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Bat Activity Surveys of:
43 Whitburn Road
Cleadon
SR6 7QP

Prepared for:
Rajveer Bajwa
43 Whitburn Road
Cleadon
SR6 7QP

Report Ref: Bajwa_43WhitburnRd_Bat2.1

Report prepared by	**Position**	**Date**
Barry Anderson MCIEEM MArborA	Director	09/06/2023
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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0.1 Dendra Consulting Ltd was commissioned by Mr Rajveer Bajwa to undertake a bat survey of 43 Whitburn Road, Cleadon. The survey was recommended in a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) undertaken by Ecosurv Ltd in September 2022. Two buildings, the main dwelling and a summer house, were subject to the surveys as recommended in the PEA.

1.0.2 It is proposed to demolish the existing dwelling house and summer house on the site.

1.0.3 Two nocturnal activity surveys were undertaken at the site on 09/05/2023 and 02/06/2023. During the surveys very low levels of bat activity were observed within the vicinity of the site, but no bats were noted roosting within the surveyed buildings. As such, it is considered highly unlikely that bats roost within the buildings and therefore no impacts on bats or their roosts are anticipated as a result of the works. This level of survey effort was deemed proportionate to the potential risk. Recommendations are confined to the provision of emergency procedures in the unlikely event that bats are encountered.

1.0.4 No significant impacts on roosting bats or wider bat populations are predicted.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Purpose of Report

2.1.1 Dendra Consulting Ltd was commissioned by Mr Rajveer Bajwa to undertake a bat survey of 43 Whitburn Road, Cleadon. The survey was recommended in a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) undertaken by Ecosurv Ltd in September 2022.

2.2 Details of Proposals

2.2.1 It is proposed to demolish the existing dwelling house and summer house on the site.

2.3 Legislation

2.3.1 Bats

All UK species of bat are protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2019. This law makes it illegal to:

- Deliberately capture, injure or kill a bat
- Deliberately disturb a bat[*]
- Damage or destroy a bat roost or resting place

[*]Disturbance of bats includes in particular any disturbance which is likely to:

- Impair their ability
  - to survive, to breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young; or
  - to hibernate or migrate
- Affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.

3.0 SURVEY & SITE ASSESSMENT

3.1 Initial Risk Assessment

3.1.1 The initial risk assessment formed part of the PEA undertaken by Ecosurv in September 2022. The Ecosurv Report details the results of a desk study, existing bat records and a preliminary site visit and risk assessment. The report concluded that two emergence/re-entry surveys are required for the dwelling house (medium risk) and that one is required for the summer house (low risk). This subsequent report by Dendra details the timings, methods and results of the recommended activity surveys which were undertaken in 2023 by Dendra.

3.2 Bat Activity Survey

3.2.1 As a result of the bat risk assessment outlined above, the dwelling house was classified as having a medium potential risk to support roosting bats, and therefore two nocturnal activity surveys were recommended and undertaken on 09/05/2023 and 02/06/2023. The summer house was considered to be a low risk and a single activity survey was recommended. This was incorporated into the dawn survey on 02/06/2023. The weather conditions during the activity surveys are summarised in Figure 1.

3.2.2 The nocturnal activity bat surveys were led by an experienced surveyor, holding a Natural England Level 2 Class Licence to survey bats of all species for scientific and/or educational purposes (WML-CL18). A list of personnel, together with relevant Natural England Class Licence numbers, and weather conditions during the survey are summarised in Figure 2.

3.2.3 <u>Dusk activity survey – 9th May 2023</u>

During the survey very low numbers of common pipistrelles were observed flying over the grounds of the property. The first bat was recorded at 21.20. No bats were recorded emerging from the dwelling house.

3.2.4 Dusk activity survey – 2nd June 2023

During the survey no bats were seen visually by the surveyors. A very small number of common pipistrelles were heard on the detectors. No bats were recorded entering the dwelling or the summer house.

3.2.5 The results of the nocturnal bat activity surveys are summarised in Figure 2 below and bat flight plans are provided as Appendix 1a and 1b.

Figure 1 – Weather conditions and personnel during surveys.

Date	Weather Conditions					Surveyors and Licence numbers (Lead surveyor in bold)
	Precipitation	Cloud cover (%)	Wind (Beaufort)	Start temp (°C)	End temp (°C)	
09/05/2023	None	40-60	B1	13.9	11.0	**Shaun Morrison 2015-12715-CLS-CLS** Christopher Cunningham Brown 2015-10212-CLS-CLS Gail Cunningham Brown 2015-10213-CLS-CLS X1 Unlicensed surveyor
02/06/2023	None	80-100	B1	10.0	10.0	**Christopher Cunningham Brown 2015-10212-CLS-CLS** Gail Cunningham Brown 2015-10213-CLS-CLS

Figure 2 – Table summarising findings of nocturnal survey

Date	Number of Surveyors	Sunset or Sunrise time	Start time	End time	Species recorded	Emergence/ Re-entry
09/05/2023	4	20.55	20.40	22.00	Common pipistrelle	None
02/06/2023	2	04.34	03.04	04.34	Common pipistrelle	None

4.0 INTERPRETATION AND EVALUATION OF SURVEY RESULTS

4.1 Presence/absence

4.1.1 No bats were noted emerging from or entering the buildings during the nocturnal activity surveys and therefore it is considered highly unlikely that bats roost within the site.

4.2 Population Assessment

4.2.1 No bats were found to be roosting within the buildings during the nocturnal survey visits and therefore a population assessment is not applicable.

4.3 Site Status Assessment

4.3.1 No bats were found to be roosting within the buildings during the nocturnal survey visits. The buildings therefore hold very little conservation value for bat species.

4.4 Constraints

4.4.1 The risk assessment and nocturnal activity surveys were undertaken by competent surveyors during good weather conditions. No constraints were encountered.

4.4.2 The information and conclusions contained in this report remain valid for a period of two years from the date of the survey. Any changes to the proposals may require the report recommendations to be reviewed and re-assessed.

5.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 Short Term Impacts: Disturbance

5.1.1 No roost has been found at the site and therefore no impacts of this nature are predicted.

5.2 Long-Term Impacts: Roost Modification

5.2.1 No roost has been found at the site and therefore no impacts of this nature are predicted.

5.3 Long-Term Impacts: Roost Loss

5.3.1 No roost has been found at the site and therefore no impacts of this nature are predicted.

5.4 Long Term Impacts: Fragmentation and Isolation

5.4.1 The scale of the proposed works will ensure that there will be no fragmentation of bat habitat and no isolation of bat populations. No impacts of this nature are predicted.

5.5 Post Development Interference Impacts

5.5.1 No significant impacts predicted.

5.6 Predicted Scale of Impacts

5.6.1 No significant impacts predicted.

6.0 MITIGATION & COMPENSATION

6.1 Summary of Mitigation Strategy

6.1.1 In this instance no significant impacts are predicted and no offence is likely. However, bats are highly mobile creatures capable of utilising many roosting sites throughout the year. Therefore, emergency procedures in the event that bats are encountered during works, are provided in section 6.1.2 below.

6.1.2 As a measure of good working practice, the following information should be supplied to contractors undertaking the proposed works:

- In the highly unlikely event that bats are found all works will stop and the consultant will be contacted immediately – Barry Anderson 07900894160/0191 3719636.
- Where the consultant ecologist is unavailable, general advice can be sought from the Bat Conservation Trust National Bat Helpline, on 0345 1300 228.
- If the roost is still intact, or can be repaired, this should be done immediately with bats left *in situ*.
- Any injured bats, and bats which cannot be returned to the roost and may be vulnerable to inclement weather and/or predation, should be collected using gloved hands and placed into a suitable container with breathing holes.
- **Anyone bitten by a bat should seek immediate medical attention** from their GP**.**
- A European Protected Species Mitigation (EPSM) licence may be required for the works to continue if bats are found.

6.2 Licensing Requirements

6.2.1 Not applicable.

6.3 Timing and/or Phasing of Works

6.3.1 None required for bats.

6.4 Capture and Exclusion

6.4.1 Not applicable.

6.5 Roost Retention

6.5.1 Not applicable.

6.6 Roost Modification

6.6.1 Not applicable.

6.7 Replacement Roosts

6.7.1 Not applicable.

6.8 Supervision

6.8.1 Not applicable.

6.9 Monitoring

6.9.1 Not applicable.

6.10 Mitigation Site Ownership

6.10.1 Not applicable.

7.0 REFERENCES

Collins, J. (ed.) (2016). *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (3rd edn).* The Bat Conservation Trust, London.

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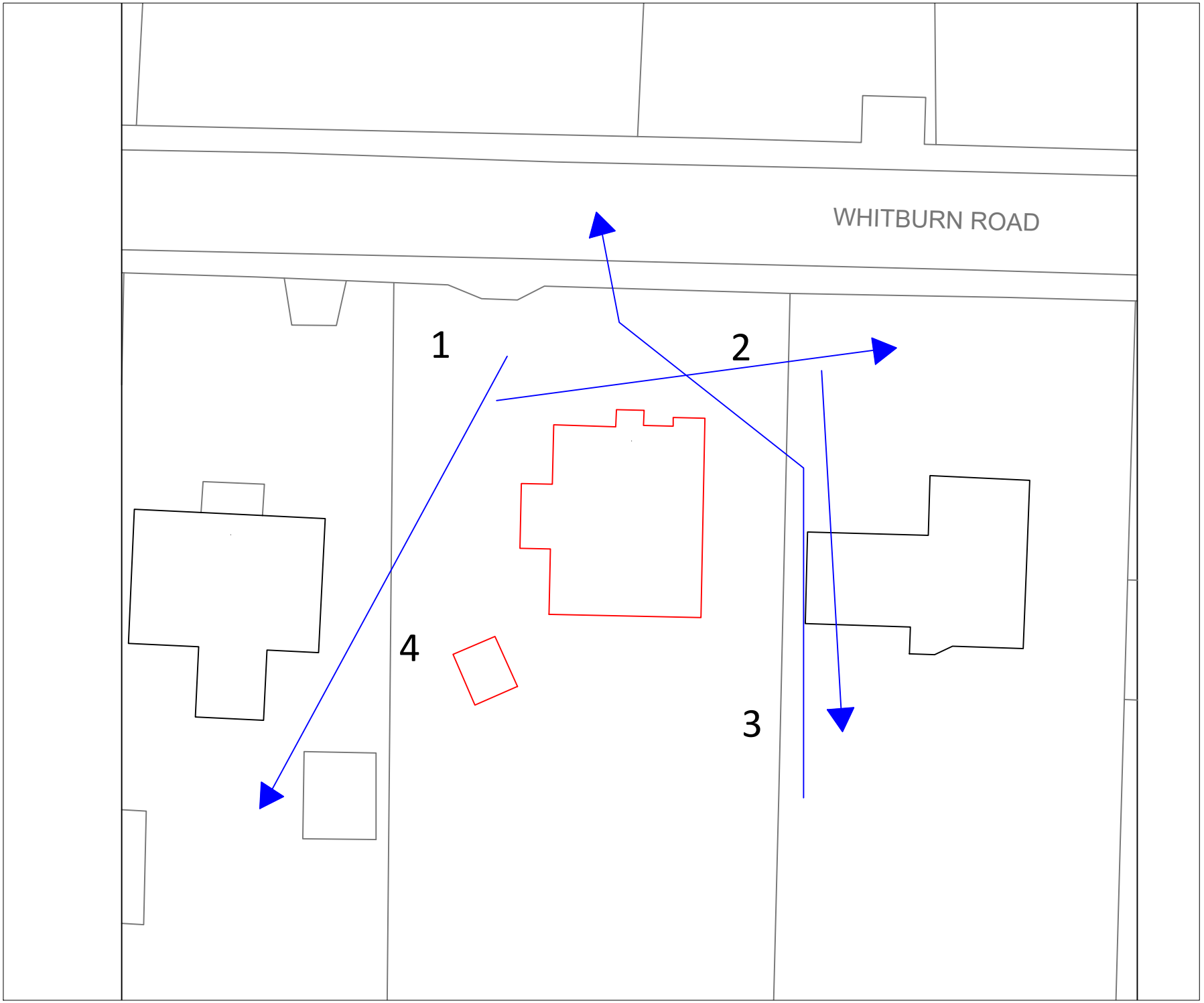
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Available at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/contents
Accessed 4th August 2022

8.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 1a – Bat activity flight plan for 09/05/2023

Appendix 1b – Bat activity flight plan for 02/06/2023



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Appendix 1a
Bat Activity Plan
09/05/2023

Key

Surveyor location 1

Flight lines

Foraging areas

Surveyed buildings

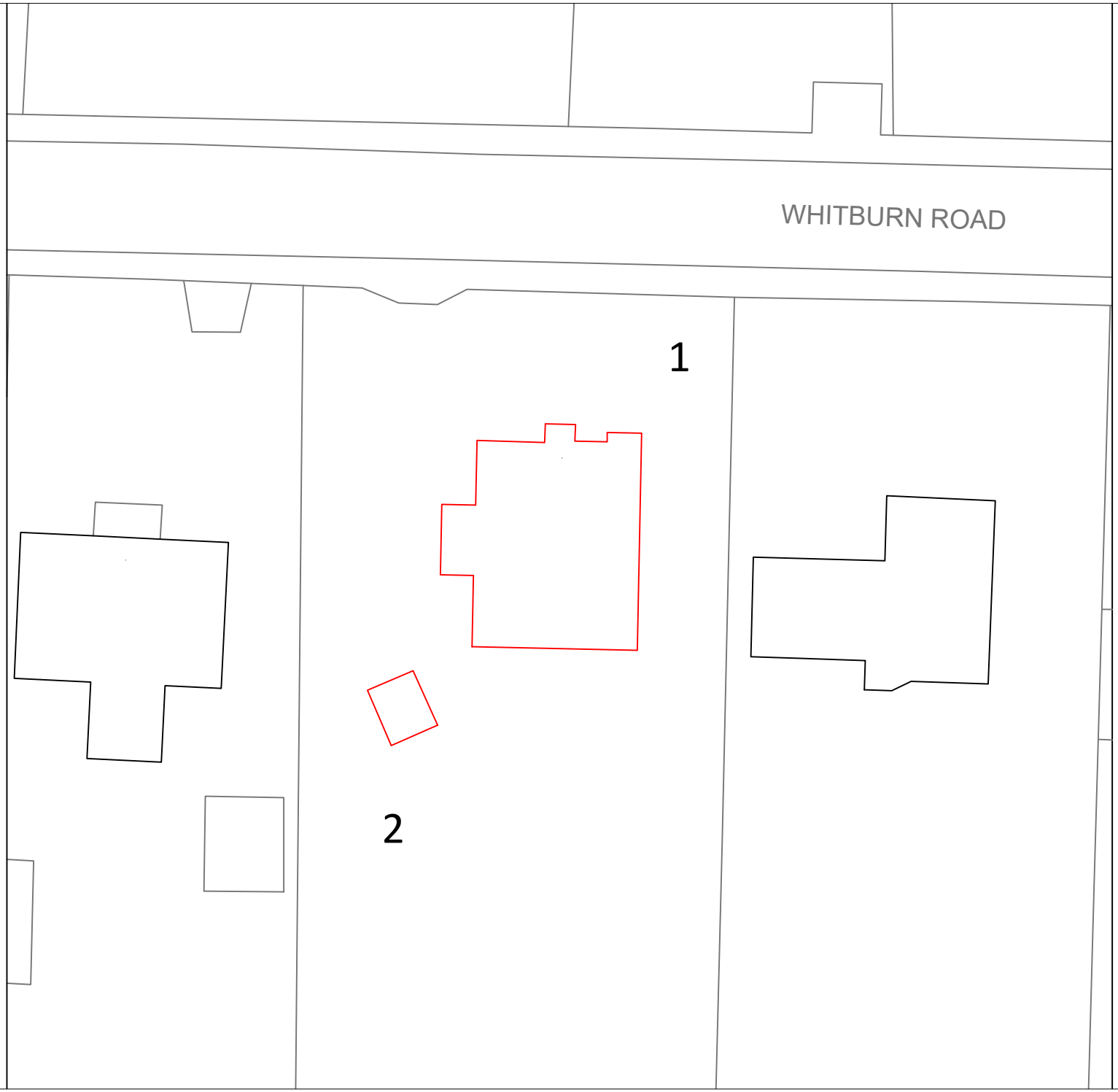
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Appendix 1b
Bat Activity Plan
02/06/2023

Key

Surveyor location 1

Flight lines

Foraging areas

Surveyed buildings

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