

**The Roby Pub, 104 Greystone Rd, Broadgreen, Liverpool**

**Further Bat Dusk Survey**

**9<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Following an initial bat scoping survey completed on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023, a further bat dusk emergence survey has been undertaken at The Roby Pub, 104 Greystone Rd, Broadgreen, Liverpool L14 6UH (National Grid Reference SJ 4190 4164).

The additional dusk survey emergence was undertaken on the 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024. The development proposals are to demolish the building and redevelop the site with residential units.

Surveys were led by Richard Roe (BSc, MSc, MIEEM, CEnv). Richard has extensive experience of undertaking bat surveys as a professional ecological consultant with over twenty years' experience. Richard is also a licensed bat worker (Level 4 Class License).

## **BAT SCOPING SURVEY FINDINGS**

The study area comprises of a large, vacant, two storey pub building (The Roby) which is located to the west of Greystone Road, Broadgreen.

The site is located in an urbanised setting within the Broadgreen area of Liverpool. Surrounding land use principally comprises of residential housing with associated gardens plus occasional small pockets of amenity grassland park. There is a railway line located approximately 100 m to the south of the site. There are bands of trees running along the railway line. The M62 motorway is located immediately to the south of the railway line. Other than the railway line, immediate surrounding habitats are generally considered to offer areas of low-quality bat foraging habitat.

At the site itself, the pub building is enclosed by areas of hardstanding car park to the front and rear.

The pub building was assessed with regards to its suitability to support roosting bats. The interior of the pub is largely considered to be unsuitable for roosting bats. The loft space appears to be intact and well-sealed with no obvious bat access points. The loft void space was observed to be cobwebbed.

Externally, the building is generally intact and well-sealed. However, there is an area of missing verge mortar at the base of the east facing gable (Target Note 1 on Figure 1). There are also areas of damaged hip tile at the south-east corner of the building (Target Note 2). There are further crevices around areas of damaged verge mortar at the buildings north face (Target Note 3).

No bat droppings or other bat field signs were identified either internally or externally.

Taking account of the potential bat roosting features identified and the building's location, the building was assessed as offering a 'low' bat roosting potential.

In order to further assess the identified potential bat roosting features, a further dusk bat activity surveys was recommended.

## **BAT DUSK ACTIVITY SURVEYS**

### ***Methods***

In accordance with the recommendation within the initial scoping survey, an additional bat dusk survey was undertaken on the 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

Given the locations of the potential roosting features, it was considered appropriate to assess the building from two survey locations, with one surveyor located at the northwest face of the building and one at the southeast face of the building. Surveyor locations are shown on Figure 1 in the Appendix.

The survey used two experienced bat surveyors (Richard Roe and Sofia Fabiano).

The surveyors were equipped with heterodyne and time expansion bat detectors (Anabat Walkabout, Anabat Express, Echometer Touch 2 Pro and Elekon Bat Scanner). The bat surveyors were also equipped with night vision cameras (2 x Canon XA night vision cameras) supported by infrared floodlights (Nightfox XB and Dedolight IRedzilla infrared illuminators).

These survey arrangements allowed all suitable bat roosting features to be fully assessed and general levels of bat activity at the site to be recorded.

The dusk survey commenced 15 minutes before sunset and continued up to 90 minutes after sunset. Night vision camera footage was reviewed following survey. All bat species and bat behaviour was recorded.

### ***Results***

The dusk survey was undertaken under suitable conditions on the 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024 with weather recorded as overcast, dry and with light wind. Temperature at the time of the survey was 17°C. Sunset was recorded at 20.30.

In summary, no bats were recorded roosting at the site; with **no bat activity recorded around the site whatsoever.**

It was observed that streetlights located on Greystone Road switched on approximately 15 minutes after sunset and illuminated the front face of the pub building.

A hedgehog was observed passing through the pub car park at 21.27.

### ***Recommendations***

Taking the previous preliminary roost assessment findings and the latest dusk survey results into account, it is considered to be very unlikely that the site supports roosting bats. Nevertheless, it is recommended that care is taken during works to demolish the building. If any bats or evidence of bats are found, then works should immediately stop and further advice should be sought from an appropriately qualified ecologist.

It is recommended that the overall site be enhanced for bats and breeding birds. This can be achieved through the installation of integrated bat and bird boxes (recommended model Habibat Bat Box or similar and multipurpose 'swift bricks') into the walls of the proposed new buildings. Any additional new lighting will need to avoid any light spill onto the proposed bat and bird boxes.

The model and location of bat and bird boxes should be determined by an appropriately qualified ecologist.

As previously recommended, the development proposals should also aim to maximise the biodiversity of landscaping proposals at the site.

It is recommended that new planting includes species which can provide nectar sources for insects and berries/fruits for invertebrates and birds.

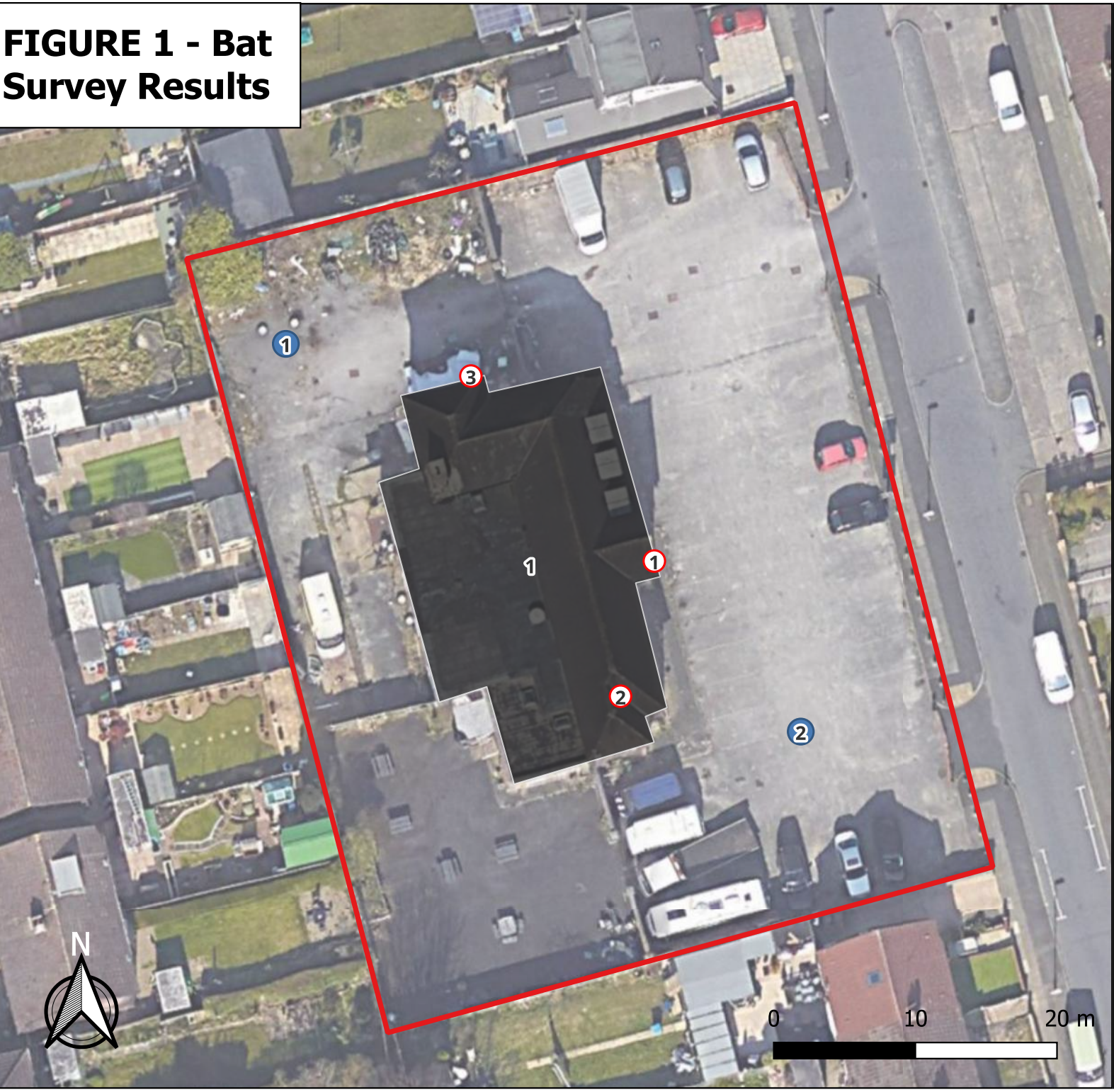
The following small/medium sized tree species are recommended as they offer suitable foraging opportunities to various native wildlife (including birds and invertebrates): rowan, wild cherry, crab apple, silver birch, holly, and willow.

Areas of new shrubbery should include suitable nectar sources for insects. The Royal Horticultural Society provides a list of suitable plants for invertebrates (see [rhs.org.uk/plantsforpollinators](https://www.rhs.org.uk/plantsforpollinators)).

It is recommended that this list is consulted when producing detailed landscaping designs for the site.

It is also recommended that hedgehog passes are included within boundary and garden fencing to allow hedgehog to continue to pass through the site.

**FIGURE 1 - Bat  
Survey Results**



**KEY**

-  Study Site
-  Building
-  Target Note
-  Bat Surveyor Location