

Forward Planning
61 Wyndham Road
Salisbury
SP1 3AH

officer to contact: Elaine Milton
direct line: 01722 434313
email: emilton@salisbury.gov.uk
web: www.salisbury.gov.uk

Report

Report subject: Barn North of Manor House, Winterbourne Gunner

Report to: Northern Area Committee

Date: 28th July 2005

Author: Elaine Milton, Conservation Officer, (Forward Planning)

Report Summary:

This report has been requested to update the committee regarding progress with the barn following the decision to serve an urgent works notice at its meeting on the 2nd June 2005.

Update:

The urgent works notice has been prepared and the contractors are on standby to carry out the work.

A letter was sent to Mr Bruce-White following the committee resolution to serve the notice. This was in an effort to give Mr Bruce-White the opportunity to do the work himself, prompt discussion about ways in which the longer term repairs could be facilitated, and it also suggested a potential source of funding from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). (N.B. the regional Defra advisor has been contacted and he has indicated to the conservation team that there may be up to 80% funding for repairs to the building via the Environmental Stewardship Scheme).

A reply has been recently received from Mr Bruce-White, the contents of which are being given consideration at the moment. A significant matter has been raised by Mr Bruce-White regarding barn owls nesting in the thatched roof of the barn. Although this has been confirmed over the telephone with a member of the RSPB, a barn owl expert is to visit the site to confirm this, and to ascertain what stage in the nesting process the barn owls are at. The urgent works will need to be postponed until the young have fledged because it is an offence to disturb nesting barn owls. At the earliest, the expert's view is that the young may fledge by the end of July, and at the worst it may be another 15 weeks before they have fledged. If the expert's view is that it will be any longer than the end of July, then a scheme will need to be devised for preserving the barn as best we can without disturbing the barn owls.

In the meantime, the conservation team will continue to correspond with Mr Bruce-White in an attempt to find a resolution to the situation, whilst at the same time pursuing the approved course of action required to safeguard the building from further decay or collapse should negotiations fail.

Recommendations:

That the updated report be noted.



Awarded in:
Housing Services
Waste and Recycling Services



Background Papers:

[Previous committee report attached.](#)

Implications:

- Financial: None for this report (the cost of the urgent works would be approximately £18,000, which would be paid for by the council, and subsequently recovered from the owner).
- Legal: In the report.
- Human Rights: Any interference with owner's property rights would be justified under the situation as balanced against the requirements of the legislation pertaining to listed buildings.
- Personnel: N/A.
- Community Safety: N/A.
- Environmental implications: N/A.
- Council's Core Values: Being environmentally conscientious.
- Wards Affected: N/A.