

Our ref: 9248 / AJB

Jonathan Halfpenny
Head of Construction
Witherslack Group Ltd
Lupton Tower,
Lupton,
Cumbria.
LA6 2PR.

masterplanning ■
environmental assessment ■
landscape design ■
urban design ■
ecology ■
architecture ■
arboriculture ■
graphic design ■

York Biotech Campus
Sand Hutton
York
YO41 1LZ

Tel: 01904 406112
mail@fpcr.co.uk
www.fpcr.co.uk

14th September 2021

Dear Jonathan

Ecological Note - 21/00398/FUL - Former Wheathill Riding Centre, Naylors Road, Roby

In response to the following comment by MEAS requesting further information relating to bat roosting potential in trees at the above-named site, please find enclosed further information and clarification to address this.

...The report also confirmed the presence of trees with low bat roost suitability and states that these trees must be felled using a soft felling method. A plan of the location of these trees is not included within the report. A plan showing all trees with low bat roost potential (numbered), and which of the trees will be removed to facilitate the development is required prior to determination. This will ensure a suitable site-wide bat mitigation strategy is in place to enable the completion of the three-test assessment.

I have reviewed the report and the original survey notes from the 25th September 2019 and can confirm that there was just one tree that was considered to have 'Low' bat roosting potential that will be affected by the development. This tree (T23 within the Arboricultural Assessment) was a Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and had a number of crossing branches that were obscured by ivy and it was considered that the resulting niches have the potential to provide limited roosting opportunities for bats.

As such, it is recommended that T23 is soft felled under the supervision of an ecologist.

For completeness, two further trees located near the main school gate which are not expected to be impacted by the development but were also categorised as potentially providing low bat roosting potential. T1 was an ash *Fraxinus excelsior* with a minor knot hole at 8m to the south and T2 was an English oak *quercus robur* with dense ivy.

To provide clarity of the location of these trees (T23, T1 and T2) are clearly marked on the excerpt of the Arboricultural plan (9248-T-01) that has been appended to the end of this document.

FPCR Environment and Design Limited.
Registered in England No: 7128076. Registered Office: Lockington Hall, Lockington, Derby DE74 2RH

Details of Directors and Associates are available on our website.

Offices also at
Lockington Hall, Lockington, Derby DE74 2RH Tel: 01509 672772
Addlepool Business Centre, Clyst St George, Exeter, Devon EX3 0NR Tel: 01392 874499
and Studio 2 Dunley Hill Court, Dunley Hill Farm, Ranmore, Dorking, Surrey RH5 6SX Tel: 01483 282523

I hope the above is sufficient to provide clarity to the planners and MEAS. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Andy Brennan
Associate (Ecology)
FPCR Environment and Design Ltd

andrew.brennan@fpcr.co.uk

Excerpt of Arboricultural Plan

