



**Ecological Consultants
Environmental and Rural Chartered Surveyors**

Your Ref: Pheonix Ironworks
Our Ref: 9801

Adam Pickford
Eric Wright Construction Ltd
Sceptre House
Sceptre Way
Bamber Bridge
PR5 6AW

Thursday, 17 April 2025

Dear Mr Pickford

RE: PHEONIX IRONWORKS

In reference to the above site, we understand there is to be demolition of a building on site and a planning condition covering the site states

“No demolition works or vegetation clearance shall take place during the optimum period for bird nesting (march - september inclusive) unless nesting birds have been shown to be absent, or, a method statement for the demolition including for the protection of any nesting birds is agreed in writing by the city council, local planning authority. Any method statement shall then be implemented for the duration of the demolition works”

I would report that we undertook a nesting bird survey at the above site on the 17th April 2025.

There is no vegetation clearance required but a building under multiple pitched roofs is to be demolished.

Mr Andrew Gardner, an ecologist with over 25 years professional experience undertook the survey. The external fabric was inspected for cracks, crevices, holes and ledges providing potential nesting opportunities. Signs of nesting such as nest material, droppings, chick calls and adult birds carrying prey items or nest materials were searched for.

The external brick work appears to be in fair condition, an no nest sites were found. Numerous slipped slates were noted during a drone survey of the roof, but these areas were noted to be running with water, being damp and cold.

No evidence of nesting by birds externally could be found.



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Internally the building is open and light with glass skylights. Several areas of glass are missing, allowing Feral Pigeons (*Columba livia domestica*) access to the internal space. Numerous lines of droppings were noted on the floor, under exposed steel work in the roof from roosting. Four Feral Pigeons were recorded inside the building at the time of survey. These exited via the roof openings and did not show any signs of nest protection behaviour.

Internally no nests could be found.

Feral Pigeons are listed as a “pest” species and a general licence allows for the killing or injury of birds and destruction of nests and eggs, where this is for the protection of property or due to a health and safety risk.

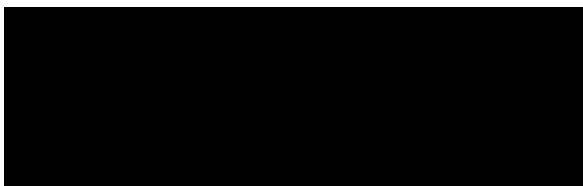
The presence of extensive guano in the occupied area of the building is a health and safety risk and would justify the killing or injury of birds and or destruction of nests and eggs. Reasonable steps must however be taken to use non-lethal methods of before lethal control can be used.

We would recommend demolition is undertaken with care. Contractors should be briefed on the presence of Feral Pigeons on site and that Pigeon guano may harbour pathogens such as *Histoplasma capsulatum*, *Cryptococcus*, and *Salmonella*.

Use dampening methods to reduce airborne particles. Collect and double-bag guano waste as hazardous waste per environmental regulations. Transport and dispose of in accordance with Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 or local equivalent. Personnel must wear appropriate PPE: disposable overalls, gloves, FFP3 masks or respirators, eye protection.

Soft strip the internal fabric of the building first, allowing birds to disperse. Should a nest be found, with young or eggs present, contact the ecological consultants for this project (Envirotech 015395 61894) for advice before proceeding. A judgement as to if the nest can be moved or destroyed will be made based on its location and risk to health and safety of site operatives who would have to work around it and the associated pigeon guano.

Feral Pigeons nest all year around. There is as such no “optimal time” for work on this building to avoid the risk of nesting birds. It will be present all year around, **but at the current time, no active nest sites could be found.**





Internal rooms are open and light



Missing slates on roof result in water running down the walls



Roof verges lack gaps and cracks suitable for nesting birds such as House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)