

Gunton Woodland Community Project

Bird & Bat Box Survey : November 2018

Report Summary, dated February 2018

The previous survey, carried out under the control of B. Shimmield, was dated February 2018. Barry's summary results were as follows. (Figures quoted from Barry's summary sheets).

70 Bird boxes were inspected. Zero Bat boxes were inspected.

34 Bird boxes had nests. 2 had been used as a winter shelter. 21 were found to be empty. 7 were not checked and 5 were missing. 4 new boxes were installed and 2 boxes were repaired.

Report Summary, dated November 2018

The latest survey, under the control of M.Thomas, was undertaken between 28 September and 08 November 2018. Barry's box location chart and log sheets were used as a reference. In summary, the results were as follows.

In total, 75 Bird box locations were inspected. 5 boxes were found to be missing. 36 boxes had nests. These were generally of moss/ feather construction, suggesting blue tit/great tit/coal tit occupancy, or similar bird species. (Abandoned / non-hatched eggs were found at 9 locations; nominally 1, perhaps 2 eggs maximum, but 8 eggs found in one of the boxes). 36 boxes were found to be empty. Of the remaining three bird boxes, 1 was found to be part full of bird guano only, (used as shelter only?), one was half full of wood shavings (possibly used by mice ?) and one box indicated use by a solitary bee or similar species.

7 Bat box locations were inspected. 4 were found to be missing. The remaining three were found to be in poor condition. Relocation of these boxes had been proposed, (by the GWCP committee), however, due to the poor state of the boxes it was recommended that the boxes remain in situ. One box had been used by birds, a moss nest having been found inside.

Note 1 : the survey dated 01 November 2018, included the inspection of an additional 7 bird boxes, to those listed / charted by Barry. These boxes are located in the Moore's Lane area of the woodland and were not part of the initial GWCP remit. They have now come under the auspices of GWCP and will be included in any future inspection surveys.

Note 2 : Further boxes, both bird and bat boxes, were installed during the survey dated 08 November 2018. 4 new bird boxes were installed, 3 boxes were repaired in-situ (new metal faceplates fitted) and 2 others were removed, repaired and then re-instated. One bird box was removed and not re-instated, a major repair being required. Three new bat boxes were also installed.

A chart, detailing the location of each box, within the woodland, has been created, together with logsheets detailing the findings at each box location. These documents should be consulted in conjunction with this report. The chart includes a key / legend as an aid to differentiating between bird and bat box locations. A North arrow has been added, for chart orientation.

In summary, 75 Bird and 6 Bat Boxes are currently in-situ within the GWCP Woodland Area.

Report date : 08 November 2018

Submitted by : M. Thomas