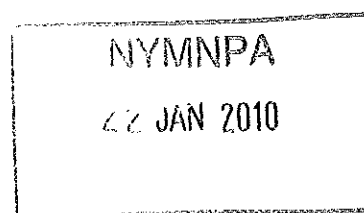


Method statement: conversion of games room to form dwelling at Rigg Farm Caravan Park, Sneatonthorpe, Whitby, reference NYM/2009/0587/FL

1. Due to the identified presence of 1 to 2 common pipistrelles during the summer roosting beneath roof tiles and under fascia boards, there is a slight risk of bats being present during the roof strip. Therefore a qualified and licensed bat ecologist from MAB Environment & Ecology Ltd will be present on site during the stripping of the roof. We would not anticipate bats to be present during the winter, but the ecological supervision will act as a safeguard. The ecologist will be licensed also to care for bats, therefore in the unlikely event that a bat is uncovered, the correct decision will be made at the time for the best welfare of the bat (i.e. immediate release, release late the same day, or off-site care followed by release). That decision will depend upon the weather conditions and time of year.
2. The roof will be re-built and all features that currently provide habitat for bats will be reinstated in time for the 2010 breeding season of bats (May to September). The identified bats are likely to be males associated with a nearby breeding roost; therefore their presence is most likely during the summer. Although the ecological significance of the roosting is very low, it is preferable to ensure that the habitat is ready for occupation as early as possible in the spring. We would therefore recommend that all roofing works and works to the fascias are completed by 1st April 2010.
3. The gap behind the existing fascia will be retained / replaced to exactly the same specifications, and at least 25mm wide.
4. The eaves will be left open (i.e. no bird comb or mortar) as existing, so that bats will be able to access the space under the roof tiles.



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