

Hi Daphney,

I did address the issue of roosting bats at the time of the original application in 2013 and said the following:

"I can find no evidence that survey works in relation to the previous application in 2006 found roosting bats, despite comments made by local residents and Natural England – the planning officer's report for that application makes specific reference to the fact that there were no ecological constraints, and ecology was not a reason for refusal in 2006. It may well be that there are/were roosting bats present within the large oak tree on site, but the current application makes it clear that no works to TPO trees will occur and thus there are no potential impacts to roosting bats from arboricultural works. Any works to such trees (e.g. cutting of ivy, removal of dead limbs etc.) must receive assent from the Local Planning Authority and, given the possibility of bats occurring here, I would expect Havant Borough Council to request that updating bat surveys are undertaken – this should include a full Phase 2 emergence survey where necessary (i.e. if impacts are anticipated). I also note that HBC's arboricultural officer has raised concerns in respect to the TPO tree's proximity to Plot 4 - he is concerned that future occupants could apply pressure to have this tree trimmed. Clearly this will only be possible once all necessary ecological constraints have been addressed via an application to work on a TPO tree. I am therefore content that this mechanism will ensure that bats are considered fully prior to any arboricultural works – the LPA and local residents are aware of the potential for bats to occur and that there is a correct procedure to follow should works be required. With no direct impacts to the tree anticipated, there is the potential for its proximity to the proposed dwellings to result in indirect impacts from light spillage".

So, unless there are works planned to the trees on site then there would be no likelihood of impacts to bats and a corresponding breach of wildlife legislation.

Hope this helps?

Kind regards,

Tristan

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