

All Growth Matters

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To Whom it May Concern

Re: Stable Block, Stable Cottage, Steeles Lane, Meopham

I have worked at Stable Cottage now for over ten years, helping to develop and maintain the garden and stable yard. In addition, I have spent weekends and evenings on site as I have grown vegetables in a Polytunnel on the land adjacent to the stables for many years. I would like to confirm that I have seen no evidence of bats within the stable block area, which is a single single-storey, low-roofed structure with no enclosed roof voids and minimal opportunities for roosting. There are no evident entry points and I have never seen bats when watering early in the evening or early in the morning. Over the years, when collecting tools and equipment from the stables, I have seen no evidence of bat activity such as droppings, staining, feeding remains, or flight patterns associated with roost entrances.

Given the nature of the buildings, I feel they are highly unlikely to attract bats, as bats typically prefer higher, more sheltered roosting locations such as mature trees, taller buildings, or roof spaces with suitable access points. The surrounding area includes several tall trees which would offer far more favourable roosting conditions than the low, open, stable block.

This statement is provided in good faith based on long-term familiarity with the site.

Signed:

Caroline Halfpenny

BSc (Hons) Landscape Management