

WILDLIFE SIGHTING IN BOVINGDON – SWIFT NEWS

Are you keeping an eye on the sky now the planes are so rare? Bovingdon's Swifts returned from Africa yesterday and have been seen over Bovingdon Airfield. They are generally the last spring bird to arrive and the first to leave. Their numbers are declining rapidly across the country and part of the reason for this is that the old houses they love to use for nests are being replaced by houses with roof spaces that they are unable to access. There are only 3 known nest sites in the whole Hemel Hempstead area and they need help.

If we could track down where these Bovingdon nests are bird boxes, that are currently available from the Box Moor Trust, could be placed nearby to help the colony survive.

They normally use very old buildings, but may have found something suitable at the prison site. We just don't know. So, over to you residents of Bovingdon! Swifts generally nest under the eaves of old buildings – have you seen any? Please email Admin@boxmoortrust.org.uk with any sightings and let's try and encourage them to nest in the village by providing nest boxes.

Any information will also be used in the environmental section of the current Bovingdon Neighbourhood Plan.

Thank you.