

1. Introduction

1.1. Background

- 1.1.1. Cornwall Environmental Consultants (CEC) Ltd were commissioned by Trewidland Parish Council on behalf of The Trewidland Village Hall Trustees in June 2026 to undertake an ecological assessment of Trewidland Village Hall. The location of the site and its survey area are shown in Figure 1 below.



Figure 1: Site location

- 1.1.2. The site is bound by a patchwork of agricultural fields, consisting of a mixture of pasture and arable land – the field boundaries are well defined by traditional Cornish hedgerows and tree belts. The surrounding area is characterised by dispersed rural settlements separated by agricultural land and woodland.
- 1.1.3. The site is situated in the small village of Trewidland. The nearest neighbouring settlements are St Keyne – approximately 1.5km to the northwest.
- 1.1.4. The client proposes to demolish the Hall present on the site, with a view to replacing the building, however plans are not available as of July 2026.
- 1.1.5. This report has been prepared by Alex Smart, BSc (Hons), MSc. Alex is an assistant ecologist with 1.5 years' experience within the ecology industry and additionally possesses research experience within the agricultural sector.
- 1.1.6. The purpose of this report is:

- to identify key ecological constraints to the proposed development;
- to allow significant ecological effects to be avoided or minimised wherever possible;
- to allow the further ecological surveys needed to be identified and appropriately designed;
and
- to allow mitigation or compensation measures to be developed.

- 1.1.7. This report is not suitable for submission as part of a planning application, as a full assessment of the ecological impacts of the proposed development has not been completed. This is because sufficient details of the proposals, including the necessary plans, have not been provided to enable a comprehensive assessment.
- 1.1.8. The client believes that this will be a de minimis project, therefore we have not undertaken a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) assessment as part of this work.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1.1. A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) was conducted on the 29 June 2026 of Trewidland Village Hall, Liskeard. A Bat and Barn Owl survey for this site was also completed in June 2026, and the results of this assessment should be reviewed in addition to this PEA (CEC, 2026).
- 7.1.2. The client proposes to demolish the existing Village Hall and replace it with a new building. No formal proposals are available as of July 2026.
- 7.1.3. There are no statutory designated sites within the 1km search radius, however the site lies within the Zol of Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC, and within two SSSI IRZ's.
- 7.1.4. The site is within 1km of two non-statutory designated sites. Due to the size, location and the anticipated nature of the potential development, it is considered unlikely that there would be an impact on these sites.
- 7.1.5. The site supports roosting bats. Internal inspections of the building onsite identified numerous potential bat access points, together with the presence of bat droppings. Consequently, the building was assessed as having high suitability to support roosting bats (more details in the CEC5825 BBOA report) and further surveys were recommended within the report. Mitigation will be determined following the completion of emergence surveys on the building.
- 7.1.6. Stands of bamboo were identified within the site. Although bamboo is not listed under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), it is considered a non-native invasive species due to its potential to spread and become difficult to control. Removal of the bamboo is recommended to prevent further encroachment into the site and surrounding habitats.
- 7.1.7. The hedgerows on site provide potential nesting habitat for birds, hibernation habitat for reptiles, and commuting and foraging corridors for bats and dormice. Should any future proposals for the site impact on the hedges, further assessment for the impacts on species present within them would be required.
- 7.1.8. The site should be managed to minimise risks to wildlife, including covering any excavations, or providing suitable means of escape and keeping the site tidy to prevent wildlife becoming entangled, or exposed to hazardous materials.
- 7.1.9. Qualitative biodiversity enhancements should be incorporated into the development, including the instillation of one Vivara Pro UK Build-in WoodStone® Bat Box, one bee brick per; and two to four CJ Wildlife WoodStone Swift nest boxes on the new village hall. Landscaping should include pollinator-friendly species from the RHS 'Perfect for Pollinators' list.