

**Consultation Response from KC,
Ecology Unit**
2026/92413 Ashfield Club (formerly Lepton Liberal Working Mens Club), 34, Wakefield Road, Fenay Bridge, Huddersfield, HD8 0BG
Alterations to convert former club to one dwelling
Date Responded: 05/10/2026
Responding Officer: Z. Hanshaw
Responding Ref: 2610/05

I have reviewed the information submitted with this application. The site is within a bat alert layer, but there are no proposals to impact the roof. It is not considered that any bats are likely to be impacted by the internal changes proposed, however a bat informative should be included in any consent. The site is adjacent to areas of Priority Habitat- Deciduous Woodland, which is also designated as part of the Kirklees Wildlife Habitat Network, however given the existing hardstanding and scope of the proposals, it is considered unlikely that protected or priority species will be present onsite and affected by the proposals. If any external lighting is proposed, an external lighting strategy should be secured as a condition of any consent. This should demonstrate how the area of woodland to the west will not be illuminated as part of the proposals.

Recommended conditions
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 NPPF Policy N2

Bats

Bats and the places they use for shelter or protection (i.e. roosts) are protected under the Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended). They receive further legal protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Section 43 of the Habitats Regulations makes it an offence to: deliberately capture, injure, or kill a bat; deliberately disturb bats; or damage or destroy a bat roost.

Where a licence is required to derogate from the Habitats Regulations, a grant of planning permission does not constitute consent to proceed with the works insofar as they affect the species in question. The licence must be applied for separately from Natural England, be granted and all licence conditions be complied with for the works to proceed lawfully.

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