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Ba) Survey Report Autumn 2010

THE COWSHED  
BURLEY FARM  
BRISTOL

Completed by Alan Edwards

Ecological surveying, bat roosting, bird and insect surveys, tree work, etc. Tel: 604-271-1111 Fax: 604-271-1112

THE COWSHED  
BURLEY FARM  
BRISTOL

JAN 2011

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## AN INITIAL ECOLOGICAL REPORT ON THE COWSHED AT BURLEY FARM, BRINGSTY.

### SUMMARY.

Mr & Mrs M Davies are the owners of Burley Farm, Bringsty, near Bromyard. They have recently bought the property and are intending to apply for planning permission to convert a single storey cowshed into additional residential accommodation.

As part of the planning process they instructed Edwards Ecological & Environmental Services to carry out an inspection of the cowshed and the surroundings for signs of European Protected Species and especially any signs of bat usage of the building itself.

As can be seen in the accompanying photographs the cowshed is a single storey building constructed primarily of brick with an asbestos sheet roof. It is situated in the farmyard adjacent to the farmhouse, some steel clad farm buildings, and slightly further away an earlier brick and timber framed barn.

Inspection of the cowshed and the surrounding area was carried out in late autumn 2010. Weather conditions were good. No water source or ponds were found in the surrounding area that could be deemed favourable to Great Crested Newts, and there is little natural habitat suitable for other protected species such as slow worms etc.

A detailed inspection was carried out on the cowshed, both internally and externally using ladders and an endoscope where necessary. A small hole was created to give visual access into the very small roof void which extends through part of the building.

No evidence of bats or bat usage were discovered. No droppings, moth wings, staining or other signs were found. The roof void was seen to be very heavily cobwebbed, so precluding any possible flight within the space.

On the basis of this evidence the conclusion is that the cowshed is of no significance to bats, and therefore no further surveys are necessary.

As part of the conversion process it might be worth incorporating some bat friendly features into the design to increase the site's potential.

