

Weddle Landscape Design

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

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SITE INSPECTION

Date	Time	Weather conditions	Temperature (°C)	
3 February 2016	10.00 am	Cold and Overcast	3 degrees	

A planning application will be made for demolition and reconstruction of The Buckingham Hotel, Burlington Road, Buxton. An Ecology Survey was carried out in June 2013 by Megan Cox. This included an assessment of Breeding Birds.

Under Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), wild birds are protected from being killed, injured or captured, while their nests and eggs are protected from being damaged, destroyed or taken.

During the June 2013 site visit a swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) nest was observed on the south side of the building. Jackdaws (*Corvus monedula*) were noted on the roof of this section of building too and access was possible to the roof space of this section of building via gaps. The proprietor had reported previous nesting jackdaws in the roof space. A sonic bird scaring device was installed at the beginning of 2013 and the jackdaws appear not to have returned.

In pre-application discussions with the planning authority they noted "that the development has potential to affect protected species and their habitats. These have been investigated and assessed and the content of the Ecology Report is noted. The following comments have been received from Derbyshire Wildlife Trust and they recommend that prior to submission of the planning application the following details are addressed:

'There are no details provided about the presence or absence of nesting birds during the surveys in 2013. This should be addressed.'

Site owner Mr Stoon Baras has asked Weddle Landscape Design to carry out an updated survey for birds. The inspection was carried out by Mike Browell BA MA MCIHort MArborA FLI, Principal of Weddle Landscape Design, with over 35 years experience of ecological survey.

A detailed walkover survey of the site with external inspection of the building, hedges and trees was carried out looking for evidence of nesting birds. None was found.

The swallow nest seen in 2013 was not present. The roof access has been repaired and jackdaws are not present. Evidence of pigeon roosts were seen on sheltered downpipes below the projecting eaves.

It is recognized that this inspection took place outside the breeding season on March – August. It is possible that breeding birds may be present on site when felling and construction works commence in the future. No construction work which will disturb nesting birds should take place during the breeding season (March – August).

A further inspection should be carried out to update this report immediately prior to works being carried out.

Felling of trees and hedges should be undertaken with caution. Accordingly an inspection by the arboricultural contractor should be undertaken immediately prior to commencing work on each tree. If any evidence of nesting birds is found then all works should cease and further advice sought from the ecologist.

Distribution list: Mr Baras
File