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BAT SURVEY REPORT

Survey requested by: Adrian Smith, Duchy of Cornwall

on: 02/03/2015

Reason for survey request: Check for signs of bats in an old Nissen hut prior to demolition.

Location: West Winds, McFarland's Down, St Mary's

Grid Reference: SV 912 123

Date: 04/03/2015 **Time:** 14.00-14.15

Weather conditions: Fine, dry and sunny; moderate breeze. Cool – 8°C

Description of building surveyed: A large Nissen hut constructed of asbestos. The outer shell is of robust material with remarkably few blemishes, considering its age. There is an inner shell of thinner material with presumably a gap between, although this could not be seen. The floor is of concrete, in good condition. The building was previously used for book storage but is now empty with relatively little debris around. The reason for demolition is to remove the existing danger from asbestos.

Observations: Bats could gain access under the door at the west end and through a small hole in the outer asbestos on the north side of the building about 1/3 the way along from the west end. Although this might allow access to the space between the two asbestos layers, there did not seem to be access from this space to the interior of the building. Some daylight can be seen looking from the inside at the east end but possibility of access is not obvious. An inspection of the interior did not reveal any signs of bat (droppings, urine stains etc). There were cobwebs in many places which would not be consistent with bat movements.

Conclusion/recommendation: We do not have reason to think that bats are, or have been, inhabiting the building. If, however, they have gained access to the space between the two asbestos layers, then we recommend that the contractors look for bats as they carefully peel off the asbestos. *If any bats should be discovered during the work, they must not be handled: work must stop immediately and advice sought from local bat wardens in the first instance (Mike & Anne Gurr, 422224 or Rebecca Steggles, 424315) or, if none is available, The Bat Conservation Trust's National Bat Helpline on 0845 1300 228. The BCT's adviser for the South West Region is David Jackson.*

Other remarks:

Survey completed by*: E.A. & M.I.Gurr

Copies to: Adrian Smith, Duchy of Cornwall
Lisa Walton, Andrew King, Planning Department
Rebecca Steggles, for information

***Licence numbers:** EAG: CLS03418
MIG: CLS03419