practices) to avoid or reduce impacts during construction (these may be provided as a set of method statements)
- d) The location and timing of sensitive works to avoid harm to biodiversity features.
- e) The times during construction when specialist ecologists need to be present on site to oversee works.
- f) Responsible persons and lines of communication.
- g) The role and responsibilities on site of an ecological clerk of works (ECoW) or similarly competent person.
- h) Use of protective fences, exclusion barriers and warning signs.

The approved CEMP: Biodiversity shall be adhered to and implemented throughout the construction period strictly in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

The CEMP must also include:

- PWMS for reptiles
- PWMS for bats (trees and buildings)

**Reason: In the interests of biodiversity and in accordance with LP30 and NPPF15**

#### Lighting strategy

No works are to commence unless a detailed lighting scheme, developed in accordance with established guidance (e.g. Bat Conservation Trust and Institute of Lighting Professionals (2023) Bats and Artificial Lighting at Night), has been drafted and agreed with the council. The Sensitive Lighting Strategy will demonstrate that the proposed lighting will not impact upon ecological networks and/or sensitive features. Thereafter the agreed lighting scheme shall be implemented, subject to any variations approved in writing by the planning authority. All external lighting shall be installed strictly in accordance with the specifications and locations set out within the Lighting Strategy.

**Reason: In the interests of biodiversity and in accordance with Policy LP30 and NPPF15**

#### Tree protection

A Hedgerow and Tree Protection Plan detailing measures for the protection of trees and hedgerows during the works will be submitted to and approved by the LPA prior to the commencement of works on site, including site clearance and delivery of materials.

Hedgerow and tree protection measures will include temporary fencing for the protection of hedgerows in accordance with BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations. Any alternative fencing type or position not in accordance with BS 5837:2012 will be agreed in writing by the LPA prior to the start of development.

The root protection fencing will define the works exclusion zone around hedgerows and trees. Activities liable to be harmful to hedgerows and trees are prohibited within this exclusion zone, unless agreed in writing with the LPA. The approved hedgerow and tree protection measures will remain in place until the completion of development or unless otherwise agreed in writing with the LPA.

**Reason: In the interests of biodiversity and in accordance with Policy LP30 and NPPF15**

#### Invasive species

No works shall commence on-site prior to the completion of an invasive species survey and appropriate removal and / or management plan and agreed in writing with the council.

Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 lists non-native species that are considered harmful to native biodiversity and habitats in the UK. It is illegal to release, plant, or allow these species to grow in the wild.

**Reason: In order that the proposals are implemented in accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).**

#### Enhancements

A Biodiversity Enhancement Management Plan must be provided to the LPA prior to the commencement of works on-site. It must include the following items that will be installed post development:

- 2no bat boxes
- 2no bird boxes
- Small holes within fences (and other mechanisms) for hedgehogs' mobility.
- A planting scheme should be implemented within the scheme to create a trees and hedgerows. Plantings should comprise native species of high biodiversity value

***Reason: In the interests of biodiversity and in accordance with Policy LP30 and NPPF15***

Many thanks, Katie

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