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VAT REGISTRATION NO: 290 0603 30

For: John Southworth Builders Limited

Site: Land off Parkmount Road, Harpurhey, Manchester, M9 4AJ

National Grid Reference: SD86010217

Project No: PR-0120-24

Date of Issue: 02/05/2024

Re: Inspection of trees in relation to Breeding Birds

Context

A planning application with Manchester City Council (Planning Reference: 137462/FO/2023) regarding Land off Parkmount Road was granted on 3rd July 2023, subject to a number of conditions. Plans include the erection of 24 houses with associated parking, landscaping, access and boundary treatment.

Of these conditions, one relates to ecological matters:

"13) No construction works or vegetation clearance shall take place during the optimum period for bird nesting (1st March - 31st August 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.

Reason - In order to protect wildlife from works that may impact on their habitats pursuant to policy EN15 of the Manchester Core Strategy."

As such, in April 2024 Tyrer Ecological Consultants Ltd were commissioned by John Southworth Builders Limited to undertake pre-commencement checks of the trees onsite for signs of nesting birds, before they could be felled.

8th April

The site was first attended by the following surveyor (see **Table 1**):

Table 1 – Site surveyor credentials

Name	Description of most relevant credentials
Mr. B. Richards Qualifying CIEEM	• Consultant Ecologist with 2 years training and experience, • MBiolSci in Biological Sciences (Zoology), • Accredited agent on the Natural England Class 2 bat license of Mrs K Wilding CEnv MIEMA ACIEEM (CLS-14227).

During this visit, the surveyor assessed each of the trees to be felled; each was found to be absent of nests, with the exception of a magpie (*Pica pica*) nest on the northern-most tree (denoted as T1 in Mulberry TMC's tree plan, see **Appendix II**), with birds observed carrying nesting material into the nest.

As such, the Ecologist informed contractors on site that T2, T3, G1 & G2 were absent of nesting birds and could be safely felled within 48 hrs. Given that an active magpie nest was identified in T1, contractors were informed that this tree could not be felled until the nest had been naturally abandoned.

10th April

The site was then attended by the following surveyor (see **Table 2**):

Table 2 – Site surveyor credentials

Name	Description of most relevant credentials
Mr. H. Mulligan Qualifying CIEEM	• Junior Ecologist with 2 years training and experience, • MBiolSci in Biological Sciences (Zoology), • Accredited agent on the Natural England Class 2 bat license of Mrs K Wilding CEnv MIEMA ACIEEM (CLS-14227).

On this visit, the surveyor noted that the majority of the trees from G1 and G2, all absent of nests during the previous inspection, had been felled, while several trees remained. As such, the remainder of the trees were again subject to an assessment for evidence of nesting bird activity. As with the first inspection, all of the remaining trees, with the exception of T1, were absent of nesting birds.

Two magpies were again observed bringing nesting material to the nest within T1, both adding to the structure.

The Ecologist again informed the contractors onsite that each of the trees onsite, excluding T1, could be safely felled within 48 hours of the survey time, as nesting birds were absent and thus risks could be safely discounted.

They were also informed that no works (including felling, pruning, trimming etc) should occur to T1 until such a time that the nest has been naturally abandoned or when all chicks have fledged and are no longer dependent on the nest.

Conclusions

Following the supervised works the ecologists are satisfied that no harm was caused to birds, provided T1 remains in place until the nest is abandoned.

Tyrer Ecological Consultants Ltd can confirm that the contents of this letter can be relied upon and the specialist information contained within has been provided using best practice survey methodology based on industry standard training, benchmarked by the long standing experience of the Ecologists affiliated with the company.

For any enquiries, or if any information is required, please contact Tyrer Ecological Consultants Ltd on any of the specified mediums atop this letterhead.

Mr. H. Mulligan Qualifying CIEEM

H. Mulligan

Junior Ecologist at Tyrer Ecological Consultants Ltd

02/05/2024



Plate 1 – *Character of the site pre-felling on 8th April 2024, with trees absent of nesting*



Plate 2 – *Further character of the site pre-felling*



Plate 3 – *Nest observed within T1 on 8th April 2024*



Plate 4 – *Character of the site on 10th April 2024, with felled trees evident to right*



Plate 5 – North of site, with remaining trees on 10th April



Plate 6 – Magpie nest still present in T1 on 10th April

Appendix II: Tree Plan (© Mulberry TMC)

