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### STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

man. democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk

Monday, 4 October 2021

### **DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the Development Control Committee will be held on <u>TUESDAY</u>, <u>12</u> <u>OCTOBER 2021</u> in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud at <u>6.00 pm</u>

Kathy O'Leary Chief Executive

Wed Leany

Please Note: The meeting is being held in the Council Chamber at Stroud District Council and will be streamed live on the Council's <u>YouTube Channel</u>. A recording of the meeting will be published onto the <u>Council's website</u>. The whole of the meeting will be recorded except where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of press and public.

Due to current Covid-19 regulations a maximum of 6 members of public will be permitted in the Council Chamber at any one time, if you would like to attend this meeting please contact democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk.

### <u>A G E N D A</u>

#### 1. APOLOGIES

To receive apologies of absence.

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declarations of Interest in relation to planning matters.

#### 3. MINUTES (Pages 3 - 8)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2021.

### 4. PLANNING SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING (Pages 9 - 14)

(Note: For access to information purposes, the background papers for the applications listed in the above schedule are the application itself and subsequent papers as listed in the relevant file.)

Agenda Published: Monday, 4 October 2021

### 4.1 THE BERRYFIELD SPORTS FIELD, STONEHOUSE (S.20/2161/FUL) (Pages 15 - 84)

Erection of 52 dwellings with associated access, parking & landscaping, together with a new sports pavilion with associated facilities.

### 4.2 THE OLD GRANARY, WANSWELL, BERKLEY (S.21/1713/FUL) (Pages 85 - 108)

External alterations to residential dwelling approved under prior approval \$19/1198/P3Q.

#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 – EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Appendices for this item contain exempt information by virtue of Paragraphs 1 & 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 and a resolution may be passed to exclude the public during consideration of this item.

### 4.3 <u>LAND AT REAR OF 1 CLIFTON VILLAS, UPLANDS, STROUD</u> (S.21/1381/FUL) (Pages 109 - 144)

Subdivision of the rear garden and erection of a new dwelling. Creation of new offstreet parking within the front garden. (Revised drawings received 04/08/21 and 25/08/21).

#### 5. OFFICER REPORT (TO NOTE) (Pages 145 - 154)

(a) Application & Enforcement Performance Statistics Overview

#### **Members of Development Control Committee**

#### Councillor Martin Baxendale (Chair) Councillor Trevor Hall (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Chris Brine
Councillor Martin Brown
Councillor Jason Bullingham
Councillor Helen Fenton
Councillor Victoria Gray

Councillor Haydn Jones
Councillor Loraine Patrick
Councillor Mark Ryder
Councillor Lucas Schoemaker
Councillor Ashley Smith

Agenda Published: Monday, 4 October 2021

2021/22



#### **DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE**

02 September 2021

6.00 - 7.31 pm

**Council Chamber - SDC** 

#### **Minutes**

#### **Membership**

#### **Councillor Martin Baxendale (Chair)**

Councillor Martin Brown
Councillor Jason Bullingham
Councillor Helen Fenton
Councillor Chris Brine
Councillor Haydn Jones

\*= Absent

#### **Councillor Trevor Hall (Vice-Chair)**

Councillor Helen Fenton Councillor Loraine Patrick Councillor Mark Ryder Councillor Victoria Gray

#### Officers in Attendance

Development Team Manager Senior Democratic Services & Elections Officer

Geraldine LeCointe

Democratic Services & Elections Officer Principal Planning Lawyer, One Legal

#### Other Member(s) in Attendance

Councillors Braun and James

#### DCC.12 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brine, Jones, Schoemaker, Smith and Gray.

#### DCC.13 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

#### DCC.14 Minutes

The Chair announced there had been a discrepancy within the minutes under item DC.011 St Marys, Eastcombe, Stroud. Lesley Greene was speaking on behalf of Bisley

Development Control Committee 02 September 2021

Parish Council and the minutes referenced Eastcombe Parish Council. It was confirmed that the minutes would be amended accordingly.

### RESOLVED That the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2021 were to be approved with the amendment above.

#### DCC.15 Planning Schedule and Procedure for Public Speaking

Representations were received and taken into account by the Committee in respect of Applications:

1 S.19/2712/FUL

### DCC.16 Agricultural Building, Ashen Plains, Waterley Bottom, North Nibley (S.19/2712/FUL)

The Development Team Manager introduced the report and advised that it was for retrospective planning permission for an open-sided agricultural building 'Barn 2'. He explained that the Barn had been erected to support the agricultural use of the land. It was also confirmed that an error have been included in the report and the planning application references should have been S.19/0596/FUL not S.19/0576/FUL. The Development Team Manager informed the Committee the site was beyond any defined settlement limits, was in the open country side and fell within the Cotswold's Area of Natural Beauty (AONB). The woodland surrounding the site was also a key wildlife site and had been designated as an ancient woodland.

The Development Team Manager informed the Committee that, after the first application was refused, the applicant provided more information regarding the use of the barn to house livestock, due to barn 1 being unsuitable. A specialist rural planning and land management consultant reviewed the application and concluded that on the basis of the additional information provided, there was a reasonable need for the building. The Officer assessment was that, the agricultural need for barn 2 had been justified, the building met acceptable design standards and it conserved the natural beauty of the area. He directed the Committee to consider whether there was an essential need for Barn 2 and whether the development was of an acceptable design standard and conserves the natural beauty of the landscape.

Councillor Braun spoke as a ward member against the application. She stated that the main objection was the effect this site would have had on biodiversity and on the landscape character. The other concerns raised included:

- The sustainability of the agricultural business given the change over recent years to a mixed use involving camping, equestrian uses, events and woodland activities.
- Was an additional barn required for such a small holding when a previous application had been refused due to the size and location not being justified.
- Page 7 of the report stated planning officers were made aware of barn 1, also built without planning consultation, being used for non-agricultural events. There was a record on the Council website of eight temporary event notices for events that took place at the site between March 2021 September 2019.

Development Control Committee 02 September 2021

2021/22

- Several camping pods had been erected on the opposite end of the site and a hardcore track had been created.
- Two previous applications rejected for the change of use for barn 1 from agricultural to mixed use and for a premises licence for the sale of alcohol and recorded and live music.
- Local lanes around the AONB are insufficient to deal with large scale events.

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Councillor James spoke as a ward member against the application. He agreed with Councillor Brauns' concerns and highlighted some additional concerns. He drew the Committees attention to 3 policies from the local plan and explained their relevance to this application:

- Policy ES6 Biodiversity
- Policy ES7 Landscape Character
- Policy ES8 Trees, Hedgerows and Woodlands

Councillor James proposed for a full ecological impact assessment to be completed in order to understand the full impact this application would have had on the landscape. He asked the Committee to refuse the application on the basis that the assessment had not been conducted and to prevent further encroachment into the landscape.

Keith Larkin spoke on behalf of North Nibley Parish Council against the application. He explained that since the current occupiers owned the site, the use and character of the land had changed dramatically. He stated the pace of change had accelerated after 2015 to include camping and equestrian uses and from 2017 it has been increasingly used for events including weddings, birthday parties, craft fairs and music events. Some of those events had caused late night disturbance for local residents. Mr Larkin stated that the cumulative impact of the changes that had been made to the site had damaged the character and appearance of the protected AONB and adjoining key wildlife site. He drew the Committees attention to the local plan policy ES7 and Paragraph 172 (updated version 176) of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The barn in question was erected without planning applications and the Parish Council felt that this and other structures on the site should be looked at with a full review. He expressed concerns over the use of the barn in the future and stated that the Parish Council did not agree that the barn was essential and therefore asked the Committee to refuse the planning application stating that it was also contrary to Local Plan Policy CP15 and EI5.

Abigail Snook spoke on behalf of the applicant as the planning consultant. She informed the Committee that SDC had employed the services of an independent agricultural advisor, to conduct a test for the agricultural need of the site. The independent agricultural advisor stated he was satisfied that the agricultural business was viable, the barn was necessary and it met the test of agricultural need. She drew attention to the other uses of the site that were considered in Mr Fox's report stating he had examined figures and understood the need for diversification. She explained that the barns were not always needed all year round for agricultural reasons but that didn't mean they weren't necessary. She discussed the uses of different barns explaining that barn 2 was used for housing livestock for which, barn 1 was unsuitable due to ventilation. Ms Snook stated that the current barn did not harm the AONB as it could not be seen from any vantage point and that the applicants had accepted a condition requiring an ecological enhancement scheme.

The Development Team Manager clarified the following:

Development Control Committee 02 September 2021

- The camping pods mentioned by Councillor Braun did not require planning permission as they were classed as movable structures.
- The point raised regarding highways surrounding the site not supporting large events should not be considered under this application.
- Councillor James requested a full ecological assessment however, the ecologist's opinion was that it was too late as the barn had already been erected.
- Keith Larkin raised concerns over the barn becoming disused, the Development Team Manager reminded the Committee this could be added as a condition by them if required.

Councillor Ryder asked for clarification if there had been any history of removal or damage to the woodland. The Development Team Manager confirmed that he was not aware of any reports of clearance or damage to the woodlands and referred Committee to the aerial photos.

After a question raised by Councillor Bullingham, the Development Team Manager confirmed the whole site was 20 hectares and that It comprised of 17.8 hectares of grazing land, 2.4 hectares of camp site and 4.6 hectares of an equestrian use. The consultant concluded that all of the land was suitable or mixed/agricultural uses. Councillor Bullingham expressed that he didn't see justification for a further barn.

Councillor Patrick asked what changes had been made since the original refusal of the application. The Development Manager confirmed that the previous application had been refused because of insufficient information and that the applicant had provided further information with the new application. Councillor Patrick further raised concerns after the previous plans showed a hatched area labelled as cattle and they were now being informed by the consultant that barn 1 was not suitable for livestock due to inadequate ventilation.

After questions raised from Councillors, the Development Team Manager reiterated that barn 1 was in sole lawful agricultural use and that the applicants had advised that cattle arrived on the site in 2019 after the erection of barn 2.

Councillor Ryder expressed frustration with the amount of activity that had taken place on the site under the radar and without permission and that he was having problems trusting the intents of the landowner.

It was confirmed from the planning application for the stable block, permission was granted for the change of use to equestrian mixed use, agricultural and equestrian which would enable the stable to be used for agricultural use. Councillor Bullingham asked if the independent agricultural advisor had taken that into consideration.

In response to Councillor Bullingham the Development Team Manager clarified that the second report from the independent agricultural advisor addressed the equestrian element of the site and stated that the building and outdoor arena had a personal use and that it wouldn't be grazing land as it was developed and not available for agricultural use.

Councillor Patrick raised concerns about the amount of grazing land that was left for cattle after you had taken away the space for the eco-pods and the other uses and whether there was a justified need for a second barn.

Development Control Committee 02 September 2021

2021/22

Councillor Ryder spoke of his concerns over biodiversity and that he didn't believe there was enough evidence to justify the need for the second barn. The Chair also expressed concerns over the impact on biodiversity as it was a very sensitive site with the woodlands in situ.

Councillor Brown asked for clarification regarding the other uses e.g. events on the site and the extent that could be taken into consideration. The Head of Development Management advised that there had been evidence of unauthorized non-agricultural uses of the site and that this is a difficult situation for the Committee. She confirmed that the application presented to Members is a barn that needs are essential to the agricultural workings of the site.

The Chair asked the Committee to put aside any peripheral issues and focus on whether there is agricultural need for the barn and the effect on the landscape.

Councillor Brown proposed refusal on the following grounds:

- not convinced of the agricultural need for the barn
- requirement and the threat to the landscape and biodiversity

Councillor Ryder seconded the proposal to refuse the application.

The chair confirmed the reasoning would be non-compliance under the local plan policy CP15, ES7 and NPPF paragraph 176.

After receiving clarification from the planning officers regarding the difficulty to prove the impact on biodiversity on a retrospective planning application, Councillor Brown updated his reasons for refusal:

- He did not accept the justification in the report for the agricultural use
- Impact on the Landscape.

Councillor Ryder shared concerns that by not including biodiversity in the reasons for refusal it could send a message that it was not a priority which was not the case, given the location in the AONB.

The Head of Development Management stated that biodiversity could be included within the refusal reasons currently proposed and wouldn't need to be its own reason.

Jeremy Patterson, Principal Planning Lawyer, confirmed that the refusal on the basis that it did not support policy ES7 and paragraph 176 of the NPPF linked to biodiversity within those policies.

Before moving to a vote the Development Team Manager asked Councillor Brown to confirm his reasons for refusal.

Councillor Brown confirmed his reasons for refusal were:

- He did not accept the justification in the report for the agricultural use under the local plan policy CP15
- Landscape Impact under ES7 of the local plan and paragraph 176 of the NPPF.

### Agenda Item 3

2021/22

The chair proposed an amendment "to refuse permission for the application on those grounds with the proviso that it would be delegated to the planning officers in consultation with the chair and vice chair to work out the exact wording"

The proposer and seconder agreed with the amendment and the motion to **refuse** the planning application on the grounds listed above with the proviso that it would be delegated to the planning officers in consultation with the chair and vice chair to work out the exact wording was put to a vote

There were 5 votes for in favour of refusal and 2 votes against refusal.

The motion was carried.

RESOLVED To REFUSE permission for application S.19/2712/FUL with refusal reasons to be delegated to the Development Team Manager in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair

The meeting closed at 7.31 pm

Chair



# Stroud District Council Planning Schedule 12th October 2021

In cases where a Site Inspection has taken place, this is because Members felt they would be better informed to make a decision on the application at the next Committee. Accordingly, the view expressed by the Site Panel is a factor to be taken into consideration on the application and a final decision is only made after Members have fully debated the issues arising.

### Agenda Item 4 Planning Schedule 12/10/2021

#### **DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE**

### **Procedure for Public Speaking**

The Council encourages public speaking at meetings of the Development Control Committee (DCC). This procedure sets out the scheme in place to allow members of the public to address the Committee at the following meetings:

#### 1. Scheduled DCC meetings

#### 2. Special meetings of DCC

#### <u>Introduction</u>

Public speaking slots are available for those items contained within the schedule of applications. Unfortunately, it is not permitted on any other items on the Agenda.

The purpose of public speaking is to emphasise comments and evidence already submitted through the planning application consultation process. Therefore, you must have submitted written comments on an application if you wish to speak to it at Committee. If this is not the case, you should refer your request to speak to the Committee Chairman in good time before the meeting, who will decide if it is appropriate for you to speak.

Those wishing to speak should refrain from bringing photographs or other documents for the Committee to view. Public speaking is not designed as an opportunity to introduce new information and unfortunately, such documentation will not be accepted.

Scheduled DCC meetings are those which are set as part of the Council's civic timetable. Special DCC meetings are irregular additional meetings organised on an ad-hoc basis for very large or complex applications.

#### Before the meeting

You must register your wish to speak at the meeting. You are required to notify both our Democratic Services Team <a href="mailto:democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk">democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk</a> and our Planning Team <a href="mailto:planning@stroud.gov.uk">planning@stroud.gov.uk</a> by 12 noon 1 clear working day before the day of the meeting, exceptionally, the council will consider late representations if appropriate.

#### At the meeting

If you have registered to speak at the meeting, please try to arrive at the Council Chamber 10 minutes before the Committee starts so that you can liaise with the democratic services officer and other speakers who have also requested to speak in the same slot. Where more than one person wishes to speak, you may wish to either appoint one spokesperson or share the slot equally.

### Planning Schedule 12/10/2021

#### 1. Scheduled DCC Meetings

There are three available public speaking slots for each schedule item, all of which are allowed a total of **four minutes** each: -

- Town or Parish representative
- Objectors to the application and
- Supporters of the application (this slot includes the applicant/agent).

**Please note**: to ensure fairness and parity, the four-minute timeslot is strictly adhered to and the Chairman will ask the speaker to stop as soon as this period has expired.

Those taking part in public speaking should be aware of the following:

- They will be recorded and broadcast as part of the Council's webcasting of its meetings.
- Webcasts will be available for viewing on the Council's website and may also be used for subsequent proceedings e.g. at a planning appeal.
- Names of speakers will also be recorded in the Committee Minutes which will be published on the website.

The order for each item on the schedule is

- 1. Introduction of item by the Chair
- 2. Brief presentation and update by the planning case officer.
- 3. The Ward Member(s)
- 4. Public Speaking
  - a. Parish Council
  - b. Those who oppose the application
  - c. Those who support the application
- 5. Committee Member questions of officers
- 6. Committee Members motion tabled and seconded
- 7. Committee Members debate the application
- 8. Committee Members vote on the application

### Agenda Item 4 Planning Schedule 12/10/2021

#### 2. Special DCC meetings

There are three available public speaking slots for each schedule item, all of which are allowed a total of up to **eight minutes** each: -

- Town or Parish representative
- Objectors to the application and
- Supporters of the application (this slot includes the applicant/agent).

**Please note**: to ensure fairness and parity, the eight-minute timeslot will be strictly adhered to and the Chairman will ask the speaker to stop after this time period has expired.

Those taking part in public speaking should be aware of the following:

- They will be recorded and broadcast as part of the Council's webcasting of its meetings.
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# Agenda Item 4 Planning Schedule 12/10/2021

Parish	Stonehouse Town The Berryfield Sports Field, Bristol Road Old, Stonehouse.			
Stonehouse Town Council				
Hamfallow Parish Council	The Old Granary, Halmore Lane, Wanswell. S.21/1713/FUL - External alterations to residential dwelling approved under prior approval S19/1198/P3Q	2		
Stroud Town Council	Land At Rear Of 1 Clifton Villas, Springfield Road, Uplands. S.21/1381/FUL - Subdivision of the rear garden and erection of a new dwelling. Creation of new offstreet parking within the front garden. (Revised drawings received 04/08/21 and 25/08/21)	3		





Item No:	1				
Application No.	S.20/2161/FUL				
Site Address	The Berryfield Sports Field, Bristol Road Old, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire				
Town/Parish	Stonehouse Town Council				
<b>Grid Reference</b>	380304,205199				
<b>Application Type</b>	Full Planning Application				
Proposal	Erection of 52 dwellings with associated access, parking & landscaping,				
	together with a new sports pavilion with associated facilities				
Recommendation	Permission				
Call in Request	Town Council				





# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

Applicant's	Wycliffe College & The Guinness Partnership					
Details	Wycliffe College & The Guinness Partnership, Bristol Road, Stonehouse,					
	Gloucestershire, GL10 2AF					
Agent's Details	·					
	Trull, Tetbury, GL8 8SQ, ,					
Case Officer	Simon Penketh					
Application Validated	12.10.2020					
Vandated	CONSULTEES					
Comments	Biodiversity Officer					
Received	Environmental Health (E)					
	Biodiversity Officer					
	Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust (E)					
	Contaminated Land Officer (E)					
	Natural England (E)					
	Mike Towson					
	Archaeology Dept (E)					
	Flood Resilience Land Drainage					
	Development Coordination (E)					
	Conservation North Team					
	Sport England					
	Planning Strategy Manager (E)					
	Arboricultural Officer (E)					
	Housing Strategy And Community Infrastructure					
	SDC Water Resources Engineer					
	Stonehouse Town Council					
Constraints	Affecting the Setting of a Cons Area					
	Consult area					
	Glos Centre Env Records - Species					
	Neighbourhood Plan					
	Stonehouse Town Council					
	SAC SPA 7700m buffer					
	Settlement Boundaries (LP)					
	Single Tree Preservation Order Points TPO Areas (Woodland/ Groups)					
	Village Design Statement					
	OFFICER'S REPORT					
	OI FIGUR 3 REPORT					



#### 1. MAIN ISSUES

- · Principle of development
- Open Space and Sports Facilities
- Design, appearance and landscape impact
- Archaeology & Historic Environment
- Ecology
- Drainage
- Residential Amenity
- Highway Impact
- Planning Obligations
- The Planning Balance

#### 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

- 2.1 The site is contained within the Stonehouse the Settlement Development Limits. It is located to the west of Stonehouse Town Centre, off the A419 (Bristol Road). The site is made up of open space utilised as a private sports field associated with Wycliffe School.
- 2.2 A number of listed buildings a located around the site. These are associated with Stonehouse High Street as well as historical buildings related to the Industrial Heritage Conservation Area. Stonehouse Court and St Cyr Church are Grade II Star listed buildings located approximately 350 to 400 metres dues Southwest of the site. Berryfield House and North Berryfield are grade II listed buildings located approximately 200 metres due Southeast. The Industrial Heritage Conservation Area is located due South the A419 Bristol Road, its nearest point to the application site being approximately 180 metres to the south.
- 2.3 The site is not within any specific landscape designations or areas protected for sensitive ecology or biodiversity. However, the site is adjacent to Stonehouse Newt Pond (also referred to as Court View Ponds) which is locally designated as a Key Wildlife Site and Local Wildlife Site for its amphibian interest.
- 2.4 Public Right of Way (PROW) MST/10 passes the site adjacent to its Northwest boundary and flows a route Northeast towards Stonehouse Town Centre. PROW MST/11 joins MST/10 at its junction with the A419 (Bristol Road) and follows a North-westerly direction. MST/52 joins MST/10 on Laburnum Walk beyond the Northwest corner of the site and follows a South-easterly towards Stonehouse Town Centre.

#### 3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1 The planning application is submitted in full. The proposed development proposes two key elements;
- the construction of 52 residential dwellings (Proposed Residential Development), and,
- the construction of a new pavilion building (School Sports Facilities).



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

3.2 Access to both elements of the proposal are from A419 (Bristol Road) via the former alignment of Bristol Road utilising the existing access onto Berryfield. The broad scope of the proposals is detailed below.

#### 3.3 Proposed Residential Development

It is proposed to construct 52 dwellings with associated access and resident and visitor parking. This takes up the majority of the application site positioned to the East of existing residential development associated with Festival Road and due South of Laburnum Mews. The development would provide 100% affordable housing on the basis of 50% Social Rent and 50% Shared Ownership tenure split. The development also includes ecological/landscape mitigation as part of the associated drainage infrastructure.

3.4 The majority of the buildings are two storey in height and arranged as a mix of semidetached, terraced houses and flats. Of the 52 units, 6 are proposed to be 2.5 storey houses. The development would provide a range of dwelling types made up of 1 bed and 2 bed flats, 2, 3 and 4 bed houses. This range would provide for a range of households from 2 persons up to 6 persons. For the avoidance of doubt, the development does not provide accommodation to be used for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO).

#### 3.5 Proposed School Sports Facilities

It is proposed to construct a new sports pavilion and associated car and coach parking (including parking for disabled drivers) as part of the development. The Parking includes provision for electric car charging points as well as facilities for cycle parking. The proposed building is positioned approximately 10 metres (at the central point of its rear elevation) due North of the boundary with No.4 Bristol Road. The main parking area is positioned to the West of the building with access onto Bristol Road. 5 of the proposed parking spaces are positioned within 5 metres of the rear boundary of No.2 Bristol Road.

- 3.6 The proposed pavilion building itself measures 23 metres wide by 12 metres deep with an overall height of 8 metres. The building is two storeys in height and includes changing, toilet and physio/first aid facilities on the ground floor; and, kitchen facilities, multifunction/studio and terrace (facing the sports pitches). The sports pitches themselves are outside the application site. These will be retained by Wycliffe School and used as part of the school sports curriculum.
- 3.7 A landscaped area (including wildflower mix and native shrub planting) is proposed to be introduced between the car parking area/pavilion building and adjacent properties associated with Bristol Road. There are a number of mature trees located on the site in this area of the site. These include 2 Tree Preservation Orders (with a further Tree Preservation Order just off site to the East).

#### 4. REVISED DETAILS

- 4.1 During the course of the assessment of this application the following revisions have been provided;
- Revised access junction detail between nos. 1 and 2 Bristol Road.



- Revised Drainage strategy
- Position of the proposed pavilion adjusted
- Amendments to proposed layout (service margins, parking arrangement and rear garden access arrangements).

#### 5. MATERIALS

Residential Development Off white render (or similar)/recon stone quoins, heads and cills

with grey interlocking roof tiles

Buff Brick/Red Brick heads and cills with red interlocking tiles

Mix of block paving and tarmac surface treatment

Sports Facilities Zinc coated facia, Cedar timber cladding, aluminium glazing

system, facing brickwork and stainless steel balustrade

Block Paving surface treatment

#### 6. REPRESENTATIONS

### 6.1 - Parish/Town Councils:

#### 6.1.1 - Stonehouse Town Council

Stonehouse Town Council object to the proposed development. The Town Council has provided a comprehensive response. The key points are summarised below;

- a) The application does not meet the requirements of Local Plan Policy ES13. It has not been demonstrated that there is a surplus of open space provision in the area to meet current and future needs or that the replacement facility provides a net benefit to the community in terms of quality, availability and accessibility of open space or recreational opportunities.
- b) Analysis done for current Local Plan review concludes there isn't a shortfall of recreation/play space in Stonehouse area but there are shortfalls in allotments, amenity green space and youth play space. In addition, although there is sufficient supply of parks and recreation grounds and children's play space this does not mean they are surplus, as any loss of facilities may result in gaps in access and the Stonehouse area is under development pressure with major new housing estates being constructed and planned.
- c) The application fails to demonstrate a net benefit to the community in terms of access to recreational facilities. The proposed Community Use Agreement seems minimal as it covers the use of one pitch for hockey. There could be more commitment to offering the sporting facilities Wycliffe owns for community use.
- d) There are significant concerns about the safety of road access to the site between A419 and Bristol Road and the impact of additional traffic in the area. The A419 is a busy main route and the turning into and out of the access to the proposed development could be hazardous.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

- e) The site layout and access leads to detriment to the amenity of some neighbours:
- the location of the proposed parking is very close to existing housing and there is a question of whether there is a need for further parking.
- the location of the stadium is much closer to housing than the existing pavilion.
- the location of the housing would be very close to existing housing at Laburnum Mews. Stonehouse

Residents have raised concerns about the impact of traffic, parking, noise, and loss of light. Stonehouse Town Council has received eighteen objections from residents to the proposals and many more objections have been added to Stroud District Council's website during the public consultation period. The Town Clerk and three town councillors have visited the site.

- f) The loss of green open space will cause loss of views from some areas. Stonehouse Neighbourhood Plan policy ENV6 identifies views to the Cotswold escarpment and to Doverow Hill as important to the town and the proposed development will cause loss of views.
- g) The lack of an on-site play area should be questioned. Equipment for younger children should be provided.
- h) The design of the housing should take account the need for zero carbon housing developments required in the emerging draft Local Plan (draft Core Policy DCP1 Delivering Carbon Neutral by 2030, draft Delivery Policy ES1 Sustainable construction and design).

#### 6.2 - External Agencies

#### 6.2.1 - Natural England

Natural England raises no objection. Natural England provides detailed advice as follows;

#### SUMMARY OF NATURAL ENGLAND'S ADVICE

NO OBJECTION - SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATE MITIGATION BEING SECURED

We consider that without appropriate mitigation the application would:

- have an adverse effect on the integrity of the Severn Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA), Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Ramsar Site and the Cotswold Beechwoods SAC.
- damage or destroy the interest features for which the 'Severn Estuary', Upper Severn Estuary' and 'Cotswold Commons & Beechwoods' Sites of Special Scientific Interest have been notified.



In order to mitigate these adverse effects and make the development acceptable, the mitigation options for the Cotswold Beechwoods SAC described in the Council's appropriate assessment report should be secured. The Council's mitigation strategy for residential development within 7.7km of the Severn Estuary SAC/SPA/Ramsar Site will also need to be addressed.

We advise that an appropriate planning condition or obligation is attached to any planning permission to secure these measures.

#### Further advice on mitigation

Natural England notes that your authority, as competent authority, has undertaken an appropriate assessment of the proposal in accordance with Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Species and Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended). Natural England is a statutory consultee on the appropriate assessment stage of the Habitats Regulations Assessment process.

Your appropriate assessment in respect of the Cotswold Beechwoods SAC concludes that your authority is able to ascertain that the proposal will not result in adverse effects on the integrity of any of the sites in question. Having considered the assessment, and the measures proposed to mitigate for all identified adverse effects that could potentially occur as a result of the proposal, Natural England advises that we concur with the assessment conclusions, providing that all mitigation measures are appropriately secured in any permission given.

Note - Your appropriate assessment does not include reference to the Severn Estuary SAC/SPA/Ramsar Site. As the development lies within the 7.7km zone of influence identified around this European Site for the mitigation of recreation related impacts, either a suitable developer contribution should be secured or a bespoke HRA solution provided by the developer.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

The Cotswold Commons & Beechwoods SSSI and National Nature Reserve (NNR) partially coincides

with the Cotswold Beechwoods SAC, while the Severn Estuary SPA/SAC and Ramsar Site partially

coincides with the Severn Estuary and Upper Severn Estuary SSSI.

Provided the mitigation measures for the European Sites are secured as part of planning approval we do not anticipate adverse effects on these SSSIs' notified features.

Please note that if your authority is minded to grant planning permission contrary to the advice in this letter, you are required under Section 28I (6) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) to notify Natural England of the permission, the terms on which it is proposed to grant it and how, if at all, your authority has taken account of Natural England's advice. You must also allow a further period of 21 days before the operation can commence.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

#### 6.2.2 - Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust

Summary - The application does not sufficiently assess or mitigate potential impacts to the Stroud Newt Pond Local Wildlife Site (LWS) or the wider impacts on the Gloucestershire Nature Recovery Network. This is required by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) policies 171 and 174a&b. GWT recommends that this assessment is undertaken before the application is decided and that biodiversity enhancement plans are revised to better align with the Nature Recovery Network. Due to the amenity value of the site, a Building with Nature approach should also be considered.

Comment - GWT notes that the application site has relatively low wildlife value at present. However, the site lies in close proximity to the Stroud Newt Pond Local Wildlife Site (LWS). There appears to be an error in Table 2 of section 4.1 in the Ecological Appraisal, which states that the distance between the development site and the boundary of the LWS is 189 metres. The distance is actually far less than this, approximately 30 metres at its closest point. The Wildlife Trust notes that the actual distance to the three other Local Wildlife Sites mentioned in table 2 is also wrong.

It is recommended that Table 2 is revised using the Local Wildlife Site Boundaries provided by the Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records. Distances should be measured from the closest boundary of the development and Local Wildlife Sites.

GWT wishes to point out that the Stroud Newt Pond LWS is a designated site that should be safeguarded under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 174a. The site also forms a core part of the Gloucestershire Nature Recovery Network and NPPF policies 171 and 174b requires development to 'maintain and enhance ecological networks' and 'promote the recovery of priority species'. The ecological appraisal demonstrates the high value of the Stroud Newt Pond LWS to Great Crested Newts, but it does not sufficiently assess potential impact of construction and operation. Specifically, the impact on water quality and quantity and potential hibernating newts.

GWT welcomes the commitment to delivering Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). This has the potential to deliver enhancements aligned with the Gloucestershire Nature Recovery Network. The BNG proposals lack ambition and the proposed seed mix is not sufficiently diverse to deliver meaningful enhancement. A more appropriate proposal would be to create a mosaic of wetland habitats that expand the size of the existing Local Wildlife Site, providing a buffer to the development.

The Trust has been contacted some of its members who live in the area and are concerned about the loss of a local green space. The Covid pandemic has demonstrated the importance of local green spaces to society and they can be the only access to nature for some people. The current green space at Berryfields has comparatively low wildlife value, so the Trust recommends that the development considers a Building with Nature approach. This will ensure ecological networks are maintained across the development, provide higher quality green spaces and secure good water management on site.



#### 6.2.3 - Sport England

Sport England does not object to the proposed development and comments as follows;

#### Sport England - Statutory Role and Policy

It is understood that the proposal will prejudice the use, or lead to the loss of use, of land being used as a playing field or has been used as a playing field in the last five years, as defined in The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (Statutory Instrument 2015 No. 595).

The consultation with Sport England is therefore a statutory requirement.

Sport England has considered the application in light of the National Planning Policy Framework (in particular Para. 97), and against its own playing fields policy, which states:

'Sport England will oppose the granting of planning permission for any development which would lead to the loss of, or would prejudice the use of:

- all or any part of a playing field, or
- land which has been used as a playing field and remains undeveloped, or
- -land allocated for use as a playing field

unless, in the judgement of Sport England, the development as a whole meet with one or more of five specific exceptions.'

Sport England's Playing Fields Policy and Guidance document can be viewed via the following link: <a href="https://www.sportengland.org/playingfieldspolicy">www.sportengland.org/playingfieldspolicy</a>

#### The Proposal and Impact on Playing Field

The proposal is for the erection of 52 dwellings with associated access, parking & landscaping, together with a new sports pavilion with associated facilities. The housing will result in the loss of approximately 1.29 hectares of an odd shape playing field area which has a minimum width of approximately 44m.

The area has been used in the past for junior football and cricket, although the cricket pitch did not meet recognised ECB pitch standards in size.

There is also some loss of playing field for the pavilion which I will address separately as it is to support the sport on the site.

#### Assessment against Sport England Policy

This application proposes the loss of existing playing field land and is not considered to meet exceptions 3 - 5 (inclusive). It therefore needs to be considered against exception E1 and E2 of the above policy, which states:

- E1- A robust and up to date assessment has demonstrated, to the satisfaction of Sport England, that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, which will remain the case should the development be permitted, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.
- E2 The proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field, and does not affect the quantity or quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

I have therefore assessed the existing and proposed playing fields against the above policy to determine whether the proposals meet exceptions 1 and 2.

#### Pre-consultation

Sport England was invited to consider the proposal as part of pre-planning application process in June of 2019. This included a site visit on the 18th July 2019. The issue of the replacement sports pavilion was basically straight forward subject to some design changes which were accepted. However, the issue of the loss of the playing field to housing was the key discussion point. There was dialogue which took place between the planning consultants, Sport England and England Hockey until November 2019.

#### The Sports Pavilion

The proposed sports pavilion is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field, and does not affect the quantity or quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use. Therefore, it meets our planning policy exception E2. I was pleased that the applicants accepted some design changes that were suggested to the internal layout. The pavilion is both well designed and aesthetically pleasing.

#### The Housing

There are no provisions within either paragraph 97 of the National Planning Policy Framework or Sport England's planning policy exceptions to allow for enabling works. However, Stroud District Council adopted a playing pitch strategy last summer which had input from the English Cricket Board, the Football Association, the Rugby Football Union, England Hockey and Sport England.

The College is located in the Stonehouse Cluster sub-area of the Playing Pitch Strategy. Below is an extract from the Action Plan Section:

#### Table 6F

Site Ref	Site Name	Site Sport	Management	Sport / Issue
SDST.41	Wycliffe	Pitches. Quality rating (NMP = no marked pitches	Independent school	<ol> <li>Sand based AGP in good condition but not secured for community use</li> <li>Important facility for hockey in Stroud but only for training; not available for weekends</li> </ol>



The site has been identified for protection in paragraph 3.61 of the Playing Pitch Document for Hockey. The ability to secure the site for hockey club use is a priority. This is emphasised in 4.4:

Wycliffe College

Facilities/rationale

Important site for hockey training. Community use of sand based AGP

should be secured under a community use agreement.

Football - in the Stonehouse Area, there is a need for a 3G AGP, immediately, but that is the only priority for this area;

Cricket - in the Stonehouse Area, there is no current or future demand in this area, however there is cricket demand elsewhere in Stroud;

Rugby - in the Stonehouse Area, there is no current or future demand in this area, however there is rugby demand elsewhere in Stroud.

These facts were discussed with the applicants and their planning consultant, Daniel Drayton, during the pre-application. Given the lack of need for cricket and football, it was felt that if the applicants would enter into a community use agreement to allow their sand based hockey pitch to be used by local hockey clubs, then that would fulfil the Action Plan requirements of the playing pitch strategy. The applicants then entered into dialogue with England Hockey to discuss the feasibility and working arrangements of such an agreement and the result is the attached community use agreement.

Therefore, it is my opinion that as there is no need for football grass pitches or cricket grass pitches in this location as identified by the adopted PPS, the proposal meets our planning policy exception E1.

Consultation with England Hockey and the Rugby Football Union

England Hockey supports the planning application and welcomes the community agreement put forward to allow hockey to be played by community clubs on site. They have asked if it was possible to use the new pavilion social facilities for after matches, which I would encourage the college to consider.

Rugby Football Union support the application but have asked that consideration is given to extend the community use agreement to include Stroud RFC's junior section. To support their request, they have put forward the following extracts from the adopted playing Pitch Strategy:

- 5.13 Stroud RFC adult pitch at Fromehall Park is being overplayed as accommodates matches from u13s upwards and adult teams. Lower age groups play off site on the two pitches at Archway School which are at capacity as a result.
- 5.28 There are some additional rugby pitches at schools, but it does seem that most avenues for securing greater use of school sites have been explored. Stroud RFC did use Maidenhill School rugby pitches in the past, but is currently focusing use on Fromehall Park and Archway school in an effort to bring some cohesion to the club. However, it does desperately require additional provision, ideally 4 rugby pitches in total and sites have been sought throughout Stroud for some years. Possible sites can be discussed further; one such



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

site is an area of land between Fromehall Park and the Marling School sports ground, adjacent to the Howdens Joinery Industrial Park

- 5.29 Therefore, taking into account likely growth in demand and the requirement to provide accessible permanent rugby pitches for Stroud RFC youth teams, it is estimated that 6-7 additional rugby pitches will be required (4-5 adult/youth) and 2 mini, plus 3-4 pitches for accommodating Stroud youth teams on one site. While the action plan did not raise the issue of need for rugby in the area, I feel this is a reasonable request, and I would ask the applicants to consider incorporating Stroud RFC's junior section access to their grass pitches and new changing accommodation.

#### Conclusions and Recommendation

Given the above assessment, Sport England <u>does not wish to raise an objection</u> to this application as it is considered to meet exceptions 1 and 2 of our Playing Fields Policy. I am not recommending any conditions as the condition I would be recommending, a community use agreement, has been submitted as part of the planning application.

Sport England would like to be notified of the outcome of the application through the receipt of a copy of the decision notice.

The absence of an objection to this application, in the context of the Town and Country Planning Act, cannot be taken as formal support or consent from Sport England or any National Governing Body of Sport to any related funding application, or as may be required by virtue of any pre-existing funding agreement.

#### 6.3 - Stroud District Council Technical Officers

#### 6.3.1 - Housing Strategy and Community Infrastructure Manager

Supports the application, which seeks to provide 52 new units of affordable housing for people unable to meet their housing need on the open market. The Gloucestershire Local Housing Needs Assessment 2020 shows a net need for 521 new affordable housing units per annum in the Stroud district, against an average output of 120 units per annum. As a result, housing need is increasing year on year. The affordable homes will need to be secured via a s.106 agreement which would need to outline a 30% policy compliant scenario alongside a 100% affordable housing scenario in order to attract government grant funding as per the affordable housing statement. The tenure mix is acceptable and dwelling sizes and types proposed will help meet housing need; the proposed provision of 15 properties for social rent are particularly welcomed.

#### 6.3.2 - Bio-Diversity Officer

Comments relate to the following documents:

- Ecological Appraisal, V4, Ethos Environmental Planning, dated July 2021
- Street Lighting Maintained Calculations, DPL Lighting, dated 27th July 2021



#### Recommendations:

Acceptable subject to the following S106/appropriate legal agreement;

The site falls within the 7.7 km core catchment zone of the Severn Estuary SPA/SAC site, the applicant has the opportunity to make off site S106 contributions per new dwelling as part of Stroud District Council's avoidance mitigation strategy, or provide the LPA with their own mitigation strategy and enhancement features which will need to be agreed by SDC as the competent authority and Natural England. This is to ensure that protected species and habitats are safeguarded in accordance with The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).

Acceptable subject to the following conditions:

- A Cotswolds Beechwood's Special Area of Conservation Mitigation Strategy shall be submitted, and be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to first occupation of the development. The strategy shall include the following details:
- A homeowner information pack (HIPs) that includes information on recreational opportunities in the local area and describes sensitivities of locally designated sites such as Cotswold Beechwood's Special Area of Conservation.

REASON: The above strategy will ensure that the development does not significantly affect the Cotswold Beechwood's Special Area of Conservation, this enable Stroud District Council as the competent authority to discharge its Statutory duty in accordance with the requirements of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).

- All works shall be carried out in full accordance with the recommendations contained in the Ecological Appraisal, V4, Ethos Environmental Planning, dated July 2021 already submitted with the planning application and agreed in principle with the local planning authority prior to determination.
- Prior to occupation of the development written confirmation by a suitably qualified/experienced ecologist shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority confirming that the recommendations made within the submitted report have been implemented in accordance with the report.

REASON: To protect and enhance the site for biodiversity in accordance with paragraph 174(a) of the National Planning Policy Framework, Policy ES6 of the Stroud District Local Plan 2015 and in order for the Council to comply with Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

- Prior to the installation of external lighting for the development hereby approved, a lighting design strategy for biodiversity shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The strategy will:



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

- identify the areas/features on site that are particularly sensitive for foraging bats, badgers and great crested newts;
- b) show how and where external lighting will be installed (through the provision of appropriate lighting contour plans and technical specifications) so that it can be clearly demonstrated that areas to be lit will not disturb or prevent the above species using their commuter route.

All external lighting shall be installed only in accordance with the specifications and locations set out in the strategy.

REASON: To maintain dark corridors for nocturnal wildlife in accordance with Local Plan Policy ES6.

- A Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) shall be submitted to, and be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to first occupation of the development. The content of the LEMP shall include the following:
- a) Description and evaluation of the features to be managed.
- b) Aims and objectives of management.
- c) Appropriate management options for achieving aims and objectives.
- d) Prescription for management actions.
- e) Preparation of work schedule (including an annual work plan capable of being rolled forward over a 20-year period).
- f) Details of body or organisation responsible for implementation of the plan.
- g) Ongoing monitoring and remedial measures.

The LEMP shall include details of the legal and funding mechanism(s) by which the long-term implementation of the plan will be secured by the developer with the management body(ies) responsible for its delivery. The plan shall also set out how contingencies and/or remedial action will be identified, agreed and implemented so that the development still delivers the fully functioning biodiversity objectives of the originally approved scheme. The approved plan will be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

REASON: To protect and enhance the site for biodiversity in accordance with paragraph 179 of the National Planning Policy Framework, Policy ES6 of the Stroud District Local Plan 2015 and in order for the Council to comply with Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

- No development hereby permitted shall take place except in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Council's organisational licence (WML-OR94) and with the proposals detailed on plan 'Wycliffe College, Stonehouse: Impact Map for Great Crested Newt District Licencing (Version 1)' dated 31st March 2021.

REASON: In order to ensure that adverse impacts on great crested newts are adequately mitigated and to ensure that site works are delivered in full compliance with the organisational licence WML-OR94.



- No development hereby permitted shall take place unless and until a certificate from the Delivery Partner (as set out in the District Licence WML-OR94), confirming that all necessary measures in regard to great crested newt compensation have been appropriately dealt with, has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority and the local authority has provided authorisation for the development to proceed under the district newt licence. The Delivery Partner certificate must be submitted to this planning authority for approval prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved.

REASON: In order to adequately compensate for negative impacts to great crested newts.

- No development hereby permitted shall take place except in accordance with Part 1 of the GCN Mitigation Principles, as set out in the District Licence WML-OR94, and in addition in compliance with the following:
- Works which will affect likely newt hibernacula may only be undertaken during the active period for amphibians (as specified in the NSP Best Practice Principles report).
- Capture of newts using hand/destructive/night searches at suitable habitat features prior to ground clearance (as specified in the NSP Best Practice Principles report).

REASON: In order to adequately mitigate impacts on great crested newts.

#### Comments

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

The proposed site falls within the 7.7 km core catchment zone of the Severn Estuary SPA/SAC site therefore, the applicant can either make a one-off S106 contribution per new dwelling to the Stroud District Council's avoidance mitigation strategy; the cost is £385 per new dwelling. Or the applicant can provide their own bespoke strategy to mitigate the identified impacts the proposed development will cause.

The proposed site falls within the 15.4 km core catchment zone of the Cotswold Beechwoods, identified via visitor surveys undertaken by Footprint Ecology and agreed with Natural England. The core catchment zone indicates that any new dwelling or holiday accommodation within the core catchment zone is highly likely to result in an increase in recreational pressure to the Cotswold Beechwoods; at a level considered detrimental to the sites qualifying features. The Cotswold Beechwoods has been designated as a Special Area of Conservation and as such is classed as a European protected site, which are afforded protection under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). The site is also notified at National level as The Cotswold Common and Beechwoods Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). After carrying out a preliminary screening regarding this application, SDC as the competent authority have determined, that there is potential that without appropriate mitigation the proposed dwellings could result in negative effects to the European site through increased recreational pressure. Therefore, SDC as the competent authority has undertaken an Appropriate Assessment and has identified additional mitigation measures considered necessary to address the uncertainty of the proposal. As a result, a homeowner information pack will need to be created for each new dwelling. This will need to be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority, it will need to detail the



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

ecological importance of the Cotswold Beechwoods, appropriate code of practice for using the woodlands and alternative local recreational sites.

#### **Protected Species**

The submitted report confirmed the proposed development site has limited ecological value however, a nature reserve and surrounding vegetation located south of the proposed development supports a number of notable and protected species. [redacted]. Additionally, an excellent population of great crested newts were recorded in pond 3 and the results from bat transect surveys confirmed the key bat activity was located above the nature reserve whereas there was low activity recorded over the centre of the proposed site. At present there is some connectivity between the ecologically rich nature reserve and surrounding vegetation with the proposed development site. Therefore, the report has outlined precautionary working methods which will need to be adhered to, this will ensure protected species are safeguarded during the construction phase. In addition, the report has included appropriate enhancement features which will aid in enhancing and connecting the site to the wider ecological network. Therefore, the above compliance condition is recommended.

The report recorded a number of bat species commuting across the proposed site, including Lesser Horseshoe bats which are highly sensitive to artificial lighting. Additionally, great crested newts and badgers are also nocturnal species that are adversely impacted by the introduction of lighting therefore, the above lighting condition is recommended. Any proposed lighting during the construction phase and post-development should be carefully considered. If lighting must be used at night, it should not be allowed to spill over habitats, in particular, light spill should not be permitted south of the proposed development towards the nature reserve, or towards any of the proposed enhancement features or habitat corridors. I have reviewed the most recent light contour plan which clearly demonstrates light spill will not be permitted towards the native reserve and very low levels (0.2 lux) will illuminate the proposed wildlife corridor. Any further amendments to the lighting plan should ensure these features remain dark in order to maintain nocturnal wildlife corridors.

A landscape and ecological management plan (LEMP) is recommended to ensure the proposed wildlife corridor and enhancement features are maintained in perpetuity.

#### District Level Licensing (DLL) for Great Crested Newts (GCN)

The proposed site falls within a red zone on the NatureSpace impact risk map. A red zone is a site which contains suitable habitat for GCN and as a result, they're likely to be present. The submitted ecological report confirmed there are no ponds or waterbodies present within the development boundary and the terrestrial habitat is considered to be sub-optimal to support GCN. However, the submitted ecological report confirmed the three ponds located south of the proposed site offers suitable habitat and upon further completion of GCN surveys the ecologist confirmed Pond 3 located within the nature reserve supports an excellent population of GCN's. The proposal will not result in any direct impacts to the ponds or the surrounding terrestrial habitat however, it is possible that GCN could enter the development site during the construction phase. Therefore, the applicant has obtained a district license from NatureSpace to ensure GCN's are safeguarded from the proposed development.



#### 6.3.3 - Arboriculture Officer

No objection subject to the following conditions;

1) The development must be fully compliant with the Ethos Environmental Planning Tree Survey, Arboriculture Impact Assessment, Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan dated May 2021.

Reason: To preserve trees and hedges on the site in the interests of visual amenity and the character of the area in accordance with Stroud District Local Plan Policy ES8 and with guidance in revised National Planning Policy Framework paragraphs 15, 170(b) & 175 (c) & (d).

2) Prior to commencement of the development hereby approved (including any ground clearance, tree works, demolition, or construction) a pre-commencement meeting must take place with the main contractor / ground workers with the local planning authority tree officer.

Reason: To preserve trees and hedges on the site in the interests of visual amenity and the character of the area in accordance with Stroud District Local Plan Policy ES8 and with guidance in revised National Planning Policy Framework paragraphs 15, 170(b) & 175 (c) & (d).

- 3) Monitoring tree protection. Prior to commencement of the development hereby approved (including any ground clearance, tree works, demolition or construction), details of all tree protection monitoring and site supervision by a qualified tree specialist (where arboriculture expertise is required) shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development thereafter shall be implemented in strict accordance with the approved details.
- 4) Details of a scheme of hard and soft landscaping for development must be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The landscaping scheme shall include details of hard landscaping areas and boundary treatments (including the type and colour of materials), written specifications (including cultivation and other operations associated with tree, shrub, hedge or grass establishment), schedules of plants noting species, plant size and proposed numbers/ densities. Any plants which fail within a five-year period must be replaced.

Reason: To preserve trees and hedges on the site in the interests of visual amenity and the character of the area in accordance with Stroud District Local Plan Policy ES8 and with guidance in revised National Planning Policy Framework paragraphs 15, 170(b) & 175 (c) & (d).

#### 6.3.4 - Senior Conservation Officer

The site is in proximity to the Industrial Heritage Conservation Area. Where Conservation Areas or their settings, are affected by development proposals, Section 72(1) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act requires that, 'special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving the character or appearance of Conservation Areas.' Due to the degree of separation, there would be no harm caused to the identified heritage asset.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

#### 6.3.5 - Water Resources Engineer

No objection is raised to the proposed development in site drainage terms. However, the Water Resources Engineer has made the following initial observations in respect of the development proposal;

The applicant has submitted a very unimaginative scheme which provides no additional benefits. Although it conforms to the letter of sustainability as per the local plan and NPPF, it does not even attempt to satisfy the spirit of sustainable drainage - to the detriment of any future occupants. Above ground attenuation schemes can provide a level of amenity value to any future residents, provide ecological and biodiversity benefits and are much easier to maintain.

As things stand should there be a problem the oversized pipes would need to be excavated at a large cost to the body adopting as well as large disruption to the residents. This is not required for above ground attenuation, and any maintenance required on the pipes leading to it will be minimal and can often be resolved through less invasive jetting.

Following the submission of revised drainage methods, the Water Resources Engineer confirms that the above concerns have been addressed and the proposed development acceptable in drainage terms.

#### 6.3.6 - Environmental Health Officer

The Environmental Health Officer does not raise objection to the proposed development and initial comments were as follows:

With respect to this application, I have several queries about the development;

Can I please confirm that no floodlighting is proposed to the playing field areas?

The noise assessment appears to take no account of noise from the parking area. Given the proposal to retain existing boundaries to the south, I would recommend that the provision of robust, solid fencing to the southern boundary of the car park area would be of benefit to reduce noise levels at the residential receptors to the south.

Further to the above, I would also recommend the following conditions and informative.

#### Conditions:

- i) Noise Rating Levels for fixed plant serving the development shall not exceed the following:-37 dB during the daytime period of 07:00 to 23:00; and
- 30 dB during the night period of 23:00 to 07:00
- ii) Noise Rating Levels shall be determined in full accordance with the methodology set out in British Standard BS4142:2014+A1:2019 "Methods for rating and assessing industrial and commercial sound" or any future variations thereof.



- iii) Prior to use of the development, the applicant shall provide to the Local Planning Authority for approval, a validation report from a suitably competent person demonstrating compliance with the relevant Noise Rating Levels set out in condition 1 above.
- iv) No construction site machinery or plant shall be operated, no process shall be carried out and no construction-related deliveries taken at or dispatched from the site except between the hours 08:00 and 18:00 on Mondays to Fridays, between 08:00 and 13:00 on Saturdays and not at any time on Sundays, Bank or Public Holidays.
- v) Construction/demolition works shall not be commenced until a scheme specifying the provisions to be made to control dust emanating from the site has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
- vi) Prior to use of the development, the applicant shall provide to the Local Planning Authority for approval, a validation report from a suitably competent person demonstrating that the proposed external artificial lighting serving the pavilion and car park does not exceed the vertical illuminance levels at neighbouring residential properties that are recommended for Environmental Zone 3 by the Institution of Lighting Professionals in its "Guidance Note 01/21 The Reduction of Obtrusive Light".

#### Informative:

The applicant should take all relevant precautions to minimise the potential for disturbance to neighbouring residents in terms of smoke/fumes and odour during the construction phases of the development by not burning materials on site. It should also be noted that the burning of materials that give rise to dark smoke or the burning of trade waste associated with the development, may constitute immediate offences, actionable by the Local Authority. Furthermore, the granting of this planning permission does not indemnify against statutory nuisance action being taken should substantiated smoke, fume or odour complaints be received.

The applicant submitted revised information that shows an acoustic fence in position and the Environmental Health Officer confirms that the location and specification is acceptable in that regard. In respect of lighting at the pavilion further information was provided by the applicant. The Environmental Health Officer has confirmed that the following planning condition is appropriate;

vii) External lighting associated with the development shall be installed in accordance with the Silcock Dawson & Partners Report 200181 (dated 18.08.21) in order to ensure that there is no exceedance of the vertical illuminance levels at neighbouring residential properties that are recommended for Environmental Zone 3 by the Institution of Lighting Professionals in its "Guidance Note 01/21 - The Reduction of Obtrusive Light.

#### 6.3.7 - Contaminated Land Officer

Notes the content of the Geotechnical & Phase 2 Contamination Report, number 19086-B/R1 dated October 2019, prepared by Integrale. The contamination assessment is somewhat limited, but given the results of the analysis undertaken and the outcome of the gas monitoring the Contaminated Land Officer is satisfied that further site investigation is



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

unnecessary at this stage. It is advised that the contaminated land watching brief condition is attached to any permission granted.

### 6.3.8 - Community Services Officer (Waste Management)

Bin collection points should be easily accessed by a 26t RCV with collection points located at the curtilage of each property. This not only lessens the burden in terms of collection time and resource but it also limits the potential for health and safety issues, borne out of walking waste to the vehicle. Bin stores should also be readily accessible by a 26t vehicle.

The collection vehicle will not enter on to unadopted highway/private driveways to retrieve waste, this includes off shoot roads where properties are sometimes located within a development. The developer should ensure bin collection points for properties on such roads, are located on/or near the curtilage of the nearest adopted highway.

Sufficient storage needs to be allocated for a 140l and 240l wheelie bin, plus recycling box and food waste receptacle. The developer needs to ensure bin stores for communal collection points, are large enough to accommodate all four containers for each property.

Inadequate road width, (especially if off street parking is limited) is becoming an increasing issue and can lead to an inability to retrieve waste. Whilst the sweep path analysis may take in account the feasibility of navigating a 26t RCV without any parked cars, we'd like to see appropriate methods of preventing on street parking.

Taking into account the points mentioned above regarding bin collection points, it is apparent from the waste management plan attached, that some bin stores are located too far from the adopted highway in certain instances, in particular:

- 1) The binstores that service T1 1B maisonettes no's 14-15 and 16-17
- 2) The bin stores that service T2 2B maisonettes no's 8-9 and 10-11

We advise that the properties located on unadopted offshoots, in particular house no's 20, 21, 33,

34, 43, 44, 45 will be required to present their waste at the nearest adopted highway, rather than

waste collection staff making numerous journeys with multiple containers.

#### 6.4 Gloucestershire County Council Technical Officers

#### 6.4.1 - Highway Authority

Gloucestershire County Council, the Highway Authority acting in its role as Statutory Consultee has undertaken a full assessment of this planning application. Based on the appraisal of the development proposals the Highways Development Management Manager on behalf of the County Council, under Article 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order, 2015 has **no objection subject to conditions.** 



The justification for this decision is provided below.

This proposal is for 52 dwellings and has been subject to considerable discussion on the access requirements and internal layout.

#### Site access.

The site accesses onto a service road referred to as Bristol road it is proposed to be a priority junction with a footway on the western side of it. The access design accords with the requirements of Manual for Gloucestershire Streets and is appropriate for the trip generation generated.

The service road connects onto the A419 Bristol Road. There has been considerable discussion as to whether this junction should be upgrade to a ghost lane (right urning lane), and we are aware that this matter has also been raised by some member of the public.

The junction is existing, but intensified by the development. Our design guide, Manual for Gloucestershire Streets, directs you to CD123 of the design manual for roads and bridges to consider the junction type. In short this considers the demands of the side road compared to the main road and considers the potential for right turn movements delaying the main road. This must be critically reviewed as it is not a mandatory document for the local Highway Authority.

The applicant has indicated in their appraisal that the total side road flows will be close to the threshold and a more detailed capacity analysis shows that it will continue to operate in capacity with the proposed development. Furthermore, there are no accident at the junction or nearby which suggests a trend.

The proposed uses have movement patterns that do not compound capacity as their respective peak hours differ as such demand is spread. I am also mindful of the ability to walk into Stonehouse in circa 15 minutes which gives access to retail uses and rail access, this is clearly a sustainable location with realistic alternative transport choices which will reduce car dependency. I am also conscious that with

the employment uses and motorway to the west that vehicle movements may be attracted in that direction which would see fewer right turning movements from the east.

In the test of whether a severe impact or safety implication would exist that which is sufficient to warrant refusal I do not consider the evidence to be there to support a refusal recommendation. Whilst it does exceed the DMRB threshold for a ghost lane this is not mandatory and has been proven to function in more detailed assessment.

#### **Internal Layout**

This has been deigned to a 20mph design speed, give the length of the straights and access locations it is concluded that this design speed will be maintained, but additionally footways are proposed where there is frontage development to ensure that pedestrians have a comfortable environment. There are also connections to the western boundary to reduce the walking distance to local services.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

Car parking levels are compliant with the Local Plan provisions, however it is a requirement that every dwelling be provided with a 7kw charging unit and the proposal does not address this. As such it is recommended that a condition be used to require every property to be equipped with ready to use charging point.

Plots 12,13,23,30 and 40 reply on layby parking. This is considered suitable in this instance, but the parking area needs to be at the rear of the layby to allow for an adoptable service margin to pass through the front of the layby with suitable demarcation. No alterations are required to the drawing but it is expected that this is clearly shown at the future dedication stage.

Cycle parking is proposed in a shed in the rear garden. This is not considered to be the preferred solution, however the walking distances area short and considering implications for access they are consider to be acceptable. The site layout plan already provides details of this so doesn't require a specific condition.

Street Lighting points have been indicatively shown, but the final lighting design will form part of the dedication agreement and as such a condition should be included to confirm the details given the ecological constraints of the site. The sports club makes provision for 28 standard parking spaces, 3 accessible spaces, 26 bicycles spaces, 4 electric vehicle charging points and coach provisions.

The application is considered to have a good understanding of their needed and there is no evidence to suggest that these levels are inappropriate given the local plan provisions. Whilst it is accepted that their might be occasional times of higher demand the short duration of this does not result in sufficient concern to result in a recommendation of refusal.

A residential travel plan has been provided (September 2020) to support the proposal. This plan is considered to be reasonable given the scale of the development proposed.

No specific planning obligations are required in this instance to address highway matters

The proposal is considered to be acceptable subject to conditions, and whilst there have been public concerns raised, the Highway Authority does not consider that there is a severe impact on capacity or a significant impact on safety. The site does provide genuine transport choices and as such is considered to be sustainable in transport terms.

The Highway Authority has undertaken a robust assessment of the planning application. Based on the analysis of the information submitted the Highway Authority concludes that there would not be an unacceptable impact on Highway Safety or a severe impact on congestion. There are no justifiable grounds on which an objection could be maintained.



#### **Conditions**

Conformity with Submitted Details (Multiple Buildings)

The Development hereby approved shall not be occupied or brought into use until the access, parking and turning facilities that that individual building to the nearest public highway has been provided as shown on drawing 9370 PL03 rev F.

Reason: To ensure conformity with submitted details.

Electric Vehicle Charging Points (Residential)

The development hereby permitted shall not be first occupied until the proposed dwellings have been fitted with an electric vehicle charging point. The charging points shall comply with BS EN 62196 Mode 3 or 4 charging and BS EN 61851 and Manual for Gloucestershire Streets. The electric vehicle charging points shall be retained for the lifetime of the development unless they need to be replaced in which case the replacement charging points shall be of the same specification or a higher specification in terms of charging performance. Reason: To promote sustainable travel and healthy communities.

Residential Travel Plan (Plan Approved)

The Residential Travel Plan hereby approved, dated September 2020 shall be implemented and monitored in accordance with the regime contained within the Plan.

In the event of failing to meet the targets within the Plan a revised Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority to address any shortfalls, and where necessary make provision for and promote improved sustainable forms of access to and from the site. The Plan thereafter shall be implemented and updated in agreement with the Local Planning Authority and

thereafter implemented as amended.

Reason: To reduce vehicle movements and promote sustainable access.

#### Construction Management Plan

Prior to commencement of the development hereby permitted details of a construction management plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved plan shall be adhered to throughout the demolition/construction period. The plan/statement shall include but not be restricted to:

- Parking of vehicle of site operatives and visitors (including measures taken to
- ensure satisfactory access and movement for existing occupiers of neighbouring properties during construction);
- Advisory routes for construction traffic;
- Any temporary access to the site;
- Locations for loading/unloading and storage of plant, waste and construction materials;
- Method of preventing mud and dust being carried onto the highway;
- Arrangements for turning vehicles;
- Arrangements to receive abnormal loads or unusually large vehicles;
- Methods of communicating the Construction Management Plan to staff,



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

visitors and neighbouring residents and businesses.

Reason: In the interests of safe operation of the adopted highway in the lead into development both during the demolition and construction phase of the development

### <u>Informatives</u>

Works on the Public Highway

The development hereby approved includes the carrying out of work on the adopted highway. You are advised that before undertaking work on the adopted highway you must enter into a highway agreement under Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 with the County Council, which would specify the works and the terms and conditions under which they are to be carried out.

Contact the Highway Authority's Legal Agreements Development Management Team at highwaylegalagreements@gloucestershire.gov.uk allowing sufficient time for the preparation and signing of the Agreement. You will be required to pay fees to cover the Councils costs in undertaking the following actions:

Drafting the Agreement A Monitoring Fee Approving the highway details Inspecting the highway works

Planning permission is not permission to work in the highway. A Highway Agreement under Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 must be completed, the bond secured and the Highway Authority's technical approval and inspection fees paid before any drawings will be considered and approved.

#### Highway to be adopted

The development hereby approved includes the construction of new highway. To be considered for adoption and ongoing maintenance at the public expense it must be constructed to the Highway Authority's standards and terms for the phasing of the development. You are advised that you must enter into a highway agreement under Section 38 of the Highways Act 1980. The development will be bound by Sections 219 to 225 (the Advance Payments Code) of the Highways Act 1980.

Contact the Highway Authority's Legal Agreements Development Management Team at highwaylegalagreements@gloucestershire.gov.uk. You will be required to pay fees to cover the Councils cost's in undertaking the following actions:

Drafting the Agreement A Monitoring Fee Approving the highway details Inspecting the highway works



You should enter into discussions with statutory undertakers as soon as possible to coordinate the laying of services under any new highways to be adopted by the Highway Authority. The Highway Authority's technical approval inspection fees must be paid before any drawings will be considered and approved. Once technical approval has been granted a Highway Agreement under Section 38 of the Highways Act 1980 must be completed and the bond secured.

### Construction Management Plan (CMP)

It is expected that contractors are registered with the Considerate Constructors scheme and comply with the code of conduct in full, but particularly reference is made to "respecting the community" this says:

Constructors should give utmost consideration to their impact on neighbours and the public Informing, respecting and showing courtesy to those affected by the work;

Minimising the impact of deliveries, parking and work on the public highway;

Contributing to and supporting the local community and economy; and

Working to create a positive and enduring impression, and promoting the Code.

The CEMP should clearly identify how the principle contractor will engage with the local community; this should be tailored to local circumstances. Contractors should also confirm how they will manage any local concerns and complaints and provide an agreed Service Level Agreement for responding to said issues.

Contractors should ensure that courtesy boards are provided and information shared with the local community relating to the timing of operations and contact details for the site coordinator in the event of any difficulties. This does not offer any relief to obligations under existing Legislation.

### 6.4.2 - County Archaeologist

Initial comment as follows;

The County Archaeologist advises that, following consultation with the County Historic Environment Record, there are no known heritage assets recorded within the proposed development site. There have however been a number of archaeological investigations in the nearby vicinity and a Desk Based Assessment (DBA) submitted with the application identified that the site has some potential for Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval deposits. A geophysical survey report has also been submitted which has not revealed any definite archaeological anomalies. Due to the variability in geophysical results however we recommend that the results of geophysical survey are ground-truthed by trial trench evaluation. Due to the archaeological potential within the site, as identified in the DBA, it is important that thorough investigation is carried out in order to identify whether archaeological remains are present within the proposed development site.

I recommend that trial trench evaluation is carried out and the results are made available prior to determination of the application. This advice follows the National Planning Policy Framework, in particular policies 189 and 190 which state that "Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

Following the submission of Archaeological Trial Trenching report, the County Archaeologist has confirmed that no further archaeological investigation is required at the site.

#### 6.4.3 - Lead Local Flood Authority LLFA

The drainage strategy submitted with this application addresses the basic requirements of controlling surface water discharge to greenfield rates. While the design is unimaginative and avoids all the real benefits of amenity and opportunity for bio-diversity with attendant improvements to the environment and future residents wellbeing, that SuDS could offer if an innovative above ground scheme were proposed, the LLFA therefore can have no objection to the proposal.

Should planning permission be granted the permission should be conditioned as follows;

#### Condition:

No building works hereby permitted shall be commenced until surface water drainage works have been implemented in accordance with details that have been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The information submitted shall be in accordance with the principles set out in the approved drainage strategy. Before these details are submitted an assessment shall be carried out of the potential for disposing of surface water by means of a sustainable drainage system in accordance with the principles set out in The SuDS Manual, CIRIA C753 (or any subsequent version), and the results of the assessment provided to the local planning authority. Where a sustainable drainage scheme is to be provided, the submitted details shall;

- i). provide information about the design storm period and intensity, the method employed to delay and control the surface water discharged from the site and the measures taken to prevent pollution of the receiving groundwater and/or surface waters;
- ii). include a timetable for its implementation; and
- iii). provide a management and maintenance plan for the lifetime of the development which shall include the arrangements for adoption by any public authority or statutory undertaker and any other arrangements to secure the operation of the scheme throughout its lifetime.

#### Reason:

To ensure that the development is provided with a satisfactory means of drainage as well as to reduce the risk of creating or exacerbating a flooding problem and to minimise the risk of pollution for the lifetime of the development.

NOTE 1 :The Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) will give consideration to how the proposed sustainable drainage system can incorporate measures to help protect water quality, however pollution control is the responsibility of the Environment Agency

NOTE 2: Future management of Sustainable Drainage Systems is a matter that will be dealt with by the Local Planning Authority and has not, therefore, been considered by the LLFA.



NOTE 3: Any revised documentation will only be considered by the LLFA when resubmitted through suds@gloucestershire.gov.uk e-mail address. Please quote the planning application number in the subject field.

### 6.4.4 - Community Infrastructure Officer

Summary of financial obligations requested by Gloucestershire County Infrastructure Officer are as follows;

Pre-School (Early Years) Provision	(Stonehouse	Park	Infant	School)	(14.4	places)
£217,310.40						
Primary School (Stonehouse Park Junior School) £0.00						00
Secondary School (11-16) £0.			00			
Secondary School (16 to 18)			£0.00			
Library Provision (Stonehouse)				£1	0,192.0	00

### 6.4.5 - Minerals and Waste Planning Authority

Please accept this correspondence as an initial view from officers acting on behalf of the Minerals and

Waste Planning Authority (MWPA) for Gloucestershire. It is concerned with ensuring that due consideration is being given to resource efficiency measures. Attention is particularly focused upon two local development plan policies - Gloucestershire Waste Core Strategy Core Policy 2 | Waste Reduction and Minerals Local Plan for Gloucestershire Policy SR01 | Maximising the use of secondary and recycled aggregates. It is applicable to all major development proposals throughout Gloucestershire that require planning permission

Supporting evidence on resource efficiency may be included within a wider Environment Statement where this has also been required, or as part of a Planning Statement that sets out how a proposal will accord with the local development plan. The preparation of a standalone Waste Minimisation Statement (WMS) or a dedicated waste reduction section or chapter within supporting evidence of an application are the best means of effectively complying with the requisite local policy requirements.

A Waste Minimisation Statement (WMS) should contain enough information for decision-makers to make a valued judgement on whether achievable resource efficiency measures can be accommodated into a proposal. Details of how different types of waste will be reduced and managed efficiently and effectively will be crucial. The full lifecycle of a proposed development needs to be considered. This usually involves the three phases of: - site preparation (including any demolition); construction; and occupation. Whilst appreciating that for many proposals it is unknown who the future occupants will be, the ability to support their re-use and recycling practice should not be hindered. Provision for safe and efficient resource management infrastructure aiming at reducing waste and making recycling easier to engage with should be set out. This includes for commercial as well as residential schemes.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

The increasing use in both volume and proportion of recycled materials in development is actively encouraged within local policy. It is therefore reasonable to seek evidence of this. This could include details of procurement practice / protocols able to demonstrate that the sourcing of materials will achieve a substantial level of recycled content. Collation of this type of Information may also prove beneficial where sustainable construction technical standards / ratings are to be sought. Requirements for high levels of recycled material use are present within the Building Research Establishment Environment Assessment Method (BREEAM) and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification.

To assist decision makers and applicants in their consideration of resource efficiency, local guidance has been prepared - Gloucestershire Supplementary Planning Document: Waste Minimisation in Development Projects (WM-SPD).]

#### 6.5 - Other Interest Groups

### 6.5.1 - Stroud Valleys Project(SVP)

Stroud Valleys Project(SVP) is an environmental charity that works with volunteers to preserve and enhance wildlife habitats in the Stroud District. SVP has worked at the Court View Newt Pond Key Wildlife Site for over 20 years. Having only recently heard about the planning application for 52 houses on Berryfield, which we were not formally consulted on, we would like to comment on this now with regards to biodiversity issues. If this development continues, given our extensive history with the site, we would like to be a consultee.

Stroud Valleys Project has managed this site with the help of volunteers and we have carried out habitat improvement work such as cutting back brambles, managing the rough grassland habitat, clearing the pond from vegetation, building hibernacula and putting up bat boxes. We work regularly on this site - funding dependent- to ensure that the existing population will increase or at least remains stable by keeping the habitat in a favourable condition.

When funds permit, we carry out annual [redacted] surveys at the Court View Newt ponds including the railway cuttings, involving and educating the public about this important habitat.

In 2010 we have worked together with the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust on a project called 'No newts is bad news' and we are currently working with the Wild Towns initiative on the site to improve the habitat and to replace the derelict dipping platform. [redacted] It narrowly missed being designated a SSSI when the original development took place. It comprises three ponds and some rough grassland and mature trees. It is home to several European Protected species, [redacted] and all species of bats [redacted].

The site is surrounded by housing to the west, the busy A419 to the south, a small non-managed green area to the east on Wycliffe land and the amenity open green space to the north of the site, where the development is being proposed. The Key wildlife site is adjacent to the site proposed for development with the development boundary being under 30 metres in distance to the pond [redacted]

Further, the development boundary of the proposed development does not include the area east to the Key Wildlife site on Wycliffe land that currently acts as an extension to the existing Key Wildlife Site with rough grassland, tree cover and shelter for newts. There is therefore no



guarantee that this current additional wildlife area on Wycliffe land will continue to be part of a green space in the future and add to the resilience of the existing newt population.

The proposed development, although on paper showing to be of net biodiversity gain, is underwhelming in its approach to including biodiversity on a development and fails to respond to the most important species surrounding the proposed development, such as [redacted], birds and bats.

[redacted]. Bird species, bats [redacted] are also known to forage on amenity grassland.

The proposals further do not take into account any threats to existing wildlife due to climate change and any impacts this may have on biodiversity, such as the importance of establishing good wildlife corridors from existing important habitats, so that species will be able to move to more suitable sites in the future. The proposed strip of rough grassland is part of the existing footpath and without a strict management regime there is no guarantee that this grassland will not be mown in the future as a result of public pressure (there is a need to keep footpaths tidy and it feels that rough grassland next to a footpath is bound to fail).

The environmental appraisal which forms part of the planning application written by Ethos lists 12 species of bats using the key wildlife site, including light avoiding species, such as Myotis species as well as lesser and greater horseshoe bats. However, the Environmental Appraisal does not discuss any records centre data within 1km of the development, nor does it include any figures showing this data, [redacted]. It also does not mention any details of the bird surveys that were carried out.

52 more households around a key wildlife site means that there will be more pressure on wildlife. According to the pet food manufacturers association, a quarter of all households own dogs, putting further pressure on wildlife sites.

The local plan mentions under Stonehouse cluster that:-

#### Recommendations

- To contribute through the Community Infrastructure levy to the existing key wildlife site and to repair the dilapidated GCN fence towards the A419, de-silt and remove access vegetation from the main pond.
- To include the rough area to the southeast of existing newt area on Wycliffe land in the development envelope as a biodiversity area.
- To create a new pond within the new housing proposal, possibly SUDS system
- To create a rough grassland area in form of a strong wildlife corridors to the north that will be subject to a newt sensitive cut and collect regime that will enhance biodiversity and therefore not be neglected over time

The site also forms a core part of the Gloucestershire Nature Recovery Network as well as having been proposed by Stonehouse Town Council to be designated as a Local Green Space in their emerging Stonehouse Neighbourhood Plan.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

We feel that the recently introduced Stroud District Wildlife licencing scheme should focus on this site as a recovery site for GCN in the district. This should be an area that would be given special attention in order to strengthen the existing population and to make it more resilient and to offer wildlife corridors that would enable this population to spread. [redacted].

We don't believe the housing development is adequate because:

The development is against Local Plan Delivery Policy ES6 Providing for biodiversity and geodiversity, which states that "Development proposals that would adversely affect European Protected Species (EPS) or Nationally Protected Species will not be supported, unless appropriate safeguarding measures can be provided .... "

The development area is on a protected outdoor Play Space. It is against Local Plan ES13, the protection of existing outdoor Play spaces. The local plan further states that open space provision in Stonehouse has a shortage of 5ha playing pitch provision and a shortage of 2.7ha of Children's play space. Any reduction of open green spaces will be detrimental.

The proposed site is not part of Stroud's Local Plan Site Allocations Policy SA2 West of Stonehouse strategic site allocation and not in the strategic growth area for Stonehouse. The proposed development, as it stands, does not fit in with National Planning Policy Framework policies 171 and 174b, which requires development to 'maintain and enhance ecological networks' and 'promote the recovery of priority species'.

Sadly, a great deal of hard work with the developer of Courtview which would have resulted in the site being owned by the Town Council and endowed with a fund for its upkeep, ended without conclusion due to a change of personnel at the Town Council. The site is dependent on outside funding which means that the site is not currently in favourable condition although we are working hard with limited funds to make it so.

### <u>6.5.2 - Gloucestershire Community Rail Partnership</u> Organisation Overview:

Gloucestershire Community Rail Partnership (GCRP) consist of several organisations, volunteers and enterprises across the county seeking to benefit communities through connecting people with and engaging them in local railways and stations. The GCRP engages in a number of conventional 'bottom up' workstreams, such as community outreach, alongside more strategic decisions supporting integrated transport and development proposals. GCRP is run by CIC as its executive arm. Jon Harris is the Director responsible for the strategic planning, development and regeneration agenda.

The CRP includes playing a critical role in organising, conducting and collating datasets to help inform local decision making and taking a proactive role in facilitating a responsive and flexible recovery to Covid 19. The remit extends to stimulating healthy and active lifestyles and reducing emissions though sustainable travel.

Strategic Aim:



To develop an accredited, sustainable community rail partnership organisation for Gloucestershire that puts the region on the map through effective community engagement, public transport integration, station development activities, enhanced visitor experience and sustainable travel promotion and projects.

Gloucestershire's long-term vision for rail is for more frequent, faster passenger services accessed via modern station facilities that provide gateways to the rest of the country. Rail services will offer people with a choice in the way they travel making local and longer distance trips. The GCRP is an independent voice but aligns its activities with the four key pillars of rail policy and practice:

- Gloucestershire County Council's Local Transport Plan and Rail Strategy
- DfT's Community Rail Strategy objectives
- RSSB's Rail Sustainable Development Principles
- Community Rail Network CRN) best practice including accreditation criteria

The aims of the GCRP are far broader than looking at rail. As a partnership, there is a real desire to ensure that access to rail plays a part in the development and delivery of integrated transport and land use policy to support various objectives. The GCRP wants to go beyond conventional community rail ambitions by submitting our views on this planning application.

#### Key Aims

- i) To contribute positively to the visitor experience and the long term economic sustainability of Gloucestershire
- ii) To improve accessibility to public transport for all
- iii) To improve the integration of transport through sustainable modes of transport
- iv) To increase ridership profile and community involvement at all Gloucestershire's railway stations
- v) To provide community insight to shape future proposals for rail investment and services in the County

#### **Key Objectives**

- i) To engage all stations in Gloucestershire and establish / strengthen Station Adoption groups along the lines through inclusive and participative community consultations. The consultations will identify the issues and challenges at each station and help engage the local community. The outcomes will inform the development of relevant and proactive action plans that will be reviewed and refreshed on a quarterly basis.
- ii) To link adopted stations with their broad community through facilitation of unique community led projects that address community issues and communicate a sense of place. Publicity will consider county wide connectivity and integrated transport approach to encourage wider connectivity between stations, communities and the locations they serve.
- iii) To promote Gloucestershire as a sustainable destination nationally and internationally connecting sustainable travel with Gloucestershire's visitor experiences to engage and resonate with visitors. To achieve this we will work in partnership with the county's destination management and marketing organisations to achieve an aligned and coordinated approach.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

- iv) To stimulate stations as local places working proactively with developers and local authorities to ensure that rail facilities are well connected to new development through continuous engagement and consultation with councils and their associated neighbourhood plans. We will work proactively with developers, town and parish and councils and local authorities to ensure that rail facilities are well connected to new housing, employment and leisure development
- v) To link stations, communities and visitors through promotional and educational measures, including trails, walks and enhanced destination experiences through maps, education, training and events that celebrate local heritage and improve health and wellbeing.
- vi) To proactively input into planned improvements to the rail network in Gloucestershire, including new or improved stations, accessibility, bus and sustainable transport integration and community transport schemes.

### Overall Alignment

A core objective of the CRTPs work would be to work with local transport authority to meet the long term LTP targets, not just around rail growth, but also around continued use of walking, cycling, bus and community transport modes as stated in the current Local Transport Plan

LTP PI-2: No. Of Peak Hour Vehicle Journeys - Restrict annual growth to 1% per annum

LTP PI-7: Increase use of rail - Increase by 30% from 2015 to 2031

LTP PI-8: Increase use of cycling - Increase by 50% from 2015 to 2031

LTP PI-9: Increase use of bus - Maintain bus passenger numbers in line with reviews

LTP PI-10 Maintain bus passenger access - Maintain access within 45 minutes

LTP PI-13 Reduce levels of traffic derived Nitrogen Dioxide - To reduce transport derived NO2 at each Air Quality Management AreasLTP PI-14 Reduce per capita transport carbon emissions - 0 tonnes per capita by 2050

### **Local Policy Context**

This development is one of many emerging proposals and sizeable scale housebuilding sites within Stonehouse that will take advantage of high quality public transportation and active travel connections. Policy CP3 of the Stroud Local Plan (Settlement Hierarchy) identifies Stonehouse as a First Tier Settlement (Accessible Local Service Centre) with the site being particularly well placed to maximise walking and cycling opportunities into the town centre; where there is a wide range of services and facilities, in addition to links to other sustainable modes of transport, including local bus and rail services.

The site also lies in a strategic location within the locality with future residents potentially benefitting from a new railway station being developed at Stonehouse Bristol Road. The stream of developments around Great Oldbury could also expect to increase footfall and cycling levels through the area which will demand higher quality provision and infrastructure and improving first & last mile links. The site is well placed to take advantage of high frequency bus services along the High Street towards bigger localities (services 61, 64 in particularly running every half an hour minimum).



Local permeability will be crucial. The proposed development fortunately seeks to capitalise on the opportunity to upgrade existing active travel routes towards key trip attractors for making local journeys by bike on or foot. We believe the proposals to protect and enhance Laburnum Walk, along the western boundary, aligns with Stonehouse Neighbourhood Plan Travel and Transport Policies T1, T2 and T4 to protect existing public rights of way and encourage new developments to provide new pedestrian routes to the town centre.

In this regard, the proposed application seeks to provide linkages to the existing footpaths and cycle routes into the centre of Stonehouse with reference made to Policies ENV2, ENV3 and ENV6 for preserving spaces, views and vistas which contribute to the distinctive form, character and setting of Stonehouse.

### 6.6 - Public

6.6.1 - There has been approximately 240 responses received from the local community and other public contributors. The vast majority of the comments received have raised objection to the proposal. The key issues of concern identified in the responses

#### History

Previous development proposals and appeal decisions have been raised and that precedent for the refusal of the proposal

### Strategic Issues

There is some recognition of the need for new housing

The proposed development is contrary to the Stroud Local Plan/Stonehouse Neighbourhood Development Plan

The site is not allocated for housing

Already housing development underway in Stonehouse - need for housing on the site is questioned

Contrary to Climate Emergency initiative.

The development would increase pressure on local facilities and infrastructure (such as medical services and schools).

Affordable Housing does not outweigh the loss of the site

Poor housing mix

### Open Space/Sports Pitches Issues

There is a proven shortage of playing pitches in the Stroud district

Concern over the loss of Green Space

The Sportsfield is protected under planning policy

The site is designated as open space for local community

The proposed development would increase the need for open space elsewhere

No onsite public open space/playspace is provided with the development proposal

The public health/wellbeing benefit of open space would be lost

### Design, Landscape Local Character issues

Loss/damage of protected trees associated with the site

Loss of protected views of Cotswold Areas from the locality

Negative impact on character and visual amenity of the locality

The open field is an important part of the character of Stonehouse



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

The development would result in the detrimental impact on the enjoyment of the Industrial Heritage Conservation Area and the associated Canal and its character.

Development is too dense

Lack of landscaping

#### Highway and Access Issues

Impact on highway safety on Junction to A419 Bristol Road - compound existing issues Negative Impact on highway safety along Bristol Road and conflict with the new road layout (traffic lights etc)

The safety of the cul-de-sac would be harmed

Increased Traffic

Insufficient parking on site

Turning east onto Bristol Road already difficult

Increased number of right turn movements causing increased standing traffic on Bristol Increased C02 from standing traffic

The development does not act to improve/encourage use of cycles

Use of Broakes Drive Roundabout suggested for alternative access to the site.

Impact upon the amenity of the adjacent public right of way

Traffic incidents in the immediate locality have been highlighted

### Ecology/Biodiversity Issues

Loss of wildlife habitat for protected species

Wildlife lost if development is allowed

Wildlife is often seen using the site

The submitted Ecological Survey is not adequate

Site should be preserved as habitat for Great Crested Newts

Drainage measures fail to incorporate ecological benefits

The development should contribute towards improvements to the Liang Nature reserve

#### Residential Amenity

Development would result in additional airborne, noise and light pollution

Impact of the Pavilion on the amenity of the locality

Restrictions should be imposed on the use of the pavilion (no drinks licence)

Extra vehicle movements impact on amenity and quiet enjoyment of local residents

Loss of views across Berryfield

Impact upon privacy as a result of overlooking and proximity

Impact on the security and safety of adjacent dwellings

#### Other Issues

The site should be offered to community if surplus to school requirements or purchased by the Council and used as a park

No public benefit to the proposed development

Only Wycliffe School would benefit from the proposal

Access for maintenance of boundary undermined

Field is used for dog walking

The community use agreement should include local sports clubs and groups



Wycliffe has not acted on previous promises to invest in sport infrastructure following the sale of other sites for housing

Lack of obligations to offset impact of the development on the local and proposed community.

Loss of property value in the locality

Precedent for further residential development at Berryfield

The need to fund the Pavilion does not justify the development of houses on the site

Public opinion Is against the proposal

Potential damage to domestic trees on private properties close to the site

Potential encroachment onto private property.

**Detrimental Impact during construction** 

Design and access statement does not show nearby dwellings correctly

Potential restrictive covenant on the site preventing building

### 7. NATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

#### 7.1 - National Planning Policy Framework July 2021

### 7.2 - Adopted Local Plan; Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) 2015.

Strategic Objectives

SO1 - Accessible Communities

S04 - Transport and Travel

S05 - Climate Change and Environmental Limits

#### **Core Policies**

CP1 - Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development.

CP2 - Strategic Growth and Development Locations.

CP3 - Settlement Hierarchy.

CP4 - Place Making

Core Policies - Homes and Communities

CP6 - Infrastructure and Developer Contributions

CP7 - Lifetime Communities

CP8 - New Housing Development

CP9 - Affordable Housing

CP14 - High Quality Sustainable Development

**Delivery Policies - Homes and Communities** 

HC1 - Residential Development in Urban Areas

Delivery Policies - Economy and Infrastructure

EI11 - Promoting Sport, Leisure and Recreation

El12 - Promoting Transport Choice and Accessibility.

El13 - Protecting and Extending our cycle routes

Delivery Policies - Environment and Surroundings

ES1 - Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Construction

ES3 - Maintaining Quality of Life Within Our Environmental Limits



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

- ES4 Water Resources, Quality and Flood Risk
- ES6 Biodiversity and Geodiversity
- ES7 Landscape Character
- ES8 Trees and Hedgerows and Woodlands
- ES10 Valuing Historic Environment and Assets
- ES12 Better Design of Places.
- ES14 Provision of Semi-Natural and Natural Green Space with New Residential Development
- ES15 Provision of Outdoor Play Space
- ES16 Public Art Contributions

#### 7.3 - Stonehouse Neighbourhood Development Plan (2019)

- AF1 Protecting Community Facilities
- AF2 Additional Community Facilities
- AF3 Design and Quality in The Town Centre
- H1 Local Needs Housing
- H2 Ease of Access in New Residential Development
- H3 Play Areas in New Development
- T1 Pedestrian Routes
- T2 New Development and Pedestrian Links to the Town Centre
- T4 Proximity of New Development to Facilities and Services
- T5 Existing Cycle Routes
- T6 New Development and Cycle Links to the Town Centre
- T8 Improving Existing Pedestrian and Cycle Links
- ENV1 Maintaining and Protecting the Natural Environment
- ENV2 Green Infrastructure Network
- ENV6 Protecting Views and Vistas
- ENV7 High Quality Design
- ENV8 Provision of Private Outdoor Amenity Space in New Developments

### 7.5 - County Level Development Plan

Gloucestershire Local Transport Plan (2020 to 2041)

Minerals Local Plan (2018 to 2032)

#### 7.6 - Other relevant documents

Stroud District Open Space and Green Space Infrastructure Study (June 2019)

Stroud District Playing Pitch Strategy (June 2019)

Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (July 2017)

Stroud District Landscape Assessment Supplementary Planning Guidance (November 2000).

Stroud District Residential Design Guide Supplementary Planning Guidance (November 2000).

Stroud District Residential Development Outdoor Play Space Provision Supplementary Planning Guidance (November 2000).



### 8. PRINCIPLE OF DEVELOPMENT

- 8.1 The site is located well within the Stonehouse settlement boundary Stonehouse is a first tier settlement as defined in Policy CP3 (Settlement Hierarchy) of the Stroud District Local Plan. First tier settlements are the primary focus for the delivery of new growth and development as sustainable locations. The location of the site is such that it has excellent access to existing services, community facilities, employment and public transport and other sustainable modes of transport.
- 8.2 Site History/Previous Appeal Decision The application site has been subject to previous proposals for residential development and refused by Stroud District Council in 1994. The development proposal affected the whole of Berryfield and was split into two separate outline planning applications. The 'Western Site' was very similar to the site under consideration as part of this planning application; whilst the 'eastern site' covered the larger area of Berryfield. The applications were subject of conjoined appeal in 1995 and recovered by the Secretary of State for determination. In this instance, the appeals were dismissed.
- 8.3 The appeal decisions are over 25 years old. The planning context of the proposals at the time that the appeal was considered was significantly different to the modern day planning context. In particular, the decision was based upon a superseded planning policy. The most up to date development plan is the adopted Stroud District Local Plan. In accordance with section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, this application should be considered having regard to the adopted development plan unless material planning considerations indicate otherwise.
- 8.4 Whilst the appeals are a material planning consideration that the weight that can be applied to them is very limited. Officers consider that the appeal decisions do not amount to circumstances that would outweigh the adopted Stroud District Local Plan.
- 8.5 For the reasons set out below officers are satisfied that the proposed development is consistent with the broad policy context of the adopted development plan (and this includes the Stonehouse NDP). Officers consider that the proposed development is sustainable and acceptable in principle; and, meets the objectives of Paragraph 11c of the National Planning Policy Framework.

### 9. NEW HOUSING PROVISION

9.1 The proposed development would provide 52 new dwellings. 100% of the dwellings are proposed to be delivered as Affordable Homes The development would be carried out and operated by The Guinness Partnership which is a Registered Provider (RP) of affordable housing. At least 16 of the units can be secured by appropriate s106 legal agreement in accordance with adopted planning policy. The remaining 36 units would be provided as part of the RP business and supported by Homes England grant funding.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

- 9.2 The Stroud District Council Housing Strategy and Community Infrastructure Manager has confirmed that the provision of housing in this way would make a positive contribution to the Affordable housing need in the district. It is also confirmed that the tenure mix is acceptable and dwelling sizes and types proposed will address local housing need.
- 9.3 Stroud District Council has a healthy 5-year housing supply. There is no principle objection to the proposal, and the proposal would bolster the council's land supply in a sustainable location. Significant weight in favour of the proposal is attributed to this factor.
- 9.4 Furthermore, the development would provide 100% affordable units bringing a further 52 dwellings towards the annual need for new affordable housing units per annum in the Stroud district of which there is an unmet need annually. As noted further in this report, 30% (16 units) of the affordable dwellings can be secured through a s106 legal agreement Accordingly, substantial weight in favour of the proposal to deliver 16 affordable units is attributed to this factor; whilst the delivery of the remaining 36 affordable units is attributed significant weight in favour.

### 10. OPEN SPACE AND PLAYING FIELD PROVISION

- 10.1 Policy ES13 of the Stroud District Local Plan seeks to protect playing fields from whole or partial loss as result of development. The policy provides two key exception criteria that relates to the availability of facilities in the catchment of the site and the benefit of replacement of improvements to existing facilities. The Berryfield is also included as Protected Outdoor Playspace on Map 10 Associated with Policy ENV2 of the Stonehouse Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- 10.2 The Berryfield is owned and operated by Wycliffe School as part of the school sports curriculum and as such is classed as 'Outdoor Sport (Private)' for the purposes of the SDC Open Space and Green Infrastructure Study Stonehouse Cluster. Essentially, the site is private land operated by Wycliffe School for educational purposes. It is not publically accessible. In that regard, officers are satisfied that there is no reasonable prospect of the subject area becoming publically available. On this basis, it is considered that the land does not contribute to the provision of 'public open space' such as allotments, play space or other forms of amenity green space, meaning that there would be no material loss in that regard. As such neutral weight is attributed to this factor.
- 10.3 Wycliffe School has identified that the area of the Berryfield subject to the housing proposal has become surplus to the requirements of the school. It is clear from site visits and overhead photographs that the area of the site is not maintained as sports pitches; whereas the remainder of the site (outside of this planning application) is maintained as such. Therefore, the housing development proposed would not result in the loss of operational playing fields provided at the site.
- 10.4 Sports England are a statutory consultee in the case of this planning application on the basis that it affects registered playing fields. It is of note that Sport England have not raised objection and have considered the proposal against the Sport England Playing Fields Practice and Guidance (March 2018). Essentially Sport England has confirmed that the



proposed development would meet Sport England one (or more) of the five specific exceptions for opposing development proposals affecting existing playing fields. Specifically, Sport England is satisfied that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment (Stonehouse Cluster) and this would remain the case should development proceed; and, that the proposed development of the pavilion would support the use of the playing fields that would remain. In this way, officers are satisfied that the development proposal meets the objectives of Policy ES13 in respect of playing fields.

- 10.5 It is submitted by the applicant that the pavilion and associated sports field improvement would be facilitated by the housing development proposed as part of this planning application. The pavilion itself would bring a positive improvement to the existing school sports facilities.
- 10.6 It is noted that Wycliffe School are committed to providing access to sports facilities on other areas of the school campus and that the pavilion building will be made available to community groups for use outside of the school operation. As such it is considered that the proposed development sports development would bring about a positive contribution towards promoting healthy and safe communities. Minor to Moderate weight in favour of the proposed development is attributed to this factor.
- 10.7 Noting the requirements of Policy AF1 of the Stonehouse Neighbourhood Development Plan, the proposed development would not affect the community open or facilities space associated with Laburnum Recreation Field and Play Area.
- 10.8 Notwithstanding the above Policy ES13 of the Stroud District Local Plan also seeks to protect open spaces for the benefit that they contribute to the locality. Whilst the site is private land, it is considered that it is an area of open space that forms part of the character of this part of Stonehouse. The impact of the proposal in his regard is considered below.

### 11. LOCAL CHARACTER, DESIGN AND APPEARANCE

- 11.1 Local Character; Open Spaces The site forms a parcel of open land located to the South of Laburnum Walk to the North, Festival Road to the East, Bristol Road to the South and Regent Street to the East. Views of the site are highly accessible from public realm associated with the existing Public Right of Way immediately adjacent to the West of the site. Direct views of the site are also available from Laburnum Recreation Field and Play Area. Open views of the site are available from residential properties adjacent to the site. Most prominently from properties associated with Festival Road, Laburnum Walk and Laburnum Mews and Bristol Road.
- 11.2 It is clear that the Berryfield (as a whole entity) together with Laburnum Recreation Field and other spaces such as Court View Ponds accumulate to offer a large area of open land surrounded urban development associated with Stonehouse. This makes a very positive contribution to the character of the area and perception of space. Policy ES13 of the Stroud District Local Plan seeks to protect spaces that contribute to the distinctive form, character and setting of a settlement; recognising that open spaces also improve quality of life through opportunities for formal and informal recreation. The policy indicates that local communities will designate local green spaces as part of a Neighbourhood Plan.



- 11.3 Accordingly, officers consider that Berryfield is an area of open space that is captured by the objectives of Policy ES13. However, as noted above, it is not publically accessible and as such its value is somewhat confined to a visual benefit in terms of the character of the area. Whilst the site is acknowledged as Protected Outdoor Play Space under Policy ENV2 of the Stonehouse Neighbourhood Development Plan, it is not specifically listed as a designated local green space.
- 11.4 The proposed development would introduce 52 new dwellings into the Western part of the site whilst a new pavilion building would be introduced in the Southern part of the site. Associated road access would also be provided. The development proposal would result in approximately 40% of the Berryfield site being developed. Whilst this is a substantial part of the site, the remaining area of land combined with the Laburnum Recreation Field would continue to provide open space and openness in this locality. Whilst the character of the area would be affected officers consider that the remaining areas of open space would continue to offer considerable value.
- 11.5 The layout of the proposed development is such that there is a wide area of green space (a green corridor) planned along the full length of the Western elevation of the site. This allows the proposed dwellings to be set back from the existing public right of way. The introduction of the green corridor would allow for the opportunity to provide high quality landscaping that would link the open areas associated with the Nature reserve/Newt Ponds due west (as well as important ecological benefit) to the proposed development. Officers consider that this design feature would provide a positive and publically accessible landscape feature that would act to enhance the immediate context of the public right of way and provide positive informal open space. Officers consider that this feature would provide considerable mitigation in respect of the loss of part of Berryfield.
- 11.6 Notwithstanding the above, there remains a considerable loss of the open space associated with Berryfield. This will result in harm to the character of the area. However, given that a substantial area of open space (including publically accessible area at Laburnum Recreation Field) would remain and together with considerable mitigation in the form of the new green corridor officers consider that this harm is reduced. Accordingly, moderate weight is attributed to this factor against the proposed development.
- 11.7 Local Character; Urban features The immediate urban context of the site is substantially made up of modern dwellings constructed in the 20th Century and early 21st Century. To the immediate West and North of the site development dates from the mid-20th Century whilst immediately to the south development dates from the early to mid 20th Century. Generally, the wider context of the site and the Parish of Stonehouse includes a very wide range of buildings dating from a wide range of periods. The urban character of the area is varied and includes residential dwellings interspersed with commercial and community buildings.
- 11.8 The proposed residential development would provide 52 dwellings. The buildings are domestic in scale. The majority of the new buildings are 2 storey in height with six of the proposed dwellings being 2.5 storeys. Generally, the buildings provide semi-detached or terraced dwellings. There are no detached units. The proposed development is laid out well and is consistent with the general grain of domestic development in the surrounding area.



The layout provides a good standard of private outdoor space. Pedestrian and cycling permeability is also very good with excellent access to the wider area and Stonehouse Town Centre. The green corridor along the western edge of the site will provide a strong setting for the development and good visual separation from existing residential development associated with Festival Way. Within the residential development, public areas are proposed to be well landscaped with the introduction of new street trees, shrub planting and grassed areas. The proposed buildings would appear modest in scale with simple detailing and the use of simple materials (a mix or render and buff brick, red and grey roofing tiles).

- 11.9 Whilst it is acknowledged that harm will result from the partial loss of Berrfield to residential development, officer consider that the design and layout of the proposed development itself is good quality and provides mitigation in the wider context. Accordingly; in respect of the design of the residential proposal it is not considered that it would act to compound the impact of the loss of the open space area.
- 11.10 The proposed pavilion is presented as a modern building that responds well to its function as a facility to support sports activities on the Berryfield Sports Pitches. The scale of the building is relatively modest and low rise whilst providing the necessary operational and functional requirements. The appearance of the building is considered to represent a good design that responds well to the function of the building. Whilst there is an area of open car (and coach) parking proposed tis is arranged well in the context of the relatively restricted area of the site. The area is proposed to be landscaped which will act to soften the impact of the parking area and improve the context of that area in relation to the existing mature trees (including TPO's in this area). Officers consider that the design and layout of the pavilion, associated car parking and landscaping is acceptable.
- 11.11 Again, it is acknowledged that some harm will result from the partial loss of Berryfield open area. However, the impact of the pavilion development alone is minimal in that respect, and appropriately mitigated. Accordingly, it is not considered that the pavilion development would act to compound the impact of the loss of the wider open space area.
- 11.12 Accordingly, in respect of the built form that is proposed to be introduced onto the site it is not considered that it would compound the wider impact of the loss of open space identified in respect of the wider character of the area. Neutral weight is attributed to this factor.
- 11.13 Wider Landscape Impact and Impact on Views The view to and from Doverow Hill is recognised as an important part of the character of Stonehouse. It is a protected view as listed in policy ENV 6 of the Stonehouse Neighbourhood Development Plan. It is also an issue raised in comments made by local residents concerned with the impact of the proposed development on that view. In general terms. The existing views to Doverow Hill are framed and interrupted by existing buildings and varies in nature as the viewer moves around the immediate and wider context of the application site.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

- 11.14 It is clear that the proposed development will interrupt relatively open views of Doverow Hill when taken from the existing Public Right of Way (PROW) and some area of Festival Road. However, the nature of the proposed development is such that it is set back from the route of the PROW by 10 to 15 metres. The proposed buildings in that view would be two storey in height (approximately 8 metres to the ridge). The layout of the development is such that views of Doverow will still be available through the gaps left between the proposed buildings and (given the relative separation from this view point) over the tops of the proposed buildings. In that sense, the view of Doverow will be compromised, but not totally lost.
- 11.15 Given the nature of Stonehouse as an urban area, the resulting development would maintain views of Doverow Hill that would be generally consistent with the character of the views seen from Stonehouse. Whilst the views in the immediate vicinity of the site would be compromised, the views available generally in the wider context would not be affected. As such, officers acknowledge that there would be some harm as a result of the proposed development in this respect.
- 11.16 It is also important to consider the views from Doverow Hill back towards the site. Doverow Hill is within the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) (or National Landscape). The application is supported by a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA). Officers are satisfied that the document provides a robust assessment of the landscape impact of the development. The assessment includes a view point taken from a PROW located on Doverow Hill. In this instance, the LVIA attributes a 'moderate/minor' adverse effect. Officers consider that this is a reasonable assessment.
- 11.17 When viewed from Doverow Hill the site is clearly visible. It is framed by existing built form and is part of an area of open space formed by Berryfield and Luburnum Recreation Field. The view of the site from Doverow Hill are in the region of 800 metres to 1km distant. The residential development would occupy the furthest (western) part of the site and would be set against the backdrop of existing dwellings associated with Festival Road and Laburnum Mews. The development would have the effect of reducing the area of open land visible in this context. However, given that the view is over a relatively long distance, the scale of the development is such that considerable open space would remain visible in the view. The proposed development would be read in a similar way to existing development. Whilst it is acknowledged that the development will be visible and will change the character of the view it will be set in the much wider context of Stonehouse. Over time, (given that the development includes comprehensive landscaping) the impact will be reduced and mitigated. Officers therefore consider that whilst there will be some impact in landscape terms, this would be relatively minor.
- 11.18 In respect of the pavilion building and associated parking, this will also be read in the wider context of Stonehouse. It would relate to the Berryfield open space in a functional way. Again the impact in landscape terms would be relatively minor.



11.19 Accordingly, it is considered that the proposed development would not result in a detrimental impact upon the setting of the Cotswold AONB. In respect of the views enjoyed from Doverow Hill, officers acknowledge that there would be some impact. However, given the context of the site in this view, the impact would be relatively minor. Therefore minor to moderate weight is attributed to this factor against the proposed development.

### 12. ARCHAEOLOGY & HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

- 12.1 An archaeological assessment has been carried out in respect of the proposed development and this included trial trenching. In this instance, the County Archaeologist is satisfied that the development would not result in loss of archaeological interest and is acceptable in that regard.
- 12.2 The context of the site is such that it is set within modern urban development. A number of heritage asset are present in the wider locality including the Industrial Heritage Conservation Area. Stonehouse Court and St Cyr Church (Grade II Star listed buildings), Berryfield House and North Berryfield (grade II listed buildings). However, the location of the site and its immediate surrounding context is such that officers are satisfied that the proposed development would not give rise to any material impact upon the setting of the surrounding heritage assets. In particular, the degree of separation and proximity to heritage assets (including the Industrial Heritage Conservation Area and St Cyr Church) is such that there would be no direct views between the proposed development and the heritage assets. Neutral weight is given to this factor.

#### 13. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- 13.1 Ecology The Stroud District Council Biodiversity Officer has considered the proposed development in the context of ecological constraints associated with the application site. In this instance, officers are satisfied that the development is acceptable in ecological terms, subject to appropriate planning conditions. The Biodiversity Officer has suggested specific conditions/planning obligations are attached in the event of the approval of this application that secure the following (subject area);
- Planning obligation to secure proportionate funds (commuted sum) towards the Severn Estuary SPA/SAC avoidance mitigation strategy; or a development specific bespoke mitigation strategy (the applicant has committed to the payment of a commuted sum);
- Mitigation for potential impact upon the Cotswold Beechwoods SAC;
- Details of all external lighting prior to the first occupation of the development;
- Ecological measures/works carried out in accordance with the requirements identified in the submitted Ecological Appraisal
- A Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP);
- Specific conditions to tie the development to the Stroud District Council Organisation Great Created Newt Licence (referred to as the District Licence).



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

- 13.2 Officers are satisfied that the application site itself carries limited ecological value. However, the site is close to the Stonehouse Newt Pond (also referred to as Court View Ponds) which is a nature reserve and locally designated as a Key Wildlife Site and Local Wildlife Site for its amphibian interest. As well as Great Created Newts other protected species such as bats and badgers are present in the area. The application is supported by an Ecological Assessment which has confirmed the presence of those species and has confirmed that the species activity is very limited over and on the application site itself but is highly present in the nature reserve areas (due Southwest). Nonetheless, there is potential connectivity from the nature reserve areas and vegetation on site and the surrounding area. As such the ecological report has set out precautionary working methods that will ensure that protected species are protected during the construction phase of the proposed development. This would include such measures as protective fencing barriers to prevent Newts and Badgers entering the site; dust management to protect badger setts and control over the use of construction lighting in the interest of Bats.
- 13.3 The application site falls within a designated Great Created Newt 'Red Zone' and recognises the likely potential for Great Created Newts (GCN) to be present. There are three ponds that are known to support an excellent population of GCN. However, the Ecology Assessment confirms that the application site is sub-optimal to directly support GCN. As such officers are satisfied that the proposed development would not result in impact upon the ponds or associated terrestrial habitat. It is possible that GCN could potentially enter the site just before or during the construction phase. Accordingly, the developer/applicant has obtained a 'District Licence' to allow measures to be taken in order to protect and safeguard GCN during the construction phase. Essentially, this enables the developer to engage a licensed ecologist to search the site ahead of the commencement of construction and ensure that appropriate mitigation (such as protective fencing) is installed. In the event that GCN is discovered whilst construction is underway the District Licence allows GCN to be lawfully relocated to suitable GCN habitat (in this instance the ponds and surrounding vegetation close to the site). This is an appropriate method of safeguarding for GCN and as such officers are satisfied that the development would not result in unacceptable impact to GCN as a protected species. iNeutral weight is attributed to this factor.
- 13.4 Beyond the construction phase, the development includes specific ecological enhancement/mitigation. This is in the form of the green corridor which (through the implementation of a Landscape Ecological Management Plan (LEMP)) would provide suitable habitat that would facilitate improved connectivity to the three ponds south of the site and other nearby habitat. This would benefit a wide range of wildlife species including GCN. The green corridor includes SWALES (which also form part of the sustainable drainage scheme) and wildflower planting. It is considered that this would result in a positive ecological gain over and above the existing quality of the site and as such is attributed immoderate weight in favour of the proposed development.
- 13.5 Notwithstanding the above, GCN habitat associated with the ponds to the south of the site is limited in connectivity. Whilst the population present in the ponds is relatively high at this time the potential for the population to form metapopulations is limited and not considered sustainable long term. The provision of the green corridor and associated linking habitats would assist in improving the prospects of the existing population. A further



mechanism of a 'District Licence' provides funds (at the developers cost) to deliver off site 'compensation' for the improvement of GCN habitat. Aquatic and terrestrial habitat compensation is delivered by the Newt Conservation Partnership. The compensation is spatially linked to areas in which development impacts occur. For example, there is one compensation site in Stroud where it is likely that funds will be directed.

- 13.6 As noted above, officers are satisfied that the development will not result in unacceptable ecological impact (and would not directly result in the loss of GCN habitat/species). It would also provide positive ecological benefit directly on site for a wide range of species. As well as this, the development is making a positive contribution towards GCN compensatory sites resulting in a positive ecological net gain. Again, immoderate weight is attributed to this factor in favour of the proposed development.
- 13.7 Drainage/Hydrology The proposed development includes proactive and sustainable water management. The initial submission proposed a highly engineered surface water drainage system which, whilst it would be effective was not considered to offer ongoing sustainability benefit. However, following an initial assessment and comments by the Lead Local Flood Authority and the Stroud District Water Resources the proposed drainage scheme has been redesigned and now includes sustainable means of handling surface water; including SWALEs. This would provide positive and sustainable means of water management at the site and would also make a positive contribution towards the ecological characteristics of the development. Accordingly, officers are satisfied that the development would provide acceptable surface water drainage. ineutral weight is attributed to this factor.
- 13.8 Arboriculture The application site contains a number of Tree Preservation Orders. This are located in the Southern Area of the site and would be affected by the proposal for the pavilion building and associated car parking area. The position of the proposed pavilion has been adjusted following concerns raised by the Stroud District Council Arboricultural Officer. The building is now positioned satisfactorily in relation to the protected trees and considered acceptable in that regard.
- 13.9 Other trees are present on the site and located along the Western boundary. These are not subject to Tree Preservation Orders. Whilst some of these trees have been removed (due to storm damage) the remaining trees are to be retained as part of the proposed development and will form part of the green corridor referred to elsewhere in this report. Additional trees are proposed to be provided as part of the landscaping of the development and it is considered that these will act to enhance the development and improve the tree coverage associated with the site and the surrounding locality. The introduction of new trees as part of the proposed development is considered to be consistent with recent changes to the National Planning Policy Framework. Accordingly, officers are satisfied that the development would not result in the net gain of tree coverage and is acceptable in that regard. iNeutral weight is attributed to this factor.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

- 13.10 Building performance, Sustainability and Climate Change The proposed development is located in a highly sustainable location close to local and national modes of public transport. It is also close to a good cycling network and within walking distance of local shops and services offered in Stonehouse Town Centre. Officers consider that this allows the proposed development to make a positive contribution to a sustainable form of living.
- 13.11 It is anticipated that the development will perform well against the required Building Regulation standards which requires a high performance (such as insulation and efficient heating) in new build dwellings. The applicant indicates that the development proposals adopt a 'fabric first approach' to the holistic energy efficiency of the dwellings with the aim of reducing the financial burden for the residents and thus fuel poverty. It is expected that the new dwellings will achieve fabric improvement of 4%-10% over and above building regulations compliance and can be achieved through improved thermal performance of floors, walls, roofs and windows together with an enhanced air tightness to reduce draft and a highly efficient boiler to provide the heating and hot water demand.
- 13.12 Whilst the development does not include the provision of renewable energy generation, it is expected that the proposed dwellings will be highly energy efficient and exceed building Regulation Standards. Furthermore, the proposed development would initially include 7 dwellings that would be fitted with 'electric car charging points' whilst the remainder of the development would include ducting and other measures so as to allow easy retrospective installation of 'electric car charging points' should there be a demand so future proofing the development in that regard.
- 13.13 The applicant has also indicated that building materials would be sustainably sourced whilst waste management (resulting from the development) would be kept to a minimum in line with good practice standards. The Construction Management Plan provides the basic measure in this respect. In respect of future occupation, the dwellings can be subject to the District Council waste collection and recycling service.
- 13.14 As noted earlier in this report, the development includes measures for dealing with surface water in a sustainable manner and provides a positive contribution to the natural environment through on site and off site mitigation.
- 13.15 Accordingly, officers consider that the development is capable of providing a positive contribution to the Stroud District Council '2030 Strategy'. iMinor to moderate weight is attributed to this factor in favour of the proposed development.
- 13.16 Ground Conditions the Contaminated Land Officer is satisfied that the potential for ground contamination to be present on the site is very low and advises that no further site investigation is required ahead of the commencement of the proposed development. As a precautionary measure it is appropriate to apply a planning condition to secure a watching brief to ensure that any unknown contaminates being discovered during construction can be addressed. Neutral weight is attributed to this factor.



13.17 Construction Waste The application is supported by a Waste Minimisation Statement (WMS). Officers are satisfied that the management of the construction phase of the development would provide appropriate measures for the control of waste and appropriate disposal.

#### 14. HIGHWAY IMPACT AND ACCESSIBILITY

- 14.1 The proposed development is accessed via Bristol Road (A419) and utilises the existing gated access onto the former alignment of A419. The former alignment is now a service road (and a no-through route) off the existing A419 alignment. The service road serves existing residential properties associated with Bristol Road.
- 14.2 The Highway Authority has confirmed that it raises no objection to the proposed development subject to conditions to secure the following;
- Delivery of access, parking and turning facilities provided prior to first occupation of the development;
- The provision of residential electric vehicle charging points;
  - implementation and monitoring of the submitted Residential Travel Plan
  - Provision of and compliance with Construction Management Plan for the development.
  - Street Lighting (final design)
  - Informative notes are also suggested that relate to the process for County adoption of public highway and the implementation of any agree Construction Management Plan.
- 14.3 Impact on the Public Highway The proposed access is proposed to be arranged as a priority junction onto Bristol Road (the service road). The Highway Authority has confirmed that the design confirms to the requirements of the Manual for Gloucestershire Streets and is appropriate for the trip generation associated with the proposed development. The junction is acceptable in that regard. The Highway Authority has also confirmed that there are no planning conditions required to specifically address public highway matters.
- 14.4 Local residents have raised specific concern regarding the safety of the access from the service road onto the main A419 (Bristol Road). The Highway Authority has carefully considered the comments received. During the course of the assessment of this application, the applicant and the Highway Authority have been in close discussion regarding the introduction of a 'ghost right turning lane' (for use when travelling West) at the junction of the service road to the main A419. As part of this discussion, the applicant has provided technical evidence/assessment. Provided information relates to traffic flow associated with the junction. The Highway Authority acknowledges that the development would intensify movements at the existing junction. However, the Highway Authority is satisfied that whilst the junction will be close to its threshold, it will continue to operate within its capacity allowing for the proposed development. In particular, it is noted that the proximity to Stonehouse Town Centre and associated services results in a sustainable location with access to alternative modes of transport so reducing car dependency.



- 14.5 Paragraph 111 of the National Planning Policy Framework (July 2021) makes it clear that Development should only be prevented or refused on highways grounds if there would be an unacceptable impact on highway safety, or the residual cumulative impacts on the road network would be severe. In this instance, the Highway Authority has confirmed that there is no evidence to demonstrate that the proposed development would result in a severe highway impact or safety implication, and; advises that the evidence demonstrates that the 'ghost right turning lane' is not required in order to otherwise make the proposed development safe.
- 14.6 Internal Layout The Highway Authority has confirmed that the layout of the development is acceptable in highway safety and access terms subject to conditions (outlined above). In relation to the proposed residential development, the LPA is advised that cycle parking/storage and car parking is acceptable, although some criticism of the location of the cycle parking/cycle storage is noted. However, officers consider that the proposal is satisfactory in that regard and that the provision of cycle parking and storage would facilitate and encourage cycle use generally at the proposed development. A Residential Travel Plan has been submitted in support of the planning application. This is considered acceptable and forms a sound basis to encourage alternative modes of transport to the private motor car. The requirement for electric car charging points at every dwelling is noted. Whilst the proposal does not provide this from the offset (only seven dwellings will be fitted initially due to parking space/dwelling relationship) the Transport Assessment does indicate that provision for trunking that will accept charge points in the future. This is considered to adequately address this requirement and can be conditioned appropriately in the event that this application is approved.
- 14.7 In relation to the sports pavilion and associated infrastructure the Highway Authority has confirmed that parking space provision (including accessible spaces), coach parking, cycle parking and access to electric car charging points is acceptable. The highway Authority also confirms that the use of the pavilion would not result in highway concern.
- 14.8 Having regards to the above, officers are satisfied that the proposed development is acceptable in highway safety and access terms and would not result in a severe highway impact. Neutral weight is attributed to this factor.

### 15. RESIDENTIAL AND GENERAL AMENTIY

15.1 Overlooking, privacy and Proximity - The site is enclosed on its Western and Southern boundary by existing residential development. There is also residential development located to the North of the site boundary. Officers are satisfied that the proposed dwellings would not result in an unacceptable level of overlooking or overbearing impact to existing residential properties. This is because the nature of the site is such that the proposed dwellings are considerably distanced from the existing/surrounding residential development. At the closest point, proposed dwellings would be located at least 20 metres from residential properties associated with Laburnum Mews. Officers note that there is some concern raised by local residents that this area of the proposed development will cause overlooking and loss of privacy and in particular from the 2.5 storey dwellings positioned in this part of the site. Whilst the development would result in a degree of impact in this regard, the relationship of the proposed dwellings with existing dwellings would be consistent with typical relationships typically occurring in sub-urban setting such as this.



- 15.2 Currently, existing properties located on Festival Road back onto the PROW at the Western boundary of the site. The proposed development would introduce new dwellings that would face towards the PROW and the rear garden areas of dwellings on Festival Road. Given the distances and separation provided (by the proposed access road and green corridor) officers are satisfied that there would not be a material harm as a result of views/overlooking towards the existing dwellings. However, the proposed development would introduce an element of positive surveillance towards the PROW and act to improve the safety of its users somewhat. It would also act to reduce the potential for anti-social behaviour or crime in the immediate area.
- 15.3 Access to the proposed development is from Bristol Road. The proposed access road is positioned centrally between numbers 1 and 2 Bristol Road. It is noted that number 2 abuts the boundary of the site at this point and includes ground floor windows on the Western elevation. This has raised concern about the loss of privacy affecting this property. The initial proposal included a footway that passed the dwelling at close proximity. In order to address this close proximity, the applicant has removed the footway and the area is now proposed to be planted with thick, low lying shrubs that will discourage the use of the verge to access the site on foot.
- 15.4 Officers are satisfied that this would be effective in reducing the potential direct impact on the privacy of the dwelling to an acceptable level. It is also considered that the general use of the access route by pedestrians and vehicles would not result in users lingering for long periods.
- The proposed pavilion building is positioned approximately 8 to 10 metres from the boundary of the site with number 4 Bristol Road. The pavilion building is proposed to be approximately 8 metres in height. There are no windows proposed in the rear elevation of the building (facing towards the residential properties. As such there would be no overlooking resulting from the building towards residential properties. The only windows to the building face towards the playing pitches. Whilst the proposed building will be visible from adjacent domestic gardens, it is considered that the separation of the building and the nearby dwellings is such that it would not result in an unacceptable overbearing impact. Whilst it is acknowledged that the building would also be available for community uses, this would be relatively limited and Wycliffe School (as the operator) has indicated that the offer to the community would not include uses such as parties or as a wedding venue. Officers have considered whether it would be appropriate to apply a condition regarding the operating hours of the pavilion, however this is likely to result in an unreasonable restriction that could impact on the main use of the building to provide sports facilities for the school. Furthermore, the exact use of the building by the community is a matter for the operator. In this instance, officers are satisfied that the use would not give rise to an unacceptable impact in respect of the compatibility of the use in the context of nearby residential uses. Should a 'noise nuisance' issue arise this is a matter covered by appropriate environmental health legislation.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

- 15.6 Noise and Light Impact The use of the proposed access would likely result in a significant increase in passing vehicular traffic and pedestrians. This has the potential to increase noise levels at close receptors to the site and the access. These receptors include dwellings associated with Bristol Road in particular those dwellings on either side of the access and dwellings that back onto the Pavilion car park. This impact is most apparent at number 2 Bristol Road where the car parking area and the access road are close to the Western and Northern boundary of the property.
- 15.7 The application is supported by a Noise Assessment. The Environmental Health Officer has not raised specific concern about the impact of the introduction of traffic movements. However, queries were raised in respect of the use of the car parking areas in proximity to the boundary fence of the adjacent residential property. The applicant has addressed this issue by introducing a 2m metre high acoustic fence that will continue along the boundary of the site to a point level with the East wall of the proposed pavilion building. The Environmental Health Officer has confirmed that this measure is acceptable and is appropriate mitigation against potential noise impact.
- 15.8 The location of the site is such that the locality is affected by traffic noise associated with Bristol Road (back ground noise levels). The consideration of the impact of noise as a result of the proposed development should be considered in that context. Noise resulting from vehicular movement in the pavilion car park can be mitigated as set out above. Noise resulting from movements associated with the residential development (especially during peak times) would be heard in the context of relatively high volume traffic noise generally in the local area. The proportionate levels of noise are not considered to result in a significant increase over the existing levels. Accordingly, officers are satisfied that the impact proposed development in that regard can be adequately mitigated.
- 15.9 Following queries relating to the potential impact of lighting associated with the pavilion the applicant provided further information in that respect. The Environmental Health Officer has confirmed that this is acceptable and suggests that a compliance condition is applied in the event of approval. Accordingly, officers are satisfied that the impact of lighting can be adequately mitigated and is acceptable in that regard.
- 15.10 Whilst there would be a negative impact in residential amenity terms, officers are satisfied that appropriate mitigation can be secured and this would be the impact to acceptable levels. Moderate impact against the proposed development is attributed to this factor.

#### 16. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE CONSIDERATIONS

16.1 The proposed development is made up on 100% affordable. Although the development would be liable against the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). However, Affordable Housing is exempt from CIL payments.



- 16.2 Schools and Library Contributions The Gloucestershire County Council Infrastructure Officer has set out that the development would generate a requirement for offsite contributions towards Pre-school Places and Library Services. This is requested in order to mitigate the impact of the development on these services in the Stonehouse Area.
- 16.3 The request is targeted at Early Years provision in the Stonehouse Primary Planning Area; and Stonehouse Library. The proposed development generates a total of 14.40 preschool places (amounting to £217,310.40) and £10,192 towards Stonehouse Library. This amounts to a total of £227,502.40
- 16.4 Officers recognise that this request would provide the opportunity to offset the impact of the proposed development on County level infrastructure as a result of the increased population resulting from the proposed development. Under the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations (CIL), the LPA can secure appropriate financial contributions towards infrastructure where there is a demonstrable need to offset the impact of the proposed development. The current regulations allow for obligations to be secured in parallel with infrastructure also covered by the Local Authority adopted CIL requirements. It is therefore reasonable that Gloucestershire County Council make the request detailed above.
- 16.5 Notwithstanding the above, the consideration of the impact of the development on infrastructure lies with the decision make (the LPA) to consider in the context of other benefits of the proposed development. As set out earlier in this report, the proposed development would deliver 100% affordable housing, and this is a factor that is attributed substantial weight.
- 16.6 The delivery of the proposed development would be facilitated through Homes England grant funding. The developer (The Guinness Partnership) is an organisation who's business objective is to deliver affordable housing. In this instance, the applicant has provided information that shows that even with grant funding there would be a shortfall which is also being made up from other funding sources. This means that the obligation to provide the requested financial is likely to force a burden onto the development that would mean it could no longer be delivered.
- 16.7 Whilst officers acknowledge that the development would result in an impact in terms of pre-school places and library services, the scale of the development is such that the impact is considered to be relatively minor in the context of Stonehouse. However, without mitigation, officers attribute moderate harm as a result of this impact. Nonetheless, CIL funding is also available in this regard.
- 16.8 Accordingly, in terms of the planning balance, officers consider that the requirement to provide funding for schools and library services is outweighed by the substantial benefit of providing the proposed affordable housing. Officers therefore recommend that this contribution is not requested.



- 16.9 Other Infrastructure Given the nature of the proposed development infrastructure including open/plays space and green infrastructure is funded through CIL and as such the impact of the proposed development in the wider infrastructure terms is appropriately mitigated. No further funding request is therefore necessary. iNeutral weight is attributed to this factor.
- 16.10 It is also noted that the development will deliver a good proportion of 'green infrastructure' in the form of the green corridor within the site itself. The site has very good access to local play infrastructure and youth provision.

#### 17. COMMUNITY USE OF FACILITIES SCHOOL SPORTS FACILITIES

- 17.1 Wycliffe School has indicated a commitment to allow community access to the proposed pavilion building and has also indicated further community access to sports facilities (in this case Hockey facilities) that are operated by the school.
- 17.2 Access to the pavilion is proposed to be secured through a s.106 Unilateral Undertaking. This would be available to the wider community and is not specific to the occupants of the proposed dwellings.
- 17.3 Wycliffe School is committed to some provision for community use of its existing facilities as well as the proposed pavilion. This commitment would be honoured via a 'community use' agreement. Whilst this is not specifically controlled by planning legislation, it does bring value to the wider community.
- 17.4 Whilst officers recognise that the commitments to the use of the Wycliffe School facilities by the community is a positive benefit it is not a factor that is essential in making the proposed development acceptable in planning terms. Accordingly, limited weight is attributed to this factor in favour of the proposed development.

#### 18. OTHER ISSUES

- 18.1 Civil Matters Local concern has been raised as to the impact of trees located within domestic gardens close to the development. The impact on trees within the site has been addressed earlier in this report including the impact upon existing tree preservation orders. Whilst it is acknowledged that there are also trees present off site that could be affected by the development, the trees are not protected and considered to be of limited public benefit (as they are private property). In the event that domestic trees are damaged as a result of development this is a civil matter and one that carries no weight in the planning assessment of this development proposal.
- 18.2 Local residents have questioned the impact of the development in respect of access gates onto the Berryfield. It is important to note that the Berryfield is private property. Whilst access onto it from private gardens bordering the site may be present, this is a civil matter between the owners of the site and the adjacent land owners. The planning system cannot control or consider private access rights over land and as such is an issue that carries no weight in the planning assessment of this development proposal.



- 18.3 Comment has been received raising the potential encroachment onto third party (neighbouring) land. The applicant has confirmed that it is in control of all of the land subject of this planning application and there is no evidence to suggest that the ownership of the site is declared incorrectly. Where there is potential dispute over land ownership this is a civil matter and as such is an issue that carries no weight in the planning assessment of this development proposal.
- 18.4 Property Values Comment has been received that raise concern that the proposed development would result in a loss of value affecting surrounding residential properties. Property value is not a planning matter, and as such is an issue that carries no weight in the planning assessment of this development proposal.
- 18.5 Covenants preventing development Comment has been received that suggests that a covenant is in place associated with Berryfield that precludes development on the site. This is not a planning matter and is a civil matter for the land owner/developer. In the event that a restrictive covenant is in place this is a matter for law courts to consider. Such covenants do not prevent planning permission from being issued.
- 18.6 Precedent for more development Whilst officers are aware that the remainder of the Berryfield site has been subject to a planning application for residential previously, any decision in relation to this planning application does not set a precedent for further development elsewhere on the Berryfield site. Each application is considered on its own merit. Should a further application be submitted in the future, the planning merit of that proposal would be given due consideration at that time.

### 19. PLANNING OBLIGATIONS

- 19.1 The following obligations are considered appropriate related to the proposed development and should be secured by appropriate legal agreement in the event that the application is approved;
- 19.2 Affordable Housing The proposed development would provide 100% of the dwellings as affordable housing. A minimum of 16 dwellings (30%) should be secured by appropriate s106 legal agreement to ensure that the development is compliant with adopted planning policy. The remaining 36 units would be provided as part of the Registered Social Landlord (The Guinness Partnership) business and supported by Homes England grant funding.
- 19.3 Management of Public Areas and Ecology Measures The public areas and ecological measures would be subject to a planning condition to secure an appropriate Landscape Ecological Management Plan (LEMP). In order to ensure that the areas are correctly managed in perpetuity, the operator of the site must appoint a landscape management company to carry out this work.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

- 19.4 SAC's The site is located within the 7.7 km core catchment zone of the Severn Estuary SPA/SAC. As such the development triggers the requirement for a commuted sum (£385 per dwelling) to provide the means to offset the impact of the development on the Severn Estuary. The applicant has agreed to meet this obligation and this can be secured under a s106 Unilateral Undertaking.
- 19.5 Community Access to Pavilion and other Facilities operated by Wycliffe School The applicant has committed to providing community access to the proposed sports pavilion as well as existing facilities associated with the wider school campus. It is considered appropriate to secure the use of the pavilion through the use of a s106 Unilateral Undertaking.
- 19.6 The applicant has provided a 'Community Use Agreement' that commits to the use of the hockey facilities associated with Wycliffe School. Whilst this is not a 'planning obligation' secured by a s106 legal agreement it is considered that this approach is reasonable given the nature of the commitment and its relationship with the development proposal.

### 20. CONCLUSION AND THE PLANNING BALANCE

- 20.1 The starting point for making decisions in relation to planning applications is the development plan and other material planning considerations. In this instance, the proposed development is considered to be sustainable and acceptable in principle and is consistent with the scope of the key locational/strategic policies contained in the Stroud District Local Plan. In accordance with paragraph 47 of the National Planning Policy Framework the planning application should be approved unless there are material considerations that indicate otherwise.
- 20.2 As the decision maker, the Local Planning Authority must weigh up the positive benefits of proposed development against identified negative impacts; and this should be carried out in the wider public interest. The assessment of this planning application has identified substantial public benefit in the form of new affordable housing provision which would make a positive contribution to the identified affordable housing need in the district. The development would also contribute towards the district housing stock in a highly sustainable location. Officers consider that these factors can be attributed substantial weight in the decision making process.
- 20.3 Officers are satisfied that the proposed development would not bring about a negative impact upon the availability sport pitches. However, officers acknowledge that there would be a negative impact through the loss of the physical areas of open space and in so doing has an impact upon landscape character and views. However, there is not total loss. Officers consider that the proposed development is well design and offers high quality landscaping, particularly along its Western boundary. This is a factor that offers considerable mitigation in respect of that impact and as such the weight of the impact against the development is reduced.



- 20.4 The proposed development would not directly impact on existing ecological habitat and protected species adjacent to the site. However, there is some residual impact because of the limited potential for protected species to be present on the site. This can be appropriately mitigated during the construction phase. Beyond the construction phase, the development would make a positive contribution to ecological habitat and as such is considered to being about ecological benefit. Appropriate District Licencing has also been secured to bring further offsetting mitigation, alongside appropriate measures to secure mitigation against the impact on ecological areas in the wider district (The Severn Estuary and Cotswold Beechwoods).
- 20.5 The Highway Authority has carefully assessed the development in terms of its impact upon the wider highway network and in respect of the layout of the development. Officers are satisfied that the development can be made safe in highway terms and that the site is located in a sustainable location close to existing services and public transport. Adequate mitigation can be secured and as such the development would not result in an unacceptable impact in this regard.
- 20.6 The development would result in a negative impact upon the amenity of the occupants of properties close to the site. In particular, those properties close to the access and the Southern boundary of the site. However, as set out above changes to the proposed access and the introduction of noise mitigation would act to lessen this impact.
- 20.7 Whilst it is acknowledged that negative impacts would occur as a result of the proposed development, officers consider that the positive public benefits identified would significantly outweigh the negative impacts. It is considered that the previous appeal decisions do not act to tip this balance against the proposal. Accordingly, officers recommend that the proposed development is approved

#### **21. HUMAN RIGHTS**

In compiling this recommendation, the Local Planning Authority has given full consideration to all aspects of the Human Rights Act 1998 in relation to the applicant and/or the occupiers of any neighbouring or affected properties. In particular regard has been had to Article 8 of the ECHR (Right to Respect for private and family life) and the requirement to ensure that any interference with the right in this Article is both permissible and proportionate. On analysing the issues raised by the application no particular matters, other than those referred to in this report, warranted any different action to that recommended.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

#### **22. RECOMMENDATION**

22.1 That Planning Permission is **GRANTED** subject to the planning conditions as set out in this report and the applicant first voluntarily entering into appropriate s106 legal agreements to secure the following Heads of Terms;

### Bi-lateral s106 agreement

- i) Affordable Housing
  - a) 30% (16 Units) to be identified as affordable housing.
  - b) This quantum to be secured as a ratio of 50:50 Social Rent and Shared Ownership
  - c) Mechanism for the Local Authority to approve the tenure mix/unit locations
- ii) <u>Landscape maintenance company for shared/public/semi-public areas/ecological areas</u>
  - a) Requirement for the appointment of suitably qualified landscape management company and appropriate responsibilities; and, confirmation of the appointed company.

### Uni-lateral s106 agreement

- iii) Severn Estuary SAC Mitigation
  - a) Financial contribution (commuted sum) of £385 per dwelling.
- iv) Pavilion Building
  - a) Use of the proposed Pavilion for community uses.
- 22.2 Delegated Authority to Officers to prepare and seal the required legal agreements.



Subject	to	the		
following				
conditions:				

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. Plans

Exact plan numbers are being finalised - this will be updated before deadline.

#### Site Layout

Site Location Plan	9370-PL01	(12th October 2020)
Proposed Site Layout	9370-PL03 Rev G	(31st August 2021)
Proposed Boundaries Plan	9370-PL04 Rev A	(31st August 2021)
Proposed Materials Plan	9370-PL05 Rev	(17th September 2021)
Proposed AH Plan	9370-PL06 Rev A	(16th August 2021)
Proposed Heights Plan	9370-PL07 Rev A	(17th September 2021)
Waste Management Plan	9370-PL08 Rev A	(17 <sup>th</sup> September 2021)

#### Pavilion

Proposed Ground Floor Plan	9223-PL002	(12th October 2020)
Proposed First Floor Plan	9223-PL003	(12th October 2020)
Proposed Elevations	9223-PL004 Rev A	(13th September 2021)
Proposed Sections	9223-PL005	(12th October 2020)

#### **Dwellings**

Site Sections	9370-PL12	(12th October 2020)
Street Elevations	9370-PL15	(12th October 2020)
Type 1- 1 Bed Maisonette	9370-PL20	(12th October 2020)
Type 2- 2 Bed Maisonette	9370-PL21	(12th October 2020)
Type 3 - 2 Bed House	9370-PL22	(12th October 2020)
Type 4 - 3 Bed House	9370-PL23	(12th October 2020)
Type 5 - 4 Bed House	9370-PL24	(12th October 2020)
Type 6 - 3 Bed House 2.5 Storey	9370-PL25	(12th October 2020)

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt.

3. Ecology (LEMP and Protection measures)

A Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) shall be submitted to, and be approved in writing by the Local Planning



Authority prior to first occupation of the development. For the avoidance of doubt the content of the LEMP shall include the following:

- a) Description and evaluation of the features to be managed.
- b) Aims and objectives of management.
- c) Appropriate management options for achieving aims and objectives.
- d) Prescription for management actions.
- e) Preparation of work schedule (including an annual work plan capable of being rolled forward over a 20-year period).
- f) Details of body or organisation responsible for implementation of the plan.
- g) Ongoing monitoring and remedial measures.

The LEMP shall include details of the legal and funding mechanism(s) by which the long-term implementation of the plan will be secured by the developer with the management body(ies) responsible for its delivery. The plan shall also set out how contingencies and/or remedial action will be identified, agreed and implemented so that the development still delivers the fully functioning biodiversity objectives of the originally approved scheme. The approved plan will be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: In order to protect and enhance the site for biodiversity in accordance with Policy ES6 of the Stroud District Local Plan 2015.

4. Compliance with Ecological Appraisal

All works shall be carried out in full accordance with the recommendations contained in the Ecological Appraisal, V4, Ethos Environmental Planning, dated July 2021 already submitted with the planning application and agreed in principle with the local planning authority prior to determination.

Prior to occupation of the development written confirmation by a suitably qualified/experienced ecologist shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority confirming that the recommendations made within the submitted report have been implemented in accordance with the report.

Reason: In order to protect and enhance the site for biodiversity in accordance with Policy ES6 of the Stroud District Local Plan 2015.



### 5. External Lighting (Ecology)

Prior to the installation of external lighting for the development hereby approved, a lighting design strategy for biodiversity shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. For the avoidance of doubt, the strategy will;

- a) identify the areas/features on site that are particularly sensitive for foraging bats, badgers and great crested newts:
- b) show how and where external lighting will be installed (through the provision of appropriate lighting contour plans and technical specifications) so that it can be clearly demonstrated that areas to be lit will not disturb or prevent the above species using their commuter route.

All external lighting shall be installed only in accordance with the specifications and locations set out in the strategy.

Reason: In order to maintain dark corridors for nocturnal wildlife in accordance with Policy ES6 and CP8 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) 2015.

6. Ecology (SAC householder pack)

A Cotswolds Beechwood's Special Area of Conservation Mitigation Strategy shall be submitted, and be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to first occupation of the development. For the avoidance of doubt the strategy shall include a homeowner information pack (HIPs) that includes information on recreational opportunities in the local area and describes sensitivities of locally designated sites such as Cotswold Beechwood's Special Area of Conservation. Thereafter the development shall be implemented in accordance with the agreed strategy.

Reason: In order to ensure that the development does not significantly affect the Cotswold Beechwood's Special Area of Conservation, this enable Stroud District Council as the competent authority to discharge its Statutory duty in accordance with the requirements of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended); and to comply with Policy ES6 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) 2015.



### 7. District Licence (1)

No development hereby permitted shall take place unless and until a certificate from the Delivery Partner (as set out in the District Licence WML-OR94), confirming that all necessary measures in regard to great crested newt compensation have been appropriately dealt with, has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority and the local authority has provided authorisation for the development to proceed under the district newt licence. The Delivery Partner certificate must be submitted to this planning authority for approval prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved.

Reason: In order to adequately compensate for negative impacts to great crested newts and to comply with Policy ES6 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) 2015.

### 8. District Licence (2)

No development hereby permitted shall take place except in accordance with Part 1 of the GCN Mitigation Principles, as set out in the District Licence WML-OR94, and in addition in compliance with the following:

- Works which will affect likely newt hibernacula may only be undertaken during the active period for amphibians (as specified in the NSP Best Practice Principles report).
- Capture of newts using hand/destructive/night searches at suitable habitat features prior to ground clearance (as specified in the NSP Best Practice Principles report).

Reason: In order to adequately mitigate impacts on great crested newts and to comply with Policy ES6 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) 2015.

### 9. Landscaping

The landscaping detailed in drawing number edp5793\_d004e (sheets 1 to 4) as received by the Local Planning Authority on 22nd September 2021 shall be implemented no later than the first planting season following the first occupation of the development hereby approved. Thereafter the development shall be retained as such and the landscaping shall be maintained in accordance with the details set out on the drawing and the Landscape Environmental Management Plan as referred to in condition 2 of this planning permission.



Reason: In the interest of landscape and visual amenity and to ensure that the agreed landscaping is adequately maintained and to accord with policy ES7, ES8 and CP14 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) November 2015.

### 10. Arboriculture 1 (Comply with Tee Protection Details etc.)

The development must be fully compliant with the Ethos Environmental Planning Tree Survey, Arboriculture Impact Assessment, Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan dated May 2021.

Reason: To preserve trees and hedges on the site in the interests of visual amenity and the character of the area and to accord with policy ES8 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) November 2015.

### 11. CEMP and Other Construction Controls

The development hereby permitted shall proceed strictly in accordance with the Construction Phase Management Plan (Revision 0) (by EG Carter and Co LTD), the Dust Management Plan (by EG Carter and Co LTD), Site Logistics Plan (by EG Carter and Co LTD) and the Waste Minimisation Statement (by EG Carter and Co LTD) as received by the Local Planning Authority on 14th September 2021.

Reason: In the interest of environmental amenity and construction waste minimisation and to accord with policy ES3 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) November 2015; and Policy 2 of the Gloucestershire Waste Core Strategy and Policy SR01 of the Gloucestershire Minerals Local Plan.

### 12. Site Drainage

The dwellings hereby approved shall not be occupied until the site drainage has been installed strictly in accordance with the details as set out on the following drawings;

Drainage Levels 1 of 3	0100 - P04,
Drainage Levels 2 of 3	0101 - P04,
Drainage Levels 3 of 3	0102 - P03,
Drainage Design 1 of 3	0200 - P07,
Drainage Design 2 of 3	0201 - PO5,
Drainage Design 3 of 3	0201 - P04,
Impermeable Areas 1 of 3	0210 - P04,



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

Impermeable Areas 2 of 3 Impermeable Areas 3 of 3

0211 - P04,

isk Assassment (3670\_W/VCL.

0212 - P03, and;

in accordance with the Flood Risk Assessment (3670—WYCL-ICS-RP-C-07.001 Rev B).

As received by the Local Planning Authority on 17th September 2021.

Thereafter the development shall be retained as such.

Reason: To protect the water environment and the Ecological Interest of the site and surrounding area and to accord with policy ES3 and ES4 of the Stroud District Council Local Plan (adopted) November 2015.

### 13. EHO 1 (Contaminated Land)

If during the works contamination is encountered which has not previously been identified, then the additional contamination shall be fully assessed and an appropriate remediation scheme submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To protect the health of future users of the site from any possible effects of contaminated land and to accord with policy ES3 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) November 2015

### 14. EHO 2 (Lighting)

External lighting at the Pavillion Building shall be installed in accordance with the Silcock Dawson & Partners Report 200181 (as received by the Local Planning Authority on 20th August 2021)

Reason: In order to ensure that there is no exceedance of the vertical illuminance levels at neighbouring residential properties that are recommended for Environmental Zone 3 by the Institution of Lighting Professionals in its "Guidance Note 01/21 - The Reduction of Obtrusive Light; and, in the interest of residential amenity and to comply with policy ES3 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) November 2015



15. Noise Rating Levels for fixed plant serving the development shall not exceed the following;

37 dB during the daytime period of 07:00 to 23:00; and

30 dB during the night period of 23:00 to 07:00

as measured or determined at the facade of the nearest residential receptor.

For the avoidance of doubt noise Rating Levels shall be determined in full accordance with the methodology set out in British Standard BS4142:2014+A1:2019 - "Methods for rating and assessing industrial and commercial sound" or any future variations thereof.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity and to accord with policy ES3 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) November 2015

16. EHO 4 (Noise Limits Monitoring)

Prior to use of the development, the applicant shall provide to the Local Planning Authority for approval, a validation report from a suitably competent person demonstrating compliance with the relevant Noise Rating Levels set out in condition 16 of this planning permission.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity and to accord with policy ES3 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) November 2015

17. EHO 5 (Construction Hours)

No construction site machinery or plant shall be operated, no process shall be carried out and no construction-related deliveries taken at or dispatched from the site except between the hours 08:00 and 18:00 on Mondays to Fridays, between 08:00 and 13:00 on Saturdays and not at any time on Sundays, Bank or Public Holidays.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity and to accord with policy ES3 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) November 2015



### 18. Highways 1 (Provide access, turning and parking facilities)

For avoidance of doubt, each individual building shown on 9370 PL03 rev G shall not be occupied or brought into use until the access, parking (including all cycle parking) and turning facilities has been provided for each individual building as shown on drawing 9370 PL03 rev G.

Reason: To ensure that appropriate measures are installed and in the interest of highway safety and amenity and to accord with Policy CP8 of the Stroud District Local Plan (adopted) November 2015.

### 19. Highways 2 (Electric Vehicle Charging Points)

The development hereby permitted shall not be occupied until the electric vehicle charging points shown on Drawing 9370 PL03 Rev G have been fitted. The charging points shall comply with BS EN 62196 Mode 3 or 4 charging and BS EN 61851 and Manual for Gloucestershire Streets. The electric vehicle charging points shall be retained for the lifetime of the development unless they need to be replaced in which case the replacement charging points shall be of the same specification or a higher specification in terms of charging performance.

Reason: To promote sustainable travel and healthy communities and to accord with Policy CP8 and El12 of the Stroud District Local Plan (Adopted) November 2015.

### 20. Highways 3 (Residential Travel Plan)

The Residential Travel Plan as received by the Local Planning Authority on 12th October 2020 shall be implemented and monitored in accordance with the regime contained within the Plan. In the event of failing to meet the targets within the Plan a revised Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority to address any shortfalls, and where necessary make provision for and promote improved sustainable forms of access to and from the site. The Plan thereafter shall be implemented and updated in agreement with the Local Planning Authority and thereafter implemented as amended.

Reason: To promote sustainable travel and healthy communities and to accord with Policy CP8 and El12 of the Stroud District Local Plan (Adopted) November 2015.



### Informatives:

- 1. Prior to commencement of the development the developer is advised to make contact with the Stroud District Council Arboriculture Officer to arrange a site meeting to ensure that all tree protection measures are installed correctly.
- 2. Works on the Public Highway

The development includes the carrying out of work on the adopted highway. The developer is advised that before undertaking work on the adopted highway the developer must enter into a highway agreement under Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 with the County Council, which would specify the works and the terms and conditions under which they are to be carried out.

Contact the Highway Authority's Legal Agreements Development Management Team at:

highwaylegalagreements@gloucestershire.gov.uk allowing sufficient time for the preparation and signing of the Agreement. You will be required to pay fees to cover the Councils costs in undertaking the following actions:

Drafting the Agreement A Monitoring Fee Approving the highway details Inspecting the highway works

Planning permission is not permission to work in the highway. A Highway Agreement under Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 must be completed, the bond secured and the Highway Authority's technical approval and inspection fees paid before any drawings will be considered and approved.

3. The development hereby approved includes the construction of new highway. To be considered for adoption and ongoing maintenance at the public expense it must be constructed to the Highway Authority's standards and terms for the phasing of the development. The developer is advised that you must enter into a highway agreement under Section 38 of the Highways Act 1980. The development will be bound by Sections 219 to 225 (the Advance Payments Code) of the Highways Act 1980.

Contact the Highway Authority's Legal Agreements Development Management Team at:

highwaylegalagreements@gloucestershire.gov.uk.



You will be required to pay fees to cover the Councils cost's in undertaking the following actions:

Drafting the Agreement Set up costs Approving the highway details Inspecting the highway works

The developer should enter into discussions with statutory undertakers as soon as possible to co-ordinate the laying of services under any new highways to be adopted by the Highway Authority. The Highway Authority's technical approval inspection fees must be paid before any drawings will be considered and approved. Once technical approval has been granted a Highway Agreement under Section 38 of the Highways Act 1980 must be completed and the bond secured.

4. It is expected that contractors are registered with the Considerate Constructors scheme and comply with the code of conduct in full, particularly reference is made to "respecting the community" this says:

Constructors should give utmost consideration to their impact on neighbours and the public Informing, respecting and showing courtesy to those affected by the work;

Minimising the impact of deliveries, parking and work on the public highway;

Contributing to and supporting the local community and economy; and

Working to create a positive and enduring impression, and promoting the Code.

The CMP should clearly identify how the principle contractor will engage with the local community; this should be tailored to local circumstances. Contractors should also confirm how they will manage any local concerns and complaints and provide an agreed Service Level Agreement for responding to said issues.

Contractors should ensure that courtesy boards are provided and information shared with the local community relating to the timing of operations and contact details for the site coordinator in the event of any difficulties. This does not offer any relief to obligations under existing Legislation

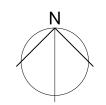


- 5. Please note that if consent is granted, the applicants are informed that this does not absolve them from complying with the relevant law protecting species, including obtaining and complying with the terms and conditions of any licenses required. All bat species are protected under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2017 and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Legal protection covers bats and elements of their habitats. A European Protected Species licence is required in order to allow prohibited activities, such as disturbing bats or damaging their breeding sites or resting places, for the purposes of this development.
- 6. ARTICLE 35 (2) STATEMENT The case officer contacted the applicant/agent and negotiated changes to the design that have enhanced the overall scheme.



The Park Infant School WILLOW ROAD Recreation Ground The Berryfield Sports Field Play Area 0 10 20 30 40 50 100 Meters Ordnance Survey, (c) Crown Copyright 2018. All rights reserved. Licence number 100022432

Page 83



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BERRYFIELD RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT & SPORTS PAVILION

SITE LOCATION PLAN

status
PLANNING

ROBERTS LIMBRICK LTD

The Carriage Building, Bruton Way,
Gloucester, GL 1 10G

The Estates Office, 25 - 26 Gold Tops,
Newport, NP20 4PC

T. 03333 405 500

T. 03333 405 500 mail@robertslimbrick.com www.robertslimbrick.com

scale 1/1250 @ A3

01/09/20

KEY

0 5 10 15 20 25

Existing Tree & RPZ - To Be Retained

Existing Tree & RPZ - To Be Removed

Courtyard parking areas - Block Paving

3 no. 0.6m slabs for bin storage in gardens

**Indicative Street Lighting Column** 

**Indicative Proposed Tree** 

Tarmac to all other surfaces

**Rotary Dryer to gardens** 

**Shed for Cycle Storage** 

Planning Application Boundary

2m high Imperforate Acoustic Fence to pavillion, min. mass per unit area of 15kg/m2

Note : Landscaping scheme indicative & subject to specific Landscape Scheme Design

Meters

Note: Mode 3/4 EVCPs fitted — Plots 22,24,29, 31,32,35,50. Infrastructure provided for future fitting of Mode 3/4 EVCPs to suit demand — all remaining plots

Note : Front & Rear Access paths to be PCC Slabs

ARCHITECTS BERRYFIELD RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT & SPORTS PAVILION client
WYCLIFFE COLLEGE, THE GUINESS
PARTNERSHIP & E G CARTER PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT PLAN **PLANNING ROBERTS LIMBRICK LTD** The Carriage Building, Bruton Way, Gloucester, GL1 1DG The Estates Office, 25 - 26 Gold Tops, Newport, NP20 4PG T. 03333 405 500

mail@robertslimbrick.com www.robertslimbrick.com Registered Office: England No. 06658029 1/500 @ A1 15/09/20 9370 PL03

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A 23/09/20 Paving shown to all parking except parallel spaces. Paving shown footpath in shared space road.

B 29/09/20 Proposed trees positions to match the Landscaping larger Indicative lighting column shown.

C 12/05/21 Revised plan updated high drainage and Landscaping

D 08/07/21 1m hardstanding shown to the verge side of the parking bays in front of plots 12, 13, 23, 25-28, 29-30 & 39.

E 04/08/21 Amendments to path 30-40, parking adjustment to plots 30 and 40; highways adjacent to plots 12/13 & 1-7; fence chamfer to plots 24/28 site entrance path omitted

G 26/08/21 Acoustic fence shown to Southern boundary of Pavillion and Pavillion Car Park.

F 05/08/21 CAD Line weight adjusted

Do Not scale off this drawing, use only figured dimensions and report any discrepancies or omissions to the Architect immediately.

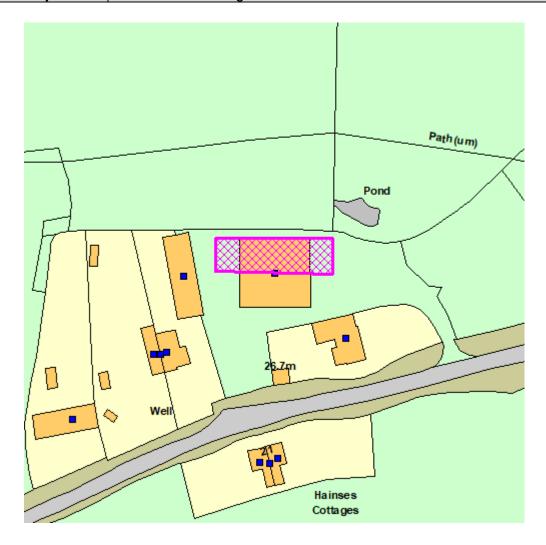
their written permission.

rev. date

4B6P House Total



Item No:	2
Application No.	S.21/1713/FUL
Site Address	The Old Granary, Halmore Lane, Wanswell, Berkeley
Town/Parish	Hamfallow Parish Council
<b>Grid Reference</b>	369005,201686
<b>Application Type</b>	Full Planning Application
Proposal	External alterations to residential dwelling approved under prior approval
	S19/1198/P3Q
Recommendation	Refusal
Call in Request	Cllr Gordon Craig





# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

Applicant's	Mrs & Mr Warren			
Details	Barn At Hainses, Halmore Lane, Wanswell, Berkeley, Gloucestershire			
Agent's Details	Mr John Rooney			
	Kestrel CourtStokes Morgan Planning Ltd, 1 Harbour Road, Portishead,			
	BS20 7AN,			
Case Officer	Laurence Corbett			
Application	09.07.2021			
Validated				
	CONSULTEES			
Comments	Hamfallow Parish Council			
Received	Biodiversity Officer			
Constraints	Berkeley Safeguard Area			
	Hamfallow Parish Council			
	SAC SPA 7700m buffer			
	OFFICER'S REPORT			

#### **MAIN ISSUES**

- Background
- Principle of development
- Design
- Residential amenity
- Personal circumstances
- Other planning consideration
- Summary and planning balance

#### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

The site consists of a plot sited to the north of the public highway and is set behind residential property Butlers Orchard, located between the settlements of Wanswell and Halmore.

The site was formerly a collection of agricultural barns. Under applications S.19/1198/P3Q and S.19/1207/P3Q two barns were allowed to be converted into dwellings, a two storey and single storey property respectively. This involved relevant demolition to remove one barn that was located immediately to the rear of Butlers Orchard and to reduce the barn width of the subject to this application. The barn under consideration was converted into a two storey dwelling with fenestration to all elevations, and a drive to the public highway to the south. There is a garden, mostly to the front of the property and off street parking. The applicants have also erected a boundary wall to the front to separate the site from Butlers Orchard. To the east and north is open countryside (the land to the north is identified as a key wildlife site - Wanswell hay meadows) and to the west of the site is the other barn currently being converted to a dwelling with other residential properties further to the west.

The application site is outside any defined settlement limit being located over 2km to the north of the settlement boundary for Berkeley and approximately 1.8km to the east of Sharpness. There is a Public Right of Way close to the rear of the property identified as Hamfallow footpath 19.



### **MATERIALS**

Walls: Brick to base with vertical cedar boarding above.

Roof: Zinc roof.

Windows: Grey anthracite powder-coated aluminium.

Doors: Glass, Timber.

### REPRESENTATIONS

### **Statutory Consultees:**

Hamfallow Parish Council:

Hamfallow Parish Council have no objections to this planning application.

### SDC Biodiversity:

Acceptable subject to the following condition:

\* Within 3 months of any approval for this scheme, a specification (including methodology and programme of implementation) for the enhancement of biodiversity through the provision of bird boxes, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved specification and programme of implementation and be retained thereafter.

REASON: To protect and enhance the site for biodiversity in accordance with paragraph 174(d) of the National Planning Policy Framework, Policy ES6 of the Stroud District Local Plan 2015 and in order for the Council to comply with Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

### Comments:

I am pleased to see the applicant is trying to connect the development to the wider ecological network however, the current location of the bird box is unlikely to attract nesting birds due to its current location and if birds do attempt to nest within the box, it is highly likely it will be subjected to predation due to limited height. Ideally bird boxes should be installed 4m above the ground, either mounted on a tree or a wall. The bird box should be installed in shade and should be north or east facing with a clear flight path in order to encourage birds to use the nesting box. Any further advice should be sought from a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist.

### Public:

Five letters of support. Points raised were –

Good design. Good barn conversion. Better than original proposal.

Two letters of objection. Issues include -

Proposal affecting privacy of neighbouring property. Does not connect into mains sewerage. Outside development area. Would send wrong message can build larger than Class Q application. Might be acceptable if height was reduced to the original.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

### PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS - NATIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING POLICIES National Planning Policy Framework

The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (as amended).

Stroud District Local Plan.

CP1 - Presumption in favour of sustainable development.

CP2 - Strategic growth and development locations

CP3 - Settlement Hierarchy.

CP14 - High Quality Sustainable Development

CP15 - A quality living and working countryside.

ES3 - Maintaining quality of life within our environmental limits.

ES12 - Better design of places.

### **BACKGROUND**

Prior approval was granted on 10 September 2019 following notification of a change of use under Schedule 2 Part 3 Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 ("the GPDO"). Application S.19/1198/P3Q proposed the change the use of The Old Granary Barn 2 from agricultural to one residential dwelling. The council's enforcement team were notified that the development had not been carried out in accordance with the plans submitted as part of the prior approval.

Upon a site visit undertaken by the enforcement team it was noted that the proposal was not built in line with the details submitted in the prior approval, as required by paragraph W.(12) of the GPDO. The breaches that have occurred are:

Fenestrations – The number and placement of the fenestrations agreed under the prior approval were at odds with those on the building when enforcement visited.

Size/dimensions – The barn that has been built is larger than that considered under the prior approval conversion. On the plans submitted for S.19/1198/P3Q the width and depth of the barn was measured at 7.6m and 18.5m respectively with and eaves and ridge height of 4.0m and 5.3m (west elevation). The built out structure measures, on plans submitted with this application (S.21/1713/FUL), a width and depth 8.7m and 20.2m respectively of and an eaves and ridge of 4.6m and 6.3m (west elevation).

Boundary wall/curtilage – The area of garden allowed on barn conversions is restricted. This area was detailed and agreed upon on the plans submitted for the barn conversion in 2019 and was found acceptable. Upon a visit by the enforcement team it was noted that a boundary wall had been erected between the application site and Butlers Orchard and so increasing the garden land allowed under the prior approval.



In response to the issues raised the applicants have sort to regularise the breaches to the property and submitted a planning application to regularise the external alterations to the property. Justification has also been submitted to justify why the breaches have occurred and why the proposal should be supported.

### Fenestration

The Regulations makes it clear that the development must be carried out in accordance with the details approved; this is a statutory requirement. For the development to be carried out lawfully, the proposal must be carried out in accordance with the prior approval, including the fenestration.

The design and appearance of the barn conversion is a matter of prior approval. As a result, the siting of windows and doors are part of the details approved and are required to be complied with by virtue of paragraph W.(12).

Given the effect of paragraph W.(12), prior approval decisions are not required to impose a plans compliance condition. The Inspector Training Manual issued by the Planning Inspectorate (correct as at 20 January 2021) sets out some useful information on this. Whilst the Inspector Training Manual does not constitute Government policy or guidance, it is a good source of information on how Inspectors should look to determine appeals. In the General Permitted Development Order & Prior Approval Appeals chapter, paragraph 242 finds that conditions already imposed under the GPDO "should not be set out in the formal decision on a prior approval appeal, because the decision is not to grant planning permission but prior approval only".

It is clear, therefore, that approval was given under application S.19/1198/P3Q on the basis that it would be carried out in accordance with the drawings submitted and, as a matter of law, the development must only be carried out in accordance with the details approved by the local planning authority.

There have been numerous changes to the fenestrations detailed from the plans submitted for the prior approval. As such the development undertaken has been done so without the appropriate statutory approval in place.

### Size/dimensions

Class Q of Part 3 of the Second Schedule to the GPDO sets out that development would not be permitted by Class Q if "the development would result in the external dimensions of the building extending beyond the external dimensions of the existing building at any given point". This restriction means therefore it must not go beyond the existing footprint of the barn nor raise the roof - any insulation works, for example, would need to be done internally.

A report submitted by the applicant agrees that the proposal, as built out, is larger than the plans submitted for consideration.

Also on an officers visit it was evident that the building had a flue and satellite dish on the roof. This would also be contrary to the criteria set out within Class Q as there are no permitted development rights to install these features.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

### Boundary wall/curtilage

Class Q permits the "change of use of a building and any land within its curtilage from use as an agricultural building to a use falling within Class C3" alongside building operations which are reasonably necessary to convert the building. So far as the domestic curtilage is concerned, the rules are very restrictive.

Paragraph X of Schedule 2 Part 3 sets out that, for the purposes of Class Q, curtilage is defined as the lesser of:

- the piece of land, whether enclosed or unenclosed, immediately beside or around the agricultural building, closely associated with and serving the purposes of the agricultural building; or
- (b) an area of land immediately beside or around the agricultural building no larger than the land area occupied by the agricultural building.

The curtilage is therefore an area of land immediately beside or around the agricultural building no larger than the land area occupied by the agricultural building. Any additional parking space, car port or garage, etc. would have to be the subject of a separate planning application, as would the change of use of any additional agricultural land that is to be used to form an enlarged domestic garden (for example, if the land is regularly mown and laid to lawn or used as an outdoor seating and play area).

A gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure can be erected as permitted development under Part 2 (Class A) of the Second Schedule to the GPDO. This right has not been excluded by virtue of the dwelling being created under Class Q and this permitted development right is not confined to the domestic curtilage of a dwelling. The owners do therefore have the right to erect the wall.

However, the fact that the land has been annexed by the erection of a wall is evidence that it now forms part of the residential garden/amenity, even if the land remains in the same physical condition as before (which it does not) even though the wall has been erected using permitted development rights.

### Summary of works undertaken

It is the view of officers that the development is not a conversion, but rather tantamount to the erection of a new dwelling in the open countryside. Therefore, as the proposal has already been built there would be no fall-back provision to consider with regards to Class Q as there is now no barn to convert. Officers therefore conclude that the proposal should be considered as the erection of a new dwelling within the open countryside and determined against the relevant policies contained within the Stroud Local Plan 2015. This will be considered below.



### PRINCIPLE OF DEVELOPMENT

The discussion above has set out that the unauthorised development undertaken is tantamount to the erection of a new dwelling in the countryside. Residential development is managed by policies contained within the Local Plan on where development is best located.

The Local Plan has been adopted and full weight should be given to its contents, in accordance with paragraphs 11 and 12 of the NPPF.

Policy CP1 of the Local Plan reiterates the NPPF presumption in favour of sustainable development. There is a presumption in favour of sustainable development as applied locally through the policies contained within the Local Plan. Consequently, decision makers should approve proposals that accord with the Local Plan without delay, but should refuse proposed development that conflicts with the Local Plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The Stroud District Local Plan (the "Local Plan") seeks to do that throughout it policies, but the key strategy of the Local Plan to deliver sustainable development in the local context is to focus development in the most sustainable locations in the district i.e. at designated employment or retail areas, at strategic allocations near the largest settlements and within the settlement development limits of other settlements identified in the settlement hierarchy. Those constitute the 'designated areas' described in policy CP2 of the Local Plan.

The site is situated within the open countryside outside of any settlement boundary which is identified within the adopted Local Plan Policy CP3 as an unclassified Fifth tier settlement. Fifth tier settlements have a lack of basic facilities to meet day to day requirements. However, there could be scope for very limited development, should this be required to meet a specific need identified by these communities in any Neighbourhood Plans. There is no neighbourhood plan that covers Hamfallow.

The site is within the Berkeley Cluster in the 'Making Places' section of the Local Plan, the fourth point of the guiding principles of the Berkeley Cluster states that: '...lower-tier defined settlements will see minimal levels of development except where it addresses needs identified by communities through their Neighbourhood Plans.' The development site falls within a lower tier settlement (open countryside) and does not address any identified 'need', further to this, no information has been submitted to indicate that the applicant has sought the views of the local community and there is no mention of how the proposed housing would meet the needs of the community it is intended to serve. Therefore, residential development in this location is not considered acceptable in principle.

The proposal can be considered with regards to delivery policy CP15 as this addresses all development outside settlement development limits.

Policy CP15 of the Local Plan is a restrictive policy and seeks to protect the separate identity of settlements and the quality of the countryside. It does allow development in the open countryside subject to it complying with at least one of six principles. Upon satisfying these, the development must then satisfy six criteria. Whilst the explanatory text to the policy refers to certain types of development, the policy is applicable to all types of development.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

The six principles are -

- 1. It is essential to the maintenance or enhancement of a sustainable farming or forestry enterprise within the District; and/or
- 2. It is essential to be located there in order to promote public enjoyment of the countryside and support the rural economy through employment, sport, leisure and tourism; and/or
- 3. It is a 'rural exception site', where development is appropriate, sustainable, affordable and meets an identified local need; and/or
- 4. It is demonstrated that the proposal is enabling development, required in order to maintain a heritage asset of acknowledged importance; and/or
- 5. It is a replacement dwelling; and/or
- 6. It will involve essential community facilities.

In this instance, the proposal is considered a new dwelling within the open countryside. There is no essential need established to allow development in this rural location and the proposal would not fall within any of the exceptions set out in Policy CP15.

NPPF Paragraph 80 states that local planning authorities should avoid new isolated homes in the countryside unless there are special circumstances such as where the development would re-use redundant or under used buildings that would result in an enhancement of its immediate surroundings, or in addition to the criteria in CP15, the design is of *exceptional* quality. In this instance, the proposal is considered a new dwelling within the open countryside and the design is not exceptional.

Development beyond settlement development limits does not satisfy any of the criteria outlined in CP15 and therefore the principle of development for a residential dwelling on this site is not established and the proposal is contrary to the outlined Local Plan policies.

The site is located outside settlement limits and therefore development of this land is contrary to policies CP2 and CP3 of the Local Plan.

The proposal would in principle be in conflict to the policies contained within the Local Plan as this would be an unsustainable form of development in the open countryside. Given the above, the proposal would be harmful to the policies contained within the Local Plan and is contrary to policies CP1, CP2, CP3 and CP15 of the adopted Stroud District Local Plan.



#### **DESIGN**

CP14 considers, in part, high quality development that conserves and enhances the built environment.

The property is set well away from the public highway to the south. There are no footpaths along this highway but there is a Public Right of Way to the rear on agricultural land. Due to the location of the property it is considered the increase in built form from that detailed in the prior approval would not significantly harm the street scene or wider setting.

The numerous windows to the rear are not considered appropriate for a barn conversion or for a new dwelling due to the sporadic placements leading to a confused design element to this elevation that can clearly be viewed from a public right of way to the north. The chimney and satellite dish are also overtly domestic paraphernalia for a barn conversion or new dwelling in the character of a barn conversion. Due to the confusing design and overly domestic elements on the property it is considered the proposal does not reach an acceptable standard of design and appearance. It is neither a successful barn conversion, where the character of the agricultural building is retained, or a new building of exceptional design quality. As such with the design elements detailed it is considered this is harmful to the property and contrary to policy CP14 criterion 5 of the Stroud Local Plan 2015.

### RESIDENTIAL AMENITY

The proposal has a first floor window that looks towards a barn conversion to the west. This is detailed to be to a bedroom similar to that detailed in the prior notification application that was found acceptable, which had a much larger first floor and ground floor windows/openings. A new large window with a Juliette balcony is now in to the east elevation as well as a larger opening at ground floor and numerous windows have been included to the rear, these look out over open countryside as well as further changes to the fenestration at the front. Due to the size, location and scale of the development it is considered that the proposal would not have an overbearing effect upon the neighbouring properties private amenity areas when considering the development with regards to the prior approval

### PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

### Sustainable development

The applicants have argued that to alter the structure to that permitted by prior approval would not constitute sustainable development given the amount of demolition this would require and have pointed to an appeal and application decision relating to development in Bristol City Council in relation to a dormer added to a dwelling. It that appeal (which was dismissed) the Inspector stated that the possibility of future enforcement requiring the removal of the dormer might be seen as unsustainable development, that if avoided might be in the public benefit, but that was not a matter for him to assess in the appeal. Bristol City Council subsequently granted permission for an amended scheme in relation to the dormer.

No policy context (with regards to the Stroud District Local Plan 2015) is offered for this argument and the appeal decision and report submitted as evidence is the opinion of one Inspector/council on a specific matter and is therefore given very limited weight.



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

### **Human Rights**

The applicants have highlighted the issue of human rights and rights of the child with regards to this application and the possibility of them losing the property. The barn conversion is now occupied by two adults and their four children.

Article 8 of the Human Rights Act states that everyone has a right to respect for private and family life, their home and correspondence. Article 3(1) of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child provides that the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration in all actions by public authorities concerning children. It sets out that "in all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration".

This is reflected in the Planning Policy Guidance 028 which states:

"local authorities need to consider whether children's best interests are relevant to any planning issue under consideration. In doing so, they will want to ensure their approach is proportionate. They need to consider the case before them, and need to be mindful that the best interests of a particular child will not always outweigh other considerations including those that impact negatively on the environment or the wider community. This will include considering the scope to mitigate any potential harm through non-planning measures, for example through intervention or extra support for the family through social, health and education services".

Therefore, Article 8 rights and the rights of the child are a primary consideration in the determination of this application. The rights of the children must be considered, but are not determinative in themselves. This must be balanced against the aims and policies of the Local Plan most notably CP1, CP2, CP3 and CP15.

It is in the best interests of a child to have a stable home. Refusing the application would cause great disruption to the applicants and their family which in time would affect their rights under the ECHR in so far as everyone has a right to respect for their home and private life. However, these are qualified rights, whereby interference may be in the public interest/legitimate aims of planning policy.

There is no lack of open market housing available for them to choose within a relatively close distance to Hamfallow/ Berkeley and the children have no requirement to be in this specific location. There is no essential need for the family to live in this location over and above anywhere else within the district.

All these points have been considered, but it is not considered that they outweigh determining the application in accordance with the development plan policies in this case.

### Costs

The applicants have highlighted the costs involved in regularising the site are prohibitive and that, as a result, they could potentially become homeless. The issue of private finances is not a material planning consideration and does not carry any weight in the determination of this application.



### OTHER PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The impacts of the original proposal upon highway safety was found acceptable. The changes to the built of development would not lead to any increase in trip generation from the site as such the highway safety concerns remain acceptable.

Stroud District Council's Biodiversity team have recommended conditions to any approval that would enhance the site in terms of bird boxes. These are considered reasonable if the application were to be permitted.

### SUMMARY & PLANNNING BALANCE

As the proposal has not been built to the details submitted with the prior approval the proposal has to be considered as a new dwelling within the open countryside. As there is no longer a barn to convert, any fall-back position argued by the applicants is lost. This development is considered contrary, in principle, to policies contained within the Local Plan that directs all development within the district in a sustainable way and only allows specific development in the open countryside which this proposal does not satisfy. The design has elements that are overtly domestic in appearance and does not represent a successful barn conversion. These issues are harmful to the policies contained within the Stroud Local Plan and are considered to carry significant weight. These issues must be balanced with the possible loss of a dwelling that is home to four children, with the best interests of the children being a primary consideration. It is considered that the harm this proposal raises outweighs the benefits and this has not tipped the planning balance to allow this development. As such the proposal is considered contrary to the policies contained within the local plan and the proposal should be refused.

### RECOMMENDATION

In light of the above, it is considered that the proposal does NOT comply with the policies outlined and is therefore recommended for refusal.



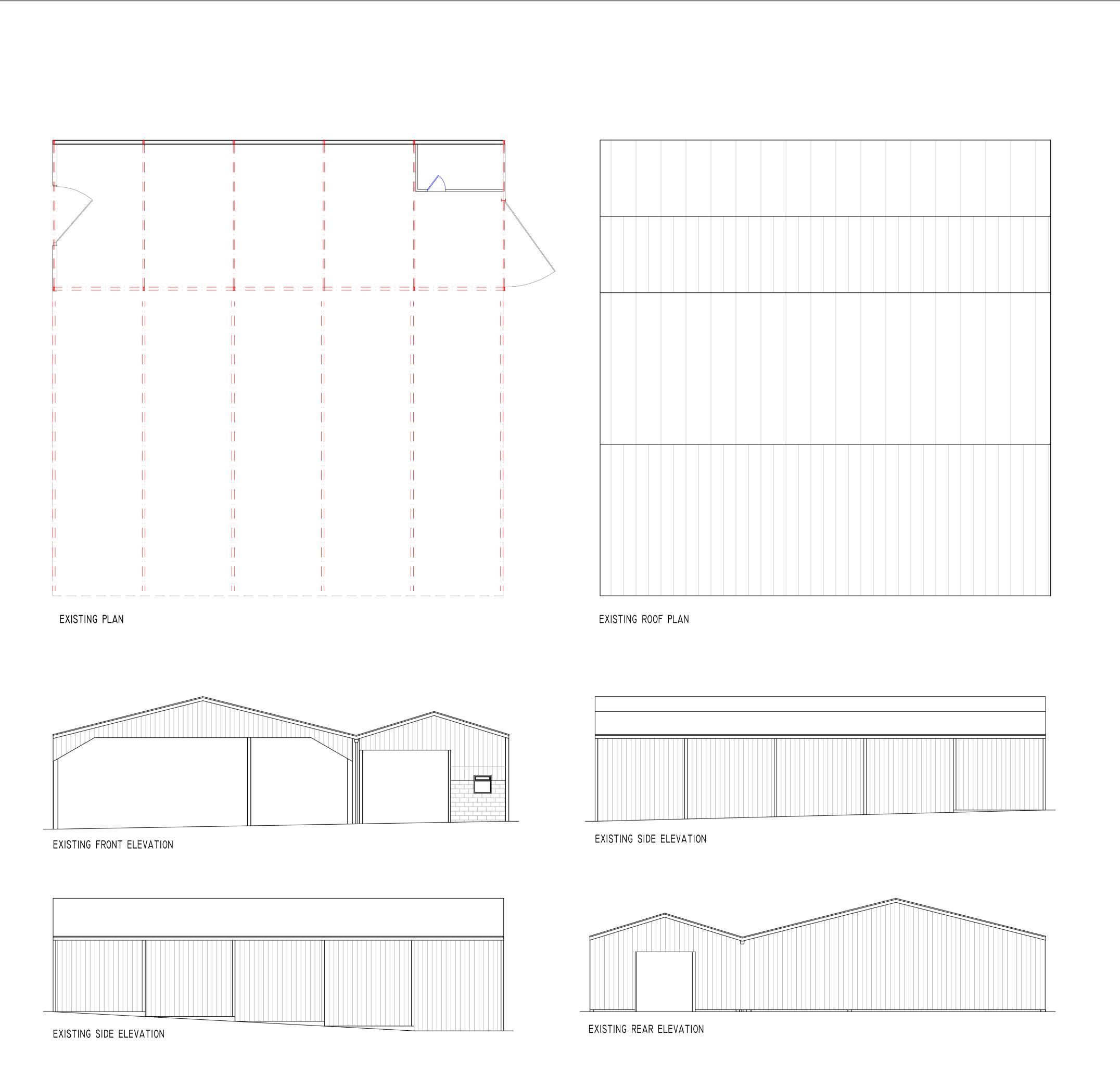
### For the following reasons:

- 1. The proposal has been built contrary to plans considered and previously approved. Given the extent of development and deviation from the details previously approved, the proposal is tantamount to a new dwelling in the open countryside. The application site is located outside any defined settlement development limits. It does not form part of a strategic allocation nor does it meet the exception principles that support development outside settlement limits. As such the proposal is not a sustainable form of development and is contrary to policies CP1, CP2, CP3 and CP15 of the adopted Stroud District Local Plan (November 2015).
- 2. The number and sporadic placement of windows to the rear results in a confusing design element that is at odds with the host dwelling. The addition of a flue and satellite dish would be overtly domestic paraphernalia that is not in keeping with the appearance of the host property. Due to the confusing design and overly domestic elements on the property it is considered the proposal does not reach an acceptable standard of design and appearance. It is neither a successful barn conversion, where the character of the agricultural building is retained, or a new building of exceptional design quality. As such with the design elements detailed it is considered this is harmful to the property and contrary to policy CP14 criterion 5 of the Stroud Local Plan 2015.

### Informatives:

- 1. ARTICLE 35 (2) STATEMENT Unfortunately this application was submitted without any meaningful pre-application discussions. For the reasons given above the application is recommended for refusal. The applicant/agent has been contacted and the issues explained. Furthermore, the case officer has suggested that the application be withdrawn so that the project can be fully discussed.
- 2. Original plans of barn for conversion: Ref 002A submitted 09.07.2021

Plans approved for conversion: Ref - 001A submitted 09.07.2021 Location plans: Ref - 021-120-085A submitted 09.07.2021 As built block plan: Ref - 021-120-088 A submitted 09.07.2021 As built floor plan: 021-120-01 B- submitted 09.07.2021 As built elevation plan with biodiversity enhancements: Ref - 021-120-089 A submitted 09.07.2021





LOCATION PLAN 1:1250

Revision | SMI/954/PL/04/18/002/A | File No: 954

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# **MSP**

Town Planning & Architecture

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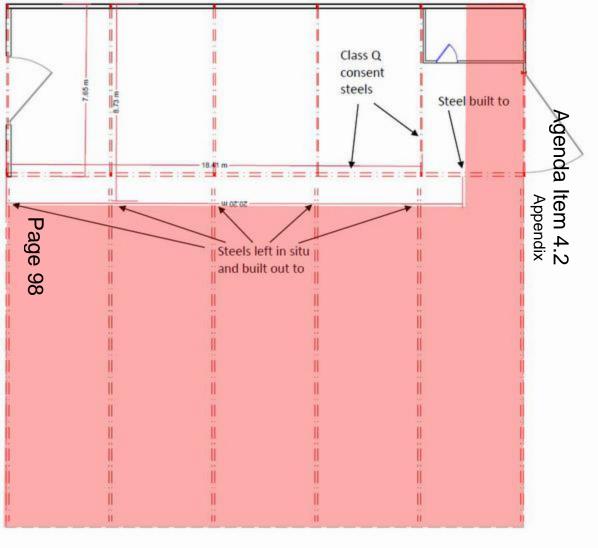
Tel: 01453 549636 E-Mail: marksnookplanning@hotmail.com

### Title.

Proposed Development at Oldlands Farm, Halmore, Berkeley GL13 9QH.

Client.

Drawing.				
Existing Plans & El	evations - Barn 2			
Date.	Scale.	Draw		
Apr 18	1:100 + as shown @ A1	M.S		





WEST ELEVATION

NORTH ELEVATION



Agenda Item 4.2

Appendix

Drawing.

Date.

Mar 19

Proposed Plans & Elevations - Barn 2

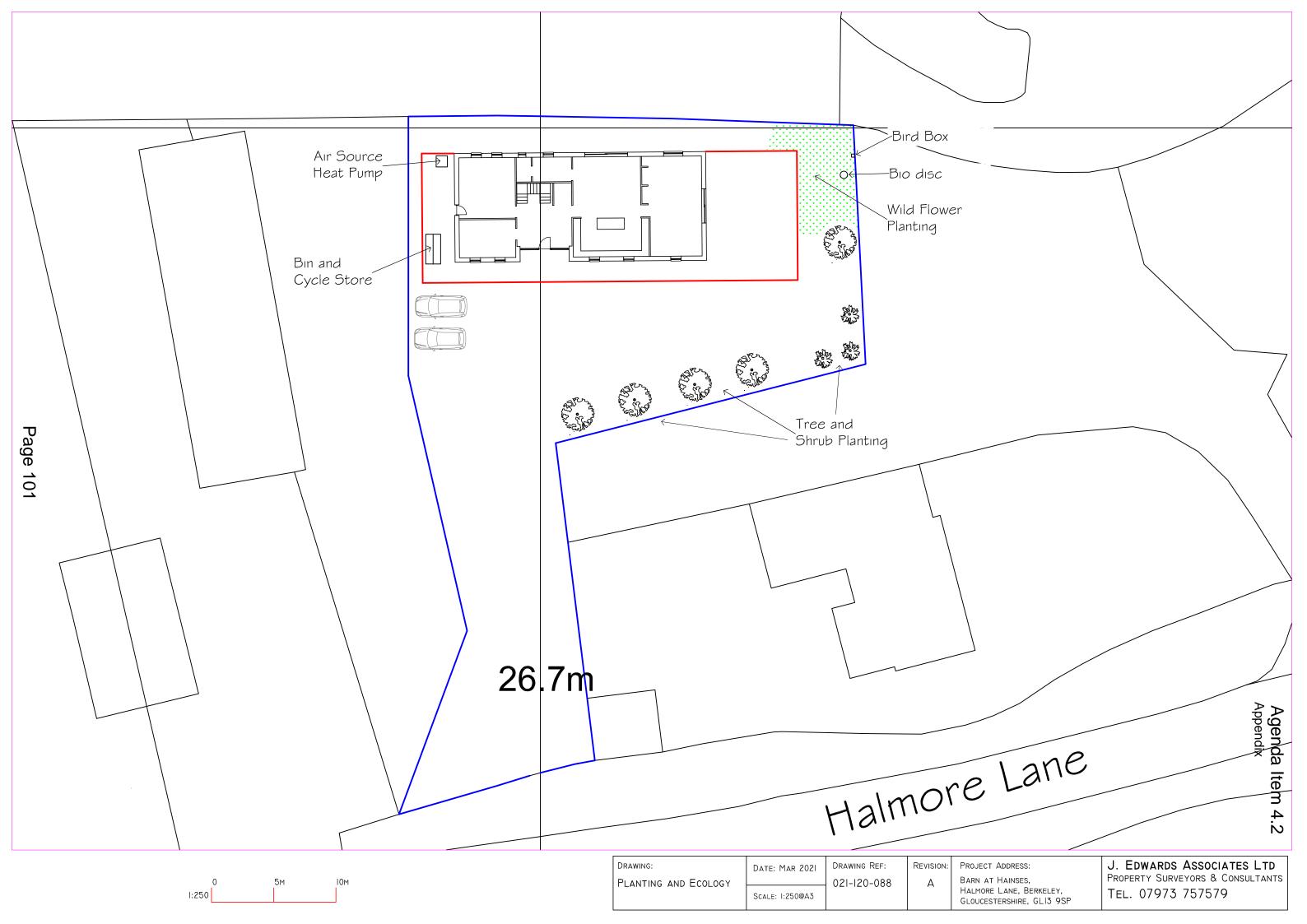
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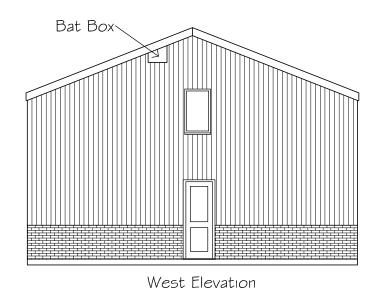
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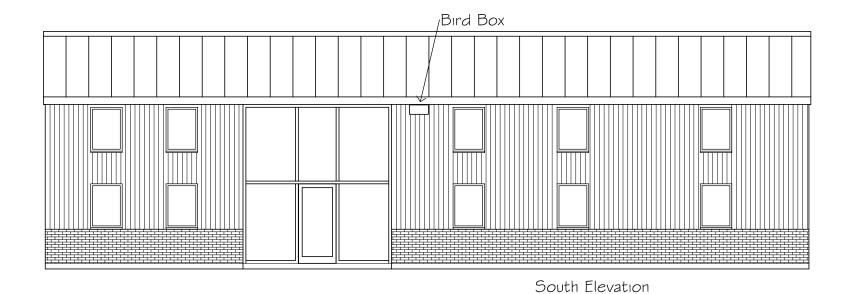
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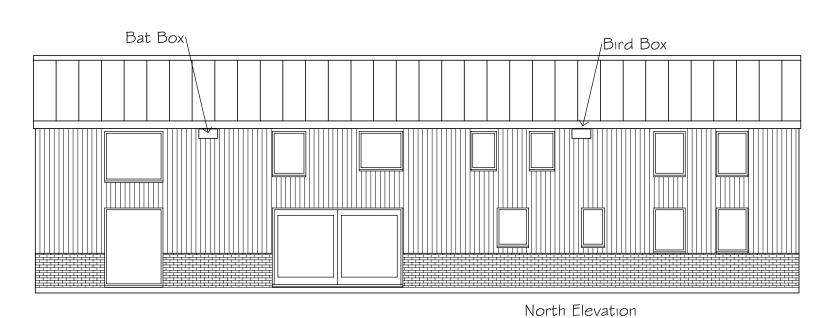


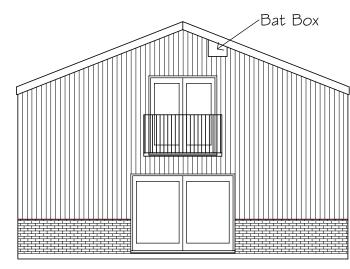
	DRAWING:	DATE: MAR 2021	DRAWING REF:	REVISION:	Project Address:	J. EDWARDS ASSOCIATES LTD
	LOCATION PLANS		021-120-085	Δ	BARN AT HAINSES,	PROPERTY SURVEYORS & CONSULTANTS
LOCATION I LANG	SCALE: AS SHOWN			HALMORE LANE, BERKELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, GLI3 9SP	TEL. 07973 757579	











East Elevation

DRAWING:

BAT AND BIRD BOX
LOCATIONS

DATE: MAR 2021 SCALE: 1:100@A3 DRAWING REF: REV

REVISION: PROJECT ADDRESS:

A BARN AT HAINSES,
HALMORE LANE, BERKELEY,
GLOUCESTERSHIRE, GLI3 9SP

J. EDWARDS ASSOCIATES LTD
PROPERTY SURVEYORS & CONSULTANTS
TEL. 07973 757579







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### Agenda Item 4.2 Appendix 1

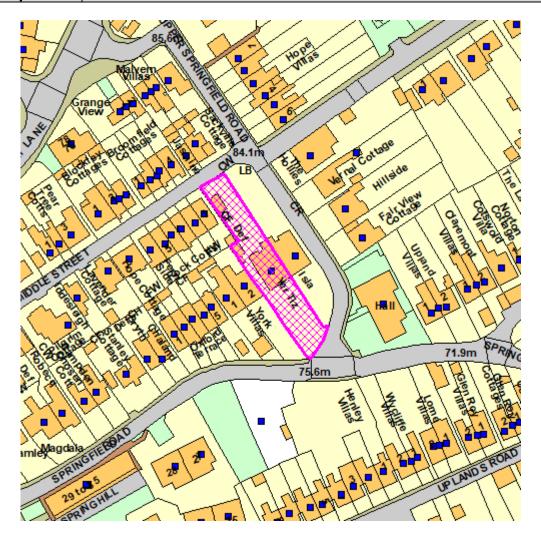
By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted





Item No:	3
Application No.	S.21/1381/FUL
Site Address	Land At Rear Of 1 Clifton Villas, Springfield Road, Uplands, Stroud
Town/Parish	Stroud Town Council
<b>Grid Reference</b>	385466,205691
<b>Application Type</b>	Full Planning Application
Proposal	Subdivision of the rear garden and erection of a new dwelling. Creation
	of new offstreet parking within the front garden. (Revised drawings
	received 04/08/21 and 25/08/21)
Recommendation	Permission
Call in Request	Cllr Martin Baxendale



Agenda Item 4.3



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

Annlicentic	T 0 C Depresed
Applicant's	T & E Deproost
Details	1 Clifton Villas, Springfield Road, Uplands, Stroud, Gloucestershire
	GL5 1TP
Agent's Details	Andrew Davy Architect
	Atelier, 19A Lower Street, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL5 2HT
Case Officer	Nick Gardiner
Application	08.06.2021
Validated	
	CONSULTEES
Comments	Development Coordination (E)
Received	Stroud Town Council
	SDC Water Resources Engineer
	Development Coordination (E)
	Environmental Health (E)
	Stroud Town Council
	Contaminated Land Officer (E)
Constraints	Consult area
	Stroud Town Council
	Rodborough 3km core catchment zone
	Settlement Boundaries (LP)
	OFFICER'S REPORT

### **MAIN ISSUES**

- Principle of development
- Design and layout
- Residential Amenity
- Highways
- Affordable Housing and obligations
- Planning balance

### **DESCRIPTION OF SITE**

The application site comprises of the front and rear garden area associated with a large semi-detached Victorian property that is positioned more or less central to Middle Street and Springfield Road.

The site is not affected by any landscape designation and there are no protected trees within the site or adjoining neighbours.

### **PROPOSAL**

The application seeks permission for the subdivision of the rear garden and erection of a new dwelling. Creation of new off-street parking within the front garden of No.1 Clifton Villas.



### REVISED DRAWINGS

Revised drawings received on the 4/8/21 including tracking details and amending the internal layout of the property.

Revised drawings received on the 25/8/21 amending the proposed parking layout to Springfield Road.

Updated Parking Diagram and Site Plan to indicate parking for 3 cars to match the rest of the information, no changes to the scheme and this was not consulted upon, 20/09/21.

### **MATERIALS**

Walls: Render and timber cladding

Roof: Zinc and sedum

Doors/windows: Powder coated aluminium

### REPRESENTATIONS Statutory Consultees: Water Resources Engineer

No observations

### **Stroud Town Council**

Proposed building is too large for the area and higher than Middle Street roof line. The amenity space for both buildings is not sufficient. Contrary to SDC Local Plan policies HC8 and CP14.

We also reiterate previous comments: Upper Springfield Road parking looks very vulnerable. Can cars be better protected from turning traffic.

### **Contaminated Land Officer**

No comments

### **Environmental Health**

Standard conditions and informatives

### Local Highway Authority Response to the revised consultation

Gloucestershire County Council, the Highway Authority acting in its role as Statutory Consultee has undertaken a full assessment of this planning application. Based on the appraisal of the development proposals the Highways Development Management Manager on behalf of the County Council, under Article 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order, 2015 has no objection subject to conditions and financial obligations.

The justification for this decision is provided below.

It is proposed that the new dwelling would have off-street parking for two cars, utilising the existing access on Middle Street. The submitted plan does indicate that two parking spaces with notional size of 2.4 metres by 4.8 metres each could be accommodated. Careful manoeuvring into and from the spaces would be required, due to the narrowness of Middle Street, but the access would be widened to improve access and egress and the new access width should be made to be 6.0 metres if this could be achieved.

### Agenda Item 4.3



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

However, there is evidence that the existing access may have been used in a way that would have resulted in a parked vehicle encroaching into the highway and, given this and the context of parking generally along the Street, the proposals can be considered to be no worse than the existing circumstances. It is concluded, therefore, that the proposed arrangement would be acceptable.

A revised Drawing no 117.P.10 Rev C Proposed Off-Street Parking has been submitted which demonstrates that a single car parking space for the use of the existing house would be accommodated within the site.

This parking space and the two that are proposed for the new dwelling are deemed to provide the three spaces that are required by the development to comply with the development plan, Stroud District Local Plan.

The Highway Authority has undertaken a robust assessment of the planning application. Based on the analysis of the information submitted the Highway Authority concludes that there would not be an unacceptable impact on Highway Safety or a severe impact on congestion. There are no justifiable grounds on which an objection could be maintained.

### Conditions

Prior to the first occupation of the development hereby permitted vehicle parking areas shall be provided in accordance with the approved plans and those areas shall not thereafter be used for any purpose other than the parking of vehicles.

Reason: To ensure that adequate off-street parking is provided, in accordance with Cotswold District Local Plan Policy INF4.

Prior to the first occupation of the development hereby permitted, the proposed dwelling shall be fitted with an electric vehicle charging point. The charging point shall comply with BS EN 62196 Mode 3 or 4 and BS EN 61851 and with the Manual for Gloucestershire Streets. The electric vehicle charging point shall be retained for the lifetime of the development unless it needs to be replaced in which case the replacement charging point shall be of the same specification or a higher specification in terms of charging performance.

Reason: To promote sustainable travel and healthy communities.

Prior to the first occupation of the development hereby permitted a vehicle crossover shall be installed at the carriageway edge.

Reason: In the interests of safety and accessibility

Prior to the first occupation of the development hereby permitted visibility splays shall be provided in accordance with the details shown on the approved plans.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety

Prior to the first occupation of the development hereby permitted cycle storage facilities for a minimum of two cycles for each dwelling shall be made available for use and those facilities shall be maintained for the duration of the development.

Reason: To ensure the provision and availability of adequate cycle parking.



### Informatives

The construction of a new vehicle parking access will require works to be undertaken within the highway under the Highways Act 1980 - Section 184 and the developer is required to obtain the permission of Gloucestershire Highways on 08000 514 514 or highways@gloucestershire.gov.uk before commencing any works on the highway.

**Public**: Twelve letters of objection received raising the following concerns received by seven commenters surrounding the following issues:

- o Overdevelopment of the plot
- o Insufficient amenity space
- o Overlooking
- o Insufficient parking
- o Insufficient visibility
- o Inappropriate materials / design
- o Out of character with the area
- o Overbearing impact
- Impact on pear tree

### NATIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING POLICIES

National Planning Policy Framework.

Available to view at:

http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2116950.pdf

### Stroud District Local Plan.

Policies together with the preamble text and associated supplementary planning documents are available to view on the Councils website:

https://www.stroud.gov.uk/media/1455/stroud-district-local-plan\_november-2015\_low-res\_forweb.pdf

Local Plan policies considered for this application include:

- CP1 Sustainable development
- CP2 Strategic growth and development locations
- CP3 Settlement hierarchy
- CP14 High quality sustainable development.
- HC1 Meeting small-scale housing need within defined settlements.
- ES1 Sustainable construction and energy efficiency.
- ES3 Maintaining quality of life within our environmental limits.
- ES6 Providing for biodiversity and geodiversity.
- ES8 Trees, hedgerows and woodlands
- ES12 Better design of places.

### Agenda Item 4.3



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

The proposal should also be considered against the guidance laid out in: Residential Design Guide SPG (2000)
Stroud District Landscape Assessment SPG (2000)

The application has a number of considerations which both cover the principle of development and the details of the proposed scheme which will be considered in turn below:

### PRINCIPLE OF DEVELOPMENT

The application seeks permission for the erection of a detached dwelling in the rear garden of No.1 Clifton Villas and a parking bay to serve No.1 Clifton Villas on Springfield Road.

The application site is located within the development limit of Stroud, a first tier settlement as defined by policy CP3. First tier settlements have the ability to support sustainable patterns of living in the District because of their current levels of facilities, services and employment opportunities. They have the potential to provide for modest levels of jobs and homes in order to help sustain and, where necessary, enhance their services and facilities. Therefore, the principle of development has been established.

### **DESIGN AND LAYOUT**

It is proposed to subdivide the garden area associated with 1 Clifton Villas and construct a dwelling of a modern contemporary appearance to the rear garden and construct a parking bay to the front garden of No.1 Clifton Villas.

The current form of development on Springfield Road is predominantly characterised by red brick three storey dwellings to the north side, which is echoed with the row of dwellings below along Uplands Road and then above Springfield Road is Middle Street, which benefits from a mixture of dwelling types and designs.

The frontage of the property proposed is onto Middle Street.

This part of Uplands contains dwellings which vary greatly in design, scale and materials and while it is acknowledged that the proposed dwelling does not reflect the design and appearance of built form in the immediate vicinity, it is noted that there are a mix of styles and sizes of properties within the surrounding area with no clear cut vernacular. Materials that includes timber boarding, render, brickwork and a green roof have been proposed, all of which are considered appropriate for the design of the proposal.

The design of the proposal coupled with the proposed materials would provide some interest to the surrounding area that already benefits from a variety of house types. To ensure that the materials are suitable for the site and the surroundings, a condition could be applied requesting further details of the specific material types to include the colour, type and coursing of the brickwork.

The proposed timber cladding would create a lightweight appearance that, once weathered, would not be overbearing on the street scene. The retention of the boundary wall would also preserve the setting of the site and would clearly define the corner of the street



While it is noted that the proposed dwelling would likely attract attention from passers-by, it is a dwelling in an urban area that brings forward an interesting design rather than a pastiche of its surroundings. The design of the property is not considered to be offensive and over time it would weather down to ensure that it would not appear as an incongruous addition in the street scene.

The general layout of the new dwelling would not compete with the surrounding form of the area. The dwelling appears proportionate, with a suitable ridge height and gable widths. While it is acknowledged that the proposed dwelling is slightly taller than that of the adjacent property, this is common on Middle Street as the character of the area is that the properties follow the contour of the land, thereby stepping down in a south westerly direction. As such, the proposal would not look out of keeping in the street scene.

The plot can accommodate an additional dwelling with associated parking and gardens, compatible with the Council's Residential Design Guide. The submitted drawing identifies that the site would not appear cramped or overdeveloped and would afford a suitable level of amenity space for the proposed dwelling and a sufficient level of garden space would remain for the existing property. To ensure that the site does not become overdeveloped in the future, a condition removing permitted development rights for extensions and outbuildings will be applied.

### Parking Bay to serve No.1 Clifton Villas

The size and scale of the proposed parking bay would not be disproportionate with the host property itself and the overall plot size. There would be adequate amenity provision remaining to serve the dwelling.

In order to facilitate the parking bay, a section of the surrounding boundary wall will need to be demolished. As No.1 Clifton villas is not subject to any landscape designations, the removal of this boundary wall would not require planning permission. Furthermore, as the road adjoining the residential curtilage is an unclassified road the creation of the access does not require planning permission; however, planning permission is required for the level of excavation, the retaining wall and the formation of the access steps within the residential curtilage.

The proposed excavation would be contained within the existing residential curtilage and whilst visible from the road network the overall bulk of the retaining wall would not appear visually discordant within the street scene.

The proposal would introduce a brick retaining wall, which are a common feature within the road and surrounding area. While the proposal would result in an increase in built form this development, it is not considered to be excessive given that there are similar features within the immediate vicinity.

While there would be some visual impact when viewed from road, the parking bay would sit alongside other examples that serve neighbouring dwellings and to some extent would appear as a continuation of that arrangement. As such, it would not warrant refusal of the application on the basis of the impact on the street scene.

### Agenda Item 4.3



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

Overall, is considered that the proposed layout of the parking bay would not appear out of keeping within the existing street scene and the layout would be compatible with the character, appearance and visual amenity of this part of Stroud. Subsequently, the creation of the parking bay will have a minimal impact and will not erode the overall character or appearance of the site and will not appear visually discordant within its setting.

### RESIDENTIAL AMENITY

Residential properties are located in close proximity to the site. The site is an urban dense area whereby properties face one another, are positioned adjacent to one another and back on to one another.

The separation distance between the front of the proposed unit and the properties located opposite is less in separation distance than recommended in the Council's residential design guide. The separation distance between them is approximately 10m and the design guide stipulates 25m. Furthermore, the separation distance between the rear elevation of the proposed property and the rear elevation of the existing property is also less than what is stipulated in the Council's residential design guide, it is approximately 15m.

There are examples in the immediate vicinity whereby units face one another and benefit from a similar separation distance. Therefore, in order to seek to mitigate overlooking to neighbouring properties, a brise soleil type feature has been incorporated within the design of the property to the front and rear elevation. While, this will ensure that any outlook is somewhat obscured, it does not address the separation distance, however it is considered that on balance it would allow for an imaginative development whilst also addressing a direct overlooking issue. Should planning permission be forthcoming for the proposal and to ensure, that this remains as a permanent feature, it could be conditioned to be installed prior to first occupation and remain as such thereafter.

While it is acknowledged that the proposal would fail to comply with the Council's residential design guide regarding separation distances, the proposed arrangement is considered acceptable on the basis that the surrounding area benefits from a nearly identical arrangement whereby properties face one another with a similar separation distance, therefore it would be difficult to warrant refusal on these grounds. As discussed above, it should also be further noted that a solution has been incorporated into the design to seek to lessen this potential impact of which is considered to enhance the design of the property and is considered acceptable.

In terms of the proposal potentially overlooking the adjacent neighbouring property, any views would be oblique and not direct. Furthermore, the site is located in an extremely dense area where overlooking is a common feature, therefore it would be difficult to refuse the application on these grounds. To ensure that neighbouring properties amenity would be protected in the future, a condition removing permitted development rights for additional openings will be implied.



The dwelling would have no significant overbearing impact or cause unacceptable overshadowing, given that it falls within the existing building line.

To protect the amenity of neighbouring occupiers, a construction method statement condition and hours of operation condition will be applied should planning permission be forthcoming.

### **HIGHWAYS**

The application seeks planning permission for the creation of a parking bay to serve No.1 Clifton Villas off of Upper Springfield Road and parking provision to serve the new dwelling off of Middle Street.

The drawings have been revised to reduce the footprint of the available parking and reduce it to one space. This has been achieved by including a bank with stepped ramp access that connects to the steps by the stone pier. This leaves a generous parking area for one car and visibility both from the parking area out, and across this corner from the street. This arrangement removes the parking provision from this pinch point corner, this alleviates the concerns regarding the superseded scheme not being adequate to accommodate two spaces and therefore these concerns have been addressed.

This would also mean that there would not be repeated movements and the car user would drive in or reverse out of the space which is a common arrangement on Springfield Road.

It is proposed that the new dwelling would have off-street parking for two cars, utilising the existing access on Middle Street. The submitted plan does indicate that two parking spaces with notional size of 2.4 metres by 4.8 metres each could be accommodated. Careful manoeuvring into and from the spaces would be required, due to the narrowness of Middle Street, but the access would be widened to improve access and egress.

The existing access may have been used in a way that would have resulted in a parked vehicle encroaching into the highway and, given this and the context of parking generally along the Street, the proposals can be considered to be no worse than the existing circumstances. It is concluded, therefore, that the proposed arrangement would be acceptable.

Overall, the subdivision of the property could improve upon the existing situation by providing additional parking spaces to that of the existing arrangement.

While the proposal represents a reduction to off street parking provision, this reduction is considered to be acceptable on the basis that the local plan stipulates 1.5 spaces per dwelling. The proposed development would allow for 3 spaces across the two sites and would therefore comply with policy in this regard. Furthermore, it should also be noted that there is provision for on street parking and the site is located within a sustainable location and within relatively close proximity to the town centre.

### Agenda Item 4.3



# **Development Control Committee Schedule** 12/10/2021

The local highways authority has recommended no objection to the revised proposed parking and access arrangements subject to conditions. These proposed conditions proposed surround provision of the parking, visibility splays, electric vehicle charging as well as cycle and bin storage are all provided prior to the first occupation of the proposed dwelling and maintained as such thereafter. These conditions are considered to be reasonable and necessary and will be applied to any permission.

### AFFFORDABLE HOUSING AND OBLIGATIONS

Adopted Local Plan policy CP9 specifies that small scale residential schemes (1 -3 dwellings) for should pay a contribution to affordable housing of at least 20% of the total development value (where viable). However, in May 2016, planning practice guidance was updated to stipulate that contributions for affordable housing should not be sought from small scale and self-build development. This follows the order of the Court of Appeal dated 13 May 2016 which gives legal effect to policy set out in the Ministerial Statement on 28 November 2014.

In order to support the delivery of small scale housing, the Council will follow national guidance and not seek contributions for the proposal.

The site falls within the 3 km catchment zone of the Rodborough Common SAC. Local Plan Policy ES6 requires development proposal to contribute to appropriate mitigation and management measures. Mitigation has been secured via S.106 agreement.

### **PLANNING BALANCE**

The NPPF has been updated (2021) and the National Design Guide (2019) is now a material planning consideration. Both put a stronger emphasis on high quality design. The NDG sets out the components for good design and 10 characteristics to achieve a well-designed place.

The Local Plan design policy is HC1, which primarily seeks to ensure that the proposed housing is of a scale, density, layout and design that is compatible with the character, appearance and amenity of the part of the settlement that it is to be located.

The application proposes the erection of a new dwelling in an urban area. While the proposed dwelling does not reflect the design of the surrounding built form, it is considered acceptable on the basis that it would add interest to the area. The proposed building is similar in proportions to those around, but its design features are of a more modern appearance.

As discussed, the location of the area is dense and therefore surrounding properties are close knit in nature. The resultant impact of this, is the limited separation distances between the proposed dwelling and the surrounding properties. However, as discussed above, while the proposal does not comply with the guidance, the separation distances are considered to be acceptable on the basis that the separation distance is similar to that of the surrounding properties and that an innovative design solution has been incorporated to seek to mitigate direct overlooking.



The parking provision proposed to serve the proposed unit is no worse than the existing arrangement, therefore there would not be any level of harm that would be created from the creation of an additional unit.

In light of the above, it is considered that the proposal is acceptable.

### RECOMMENDATION

Permission is granted.

### **HUMAN RIGHTS**

In compiling this recommendation, we have given full consideration to all aspects of the Human Rights Act 1998 in relation to the applicant and/or the occupiers of any neighbouring or affected properties. In particular regard has been had to Article 8 of the ECHR (Right to Respect for private and family life) and the requirement to ensure that any interference with the right in this Article is both permissible and proportionate. On analysing the issues raised by the application no particular matters, other than those referred to in this report, warranted any different action to that recommended.



# Subject to the following conditions:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in all respects in strict accordance with the approved plans:

Existing and Proposed Site Plan, drawing 117.P.01 Rev C Proposed Roof Plan / Site Plan, drawing 117.P.03 Rev B Proposed Floorplans, drawing 117.P.04 Rev C Proposed Elevations, drawing 117.P.05 Rev B Proposed Sections, drawing 117.P.06 Rev B Proposed Elevations, drawing 117.P.07 Rev C Proposed Elevations, drawing 117.P.08 Rev C Proposed Parking Diagrams, drawing 117.P.10 Rev B Existing and Proposed Section, drawing 117.P.02 Proposed Offstreet Parking, drawing 117.P.09 Rev C

Reason: To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the approved plans.

3. The dwelling hereby permitted shall not be occupied until the vehicular parking to serve both the proposed unit and No.1 Clifton Villas, and the visibility splays, have been provided in accordance with the approved plans. The approved parking arrangements shall be permanently available and free of obstruction thereafter.

Reason: To reduce potential highway impact by ensuring that parking is available within the site, in accordance with Policy ES3 of the adopted Stroud District Local Plan, November 2015.

4. No works shall take place on the external surfaces of the proposed dwelling and the retaining structures hereby permitted until details of the materials to be used in the construction works have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Development shall then only be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: In the interests of the visual amenities of the area.

5. No construction site machinery or plant shall be operated, no process shall be carried out and no construction related deliveries taken except



between the hours of 08:00hrs and 18:00hrs on Monday to Fridays, between 08:00hrs and 13:00hrs on Saturdays and not at any time on Sundays, Bank or Public Holidays.

Reason: To protect the amenity of the locality, especially for the people living/ or working nearby, in accordance with Stroud District Local Plan Policy ES3.

6. The development hereby permitted shall not be first occupied until the proposed dwelling and proposed parking bay have been fitted with an electric vehicle charging point. The charging points shall comply with BS EN 62196 Mode 3 or 4 charging and BS EN 61851 and Manual for Gloucestershire Streets. The electric vehicle charging points shall be retained for the lifetime of the development unless they need to be replaced in which case the replacement charging points shall be of the same specification or a higher specification in terms of charging Performance

Reason: To promote sustainable travel and healthy communities.

7. The development hereby permitted shall not be occupied until cycle storage and bin storage facilities have been made available for use and those facilities shall be maintained for the duration of the development.

Reason: To ensure the provision and availability of adequate cycle parking.

- 8. No development shall take place until a construction management plan or construction method statement has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved plan/statement shall be adhered to throughout the demolition/construction period. The plan/statement shall provide for:
  - Parking of vehicle of site operatives and visitors (including measures taken to ensure satisfactory access and movement for existing occupiers of neighbouring properties during construction;
  - Routes for construction traffic
  - Locations for loading/unloading and storage of plant, waste and construction materials
  - Method of preventing mud being carried onto the highway
  - Measures to protect vulnerable road users (cyclists and pedestrians)
  - Any necessary temporary traffic management measures
  - Arrangements for turning vehicles
  - Arrangements to receive abnormal loads or unusually large vehicles



 Methods of communicating the Construction Management Plan to staff, visitors and neighbouring residents and businesses.

Reason: This information is require prior to commencement In the interests of safe operation of the adopted highway and to protect the amenity of neighbouring occupiers.

9. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order, 2015 (or any order revoking and re-enacting that order with or without modification), no development permitted under Article 3 and described within Classes A, D and E of Part 1 of Schedule 2, shall take place.

Reason: In the interests of the amenities of the local residents and the surrounding area and to comply with Policies HC1 and ES3 of the adopted Stroud District Local Plan, November 2015.

10. No additional windows or door openings including roof lights other than any windows shown on the approved plans shall be formed in the dwelling hereby permitted, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interests of the residential amenity.

11. No development shall take place until details of the existing ground levels, proposed finished floor levels, ridge and eave heights of the dwelling and the proposed finished ground levels of the site, relative to a datum point which is to remain undisturbed during the development have been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. Such details shall also provide comparative levels of eaves and ridge heights of the proposed and adjoining properties. The development shall be carried out in strict accordance with the details as approved.

Reason: Ground levels must be agreed prior to any works taking place in order to avoid a situation where unacceptable ground level alterations cannot be undone without significant reconstruction work. Ground levels need to be agreed to secure an acceptable finished building height to ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development, in accordance with Policies HC1, CP14 and ES3 of the Stroud District Local Plan, November 2015.

12. The brise soleil design feature hereby permitted shall be installed prior to the first occupation of the dwelling hereby permitted. The brise soleil design feature shall remain in situ thereafter.

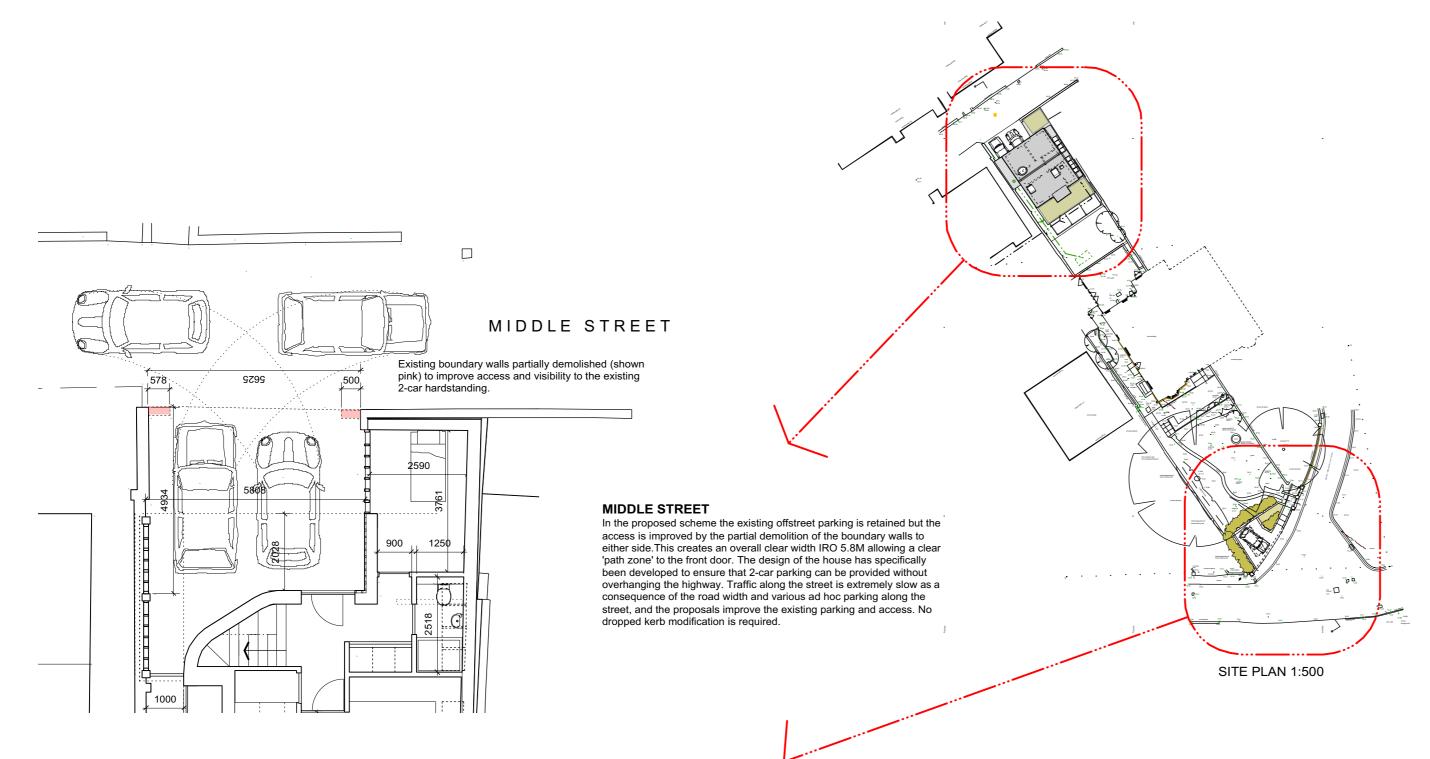


Reason: In the interests of the amenities of occupiers of adjoining residential properties and to comply with Policy ES3 of the Stroud District Local Plan, November 2015.

### Informatives:

- 1. ARTICLE 35 (2) STATEMENT The case officer contacted the applicant/agent and negotiated changes to the design that have enhanced the overall scheme.
- 2. The construction of a new vehicle parking access will require works to be undertaken within the highway under the Highways Act 1980 Section 184 and the developer is required to obtain the permission of Gloucestershire Highways on 08000 514 514 or highways@gloucestershire.gov.uk before commencing any works on the highway.
- 3. The application is subject to a unilateral undertaking for a financial contribution of £200.00, triggered by the commencement of development, as a mitigation contribution towards the impact of potential recreational use of the occupants of the per hereby permitted dwelling within the catchment of the Rodborough Common Special Area of Conservation (SAC).





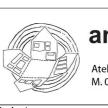


LOCATION PLAN 1:1250

# Boundary wall pared back 50cm Return leg of boundary wall to be demolished EXISTING OFFSTREET PARKING

### MIDDLE STREET VIEW

No1 Clifton Villas is one of only a few houses in the street that has existing full-depth offstreet parking and in fact has sufficient hardstanding for two cars, although the configuration of the low return bounday wall prevents direct side-by-side access. The proposals increase the frontage to improve access.



# andrew davy | architect

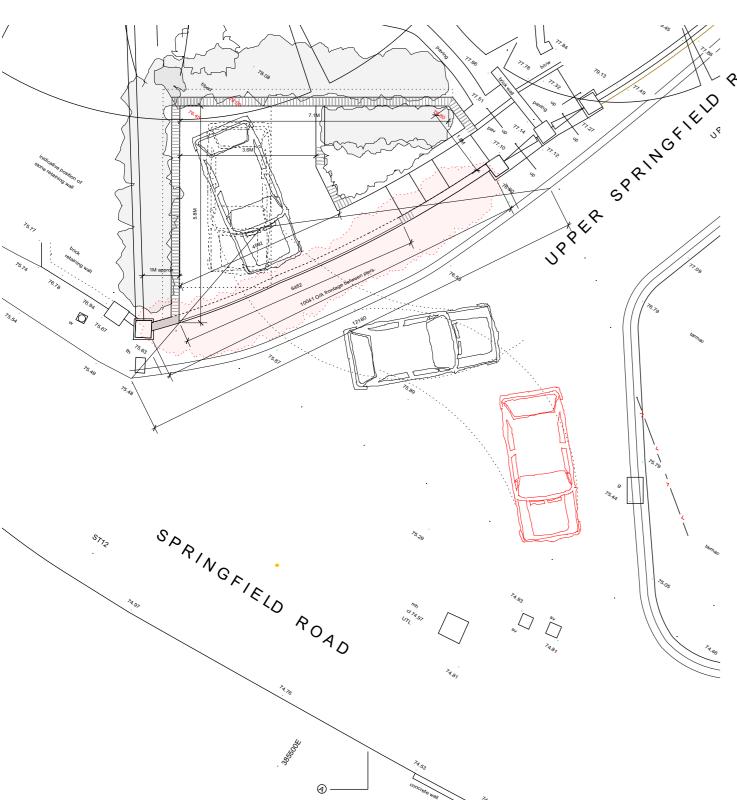
Atelier, 19A Lower St, Stroud, Gloucestershire, GL5 2HT M. 07958 084090 mail@andrewdavy.co.uk

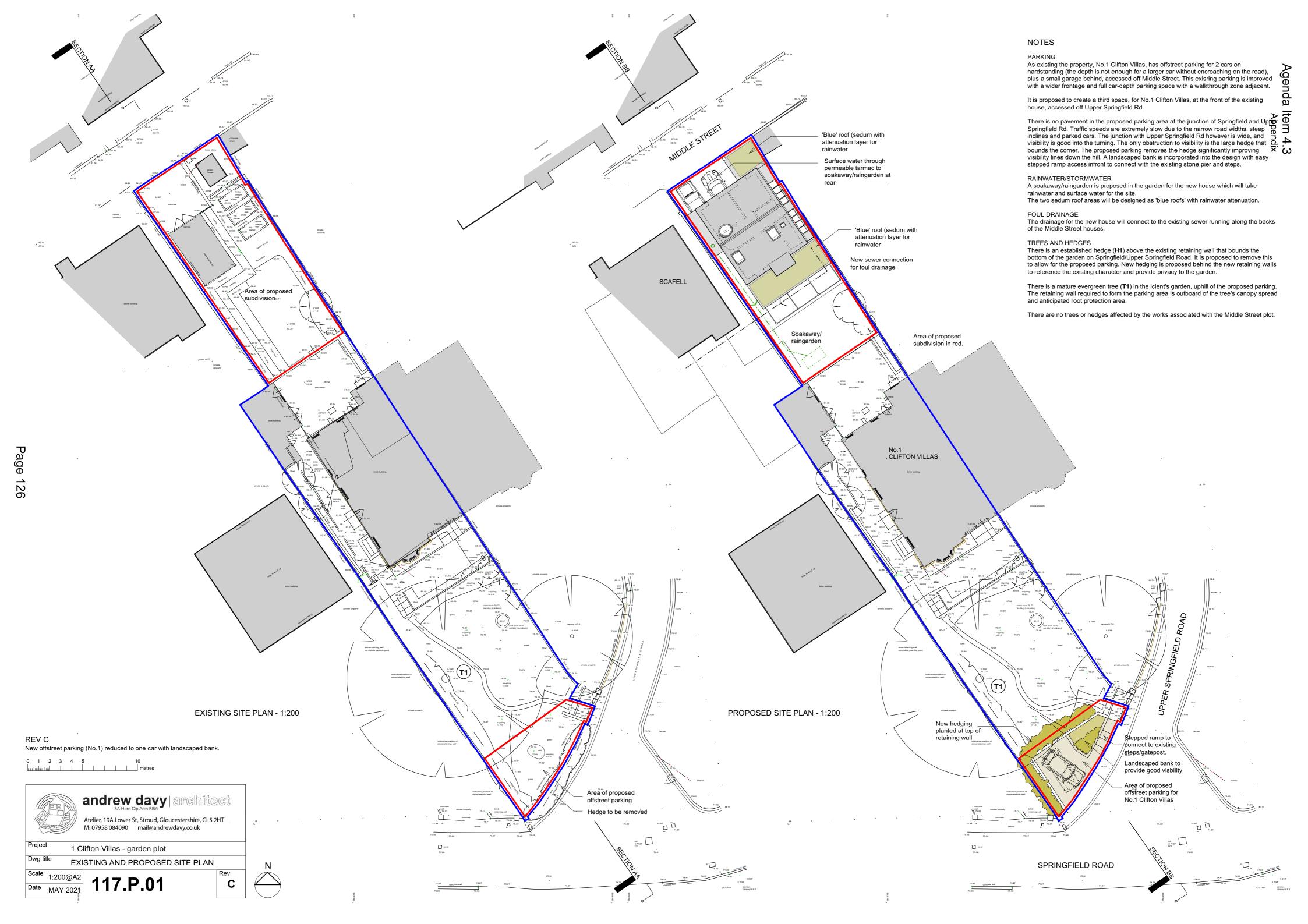
	111. 07 330 00 1030	manewaavy.co.ak	
Project	1 Clifton Villas		
Dwg title	PROPOSED PAR	KING DIAGRAMS	
Scale 1:100@	)A2		Re
ate AUG 20	117.F	<b>7.10</b>	

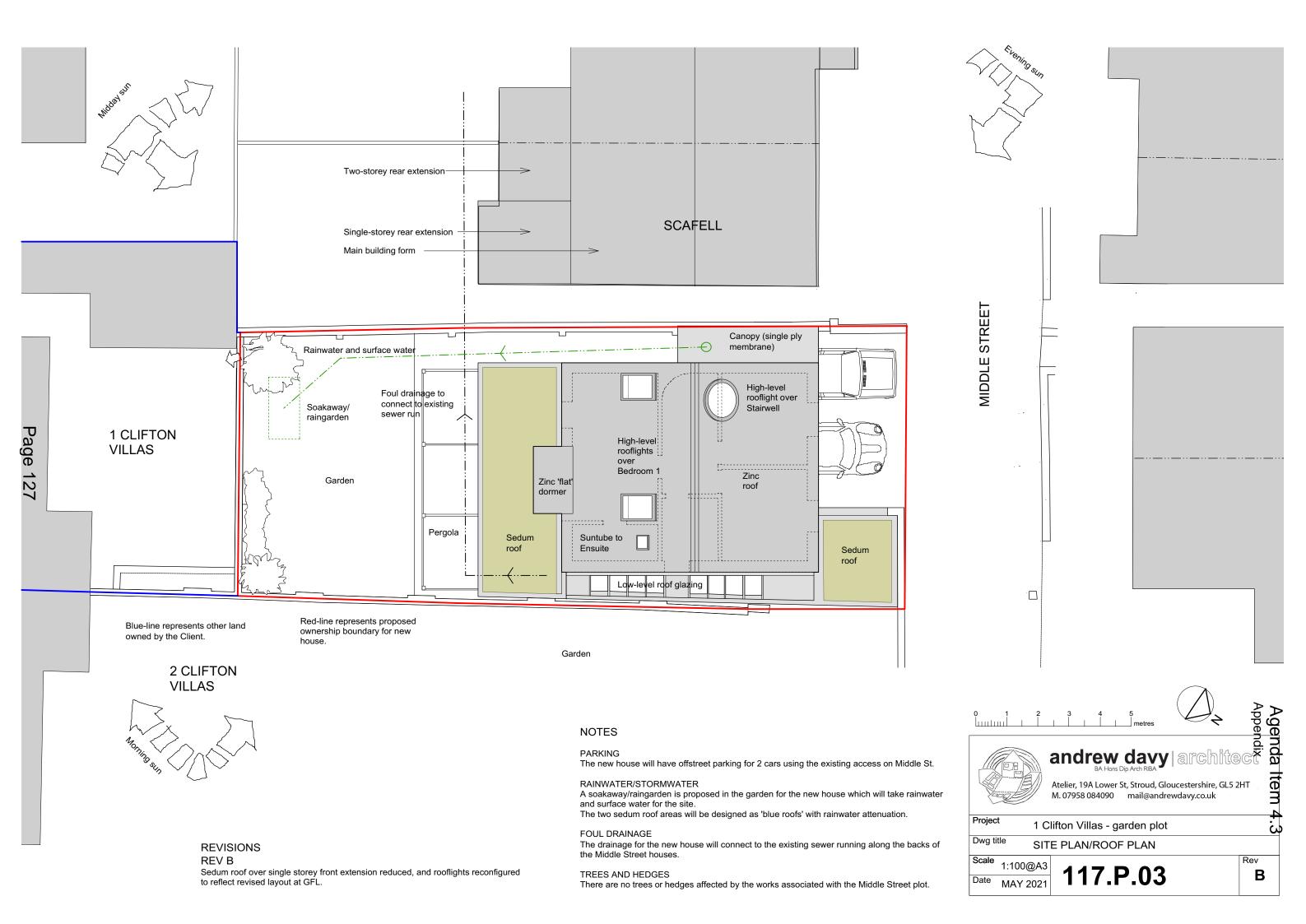
### SPRINGFIFI D RD

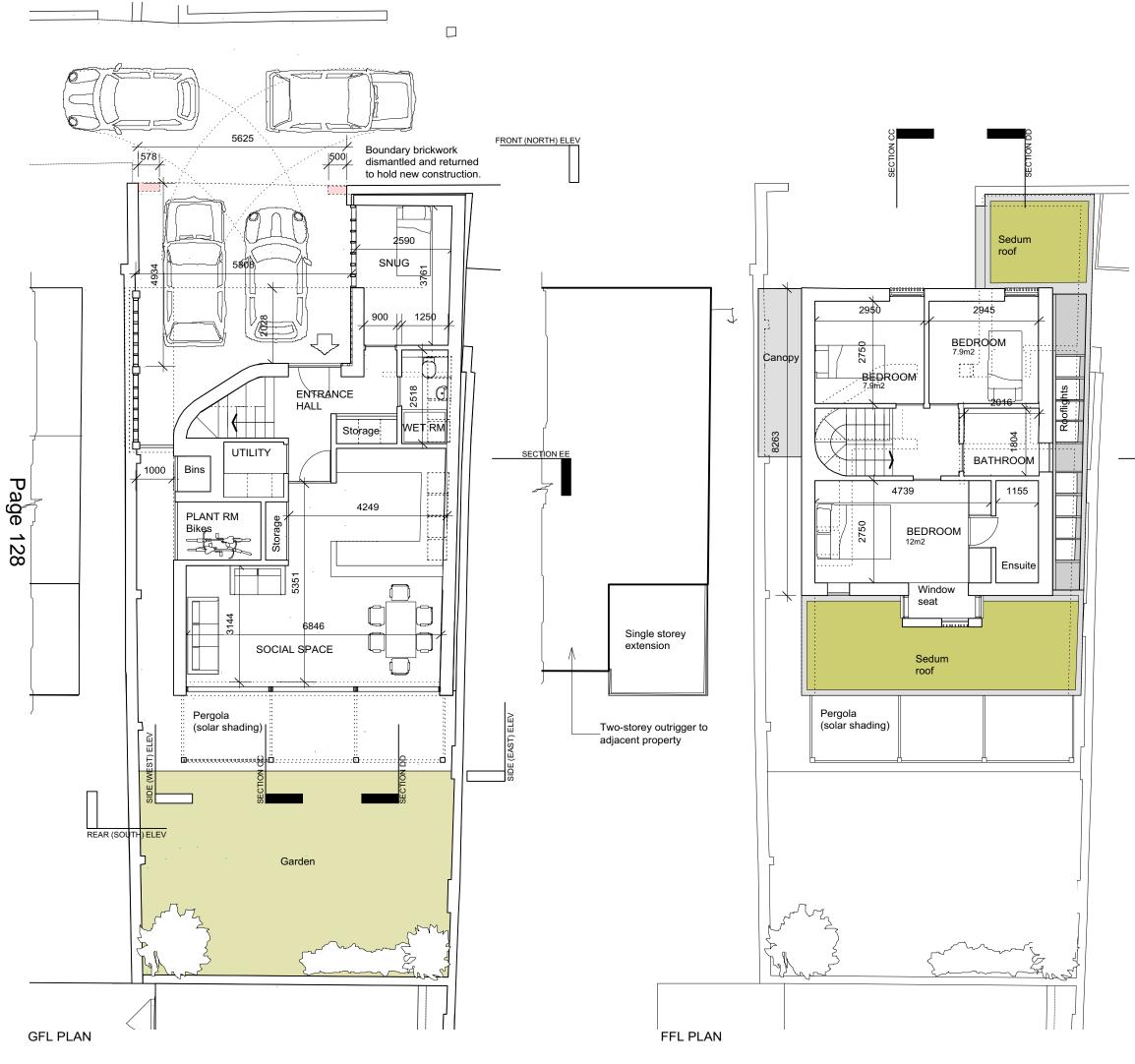
The existing angled boundary makes for an irregular layout - the proposed design creates a genrous one-car bay with a splayed plan to create more manoeuvering width. The parking is incorporated into a wider landscaping design, with a planted bank sloping down towards he road to allow good visibility onto the highway. A stepped ramp is incorporated infront of this, further reducing the levels adjacent to the road, whilst providing an integrated approach to join the existing steps by the existing stone pier. We have developed the design with the streetscape in mind; framed by the original stone and brick piers to each side, and with a backdrop of hedge and brick retaining wall that relates to the geometry of the villa above, the overall design 'makes sense' visually within its context. It is our feeling that the overall streetscape design is improved by the proposed layout without detrimental imapct on safety.

The location of the proposed parking is at a wide corner where two otherwise constrained roads meet. Speed limits are 20 mile an hour, but in practice traffic speeds are lower given the nature of the adjacent streets. With the removal of the hedge and boundary wall, visibility at this corner will be much improved, and the pavement between Spingfield and Upper Springfield Rd is on the other side of the street, clear from any cars pulling out. We have indicated tracking on the proposal but with this configuration there are numerous options for parking and maoneuvering and visibility is good.









IOTES:

SECTION EE

The main body of the house at FFL is designed to continue the main massing of the terrace. At FFL the sides of the proposed dwelling are held back from each boundary by 1M.

At GFL the footprint extends in three directions, to differing degrees. To front and rear these GFL extensions are treated as flat areas of sedum, to the side a low-pitch lean to roof, predominantly with roof-glazing over ancillary areas, and he Kitchen worktop.

To the other side a clear passageway is maintained through to the rear garden, with side access to bike storage and recycling.

A new brick wall is proposed between the new garden and the rear terrace to No.1 Clifton Villas, creating a nice walled courtyard garden character.

### REVISIONS

### REV C

Single storey front extension reduced in width to improve parking/access, and bin store/bike store revised to create a larger Plant Rm. Associated internal revisions.





## andrew davy | architect

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Project

1 Clifton Villas - garden plot

Dwg title

PROPOSED GFL AND FFL FLOOR PLANS

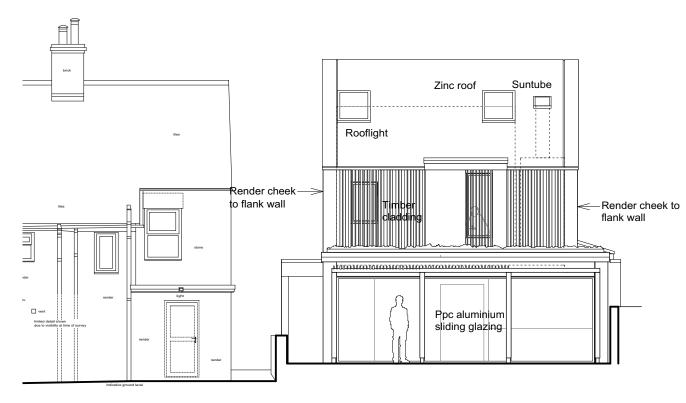
Scale 1:100@A3

Date MAY 2021

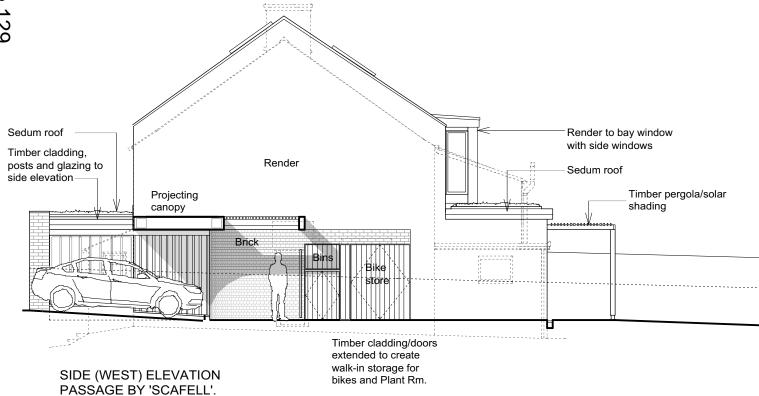
117.P.04

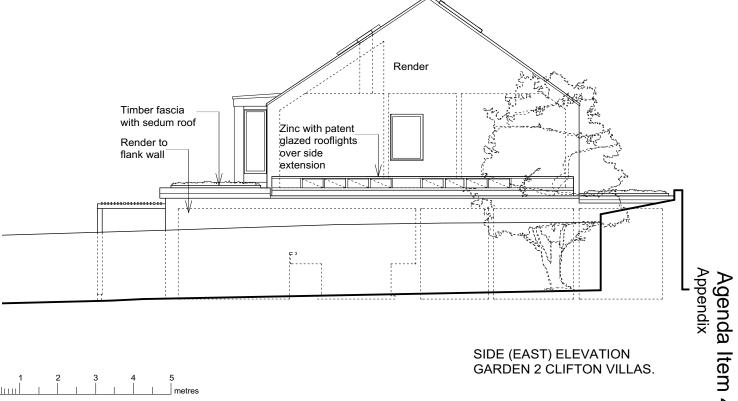
Rev





REAR (SOUTH) ELEVATION GARDÈN.





### **REVISIONS**

REV C

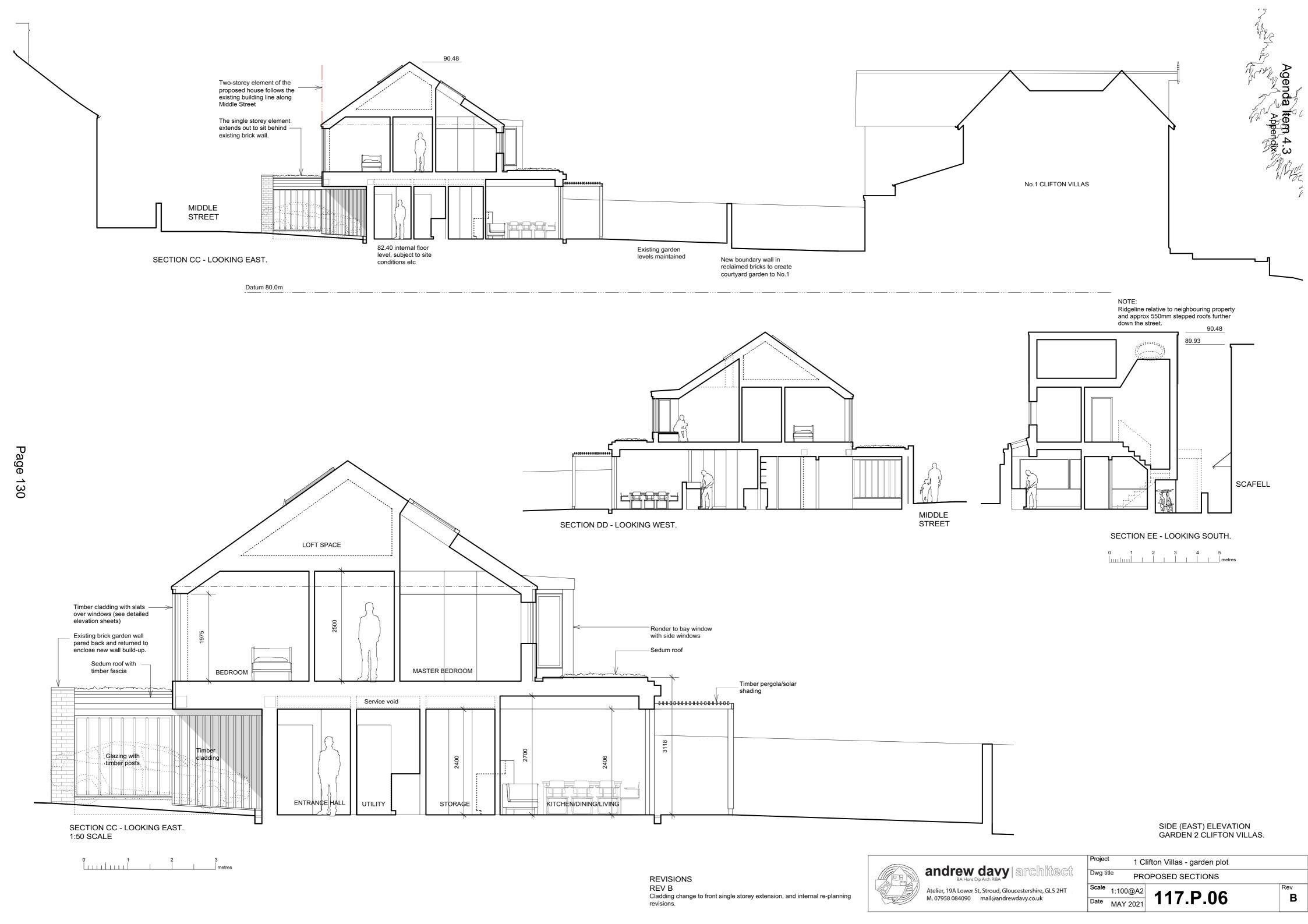
Single storey front extension reduced in width to improve parking/access, and bin store/bike store revised to create a larger Plant Rm.

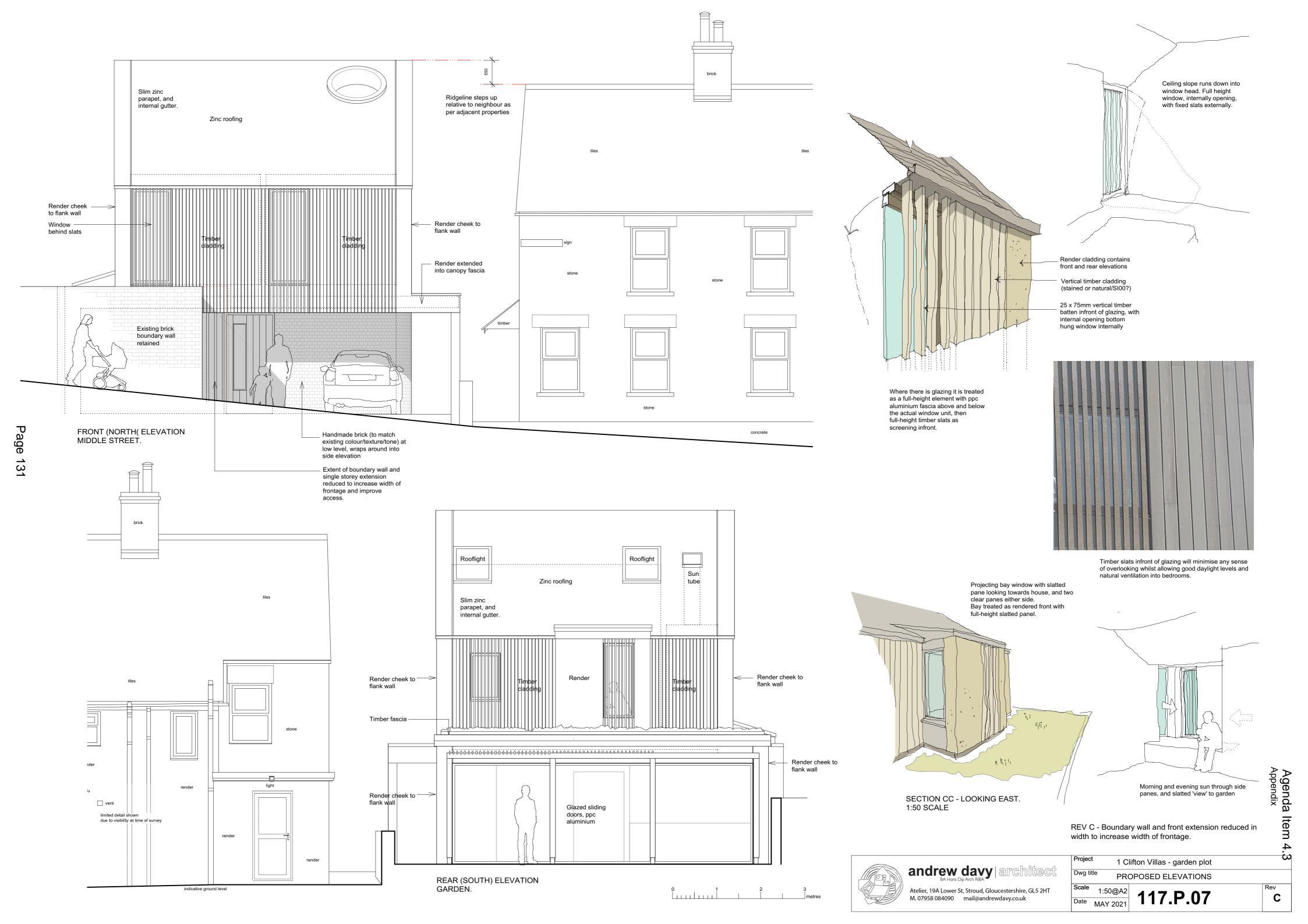


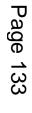
4.3 Project 1 Clifton Villas - garden plot Dwg title PROPOSED ELEVATIONS Scale 1:100@A3 Rev 117.P.05 В Date MAY 2021

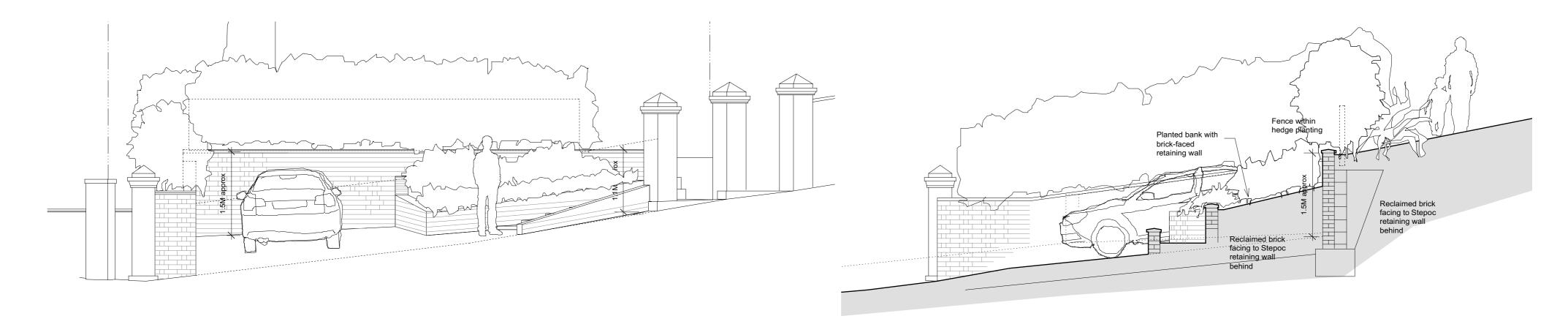
SIDE (EAST) ELEVATION

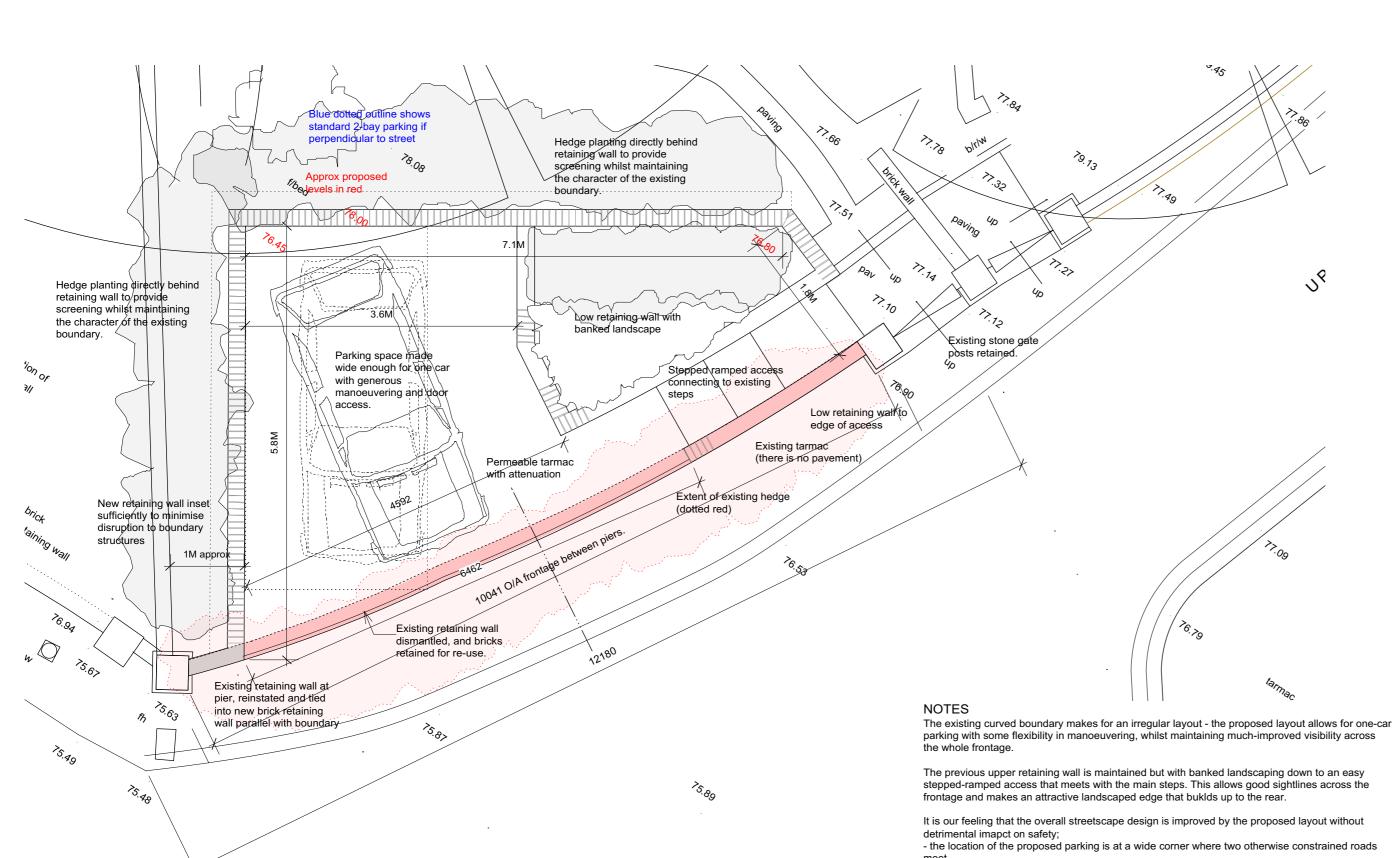
GARDEN 2 CLIFTON VILLAS.











The existing boundary has a well established hedge behind a brick retaining wall (which is wholly hidden)

The proposals create a new brick retaining wall around two sides, built in reclaimed bricks to match existing. A new hedge is planted behind the wall to recreate a similar character, albeit set back from the road.







1 Clifton Villas Dwg title PROPOSED OFFSTREET PARKING Scale 1:50@A2 117.P.09 Date MAY 2021

adjacent streets. with the removal of the hedge and boundary wall, visibility at this corner will be much improved, and the pavement between Spingfield and Upper Springfield Rd is on the other side of the street, clear from any cars pulling out.

- speed limits are 20 mile an hour, but in practice traffic speeds are lower given the nature of the

Revised scheme to accommodate one car only with landscaped bank

Item

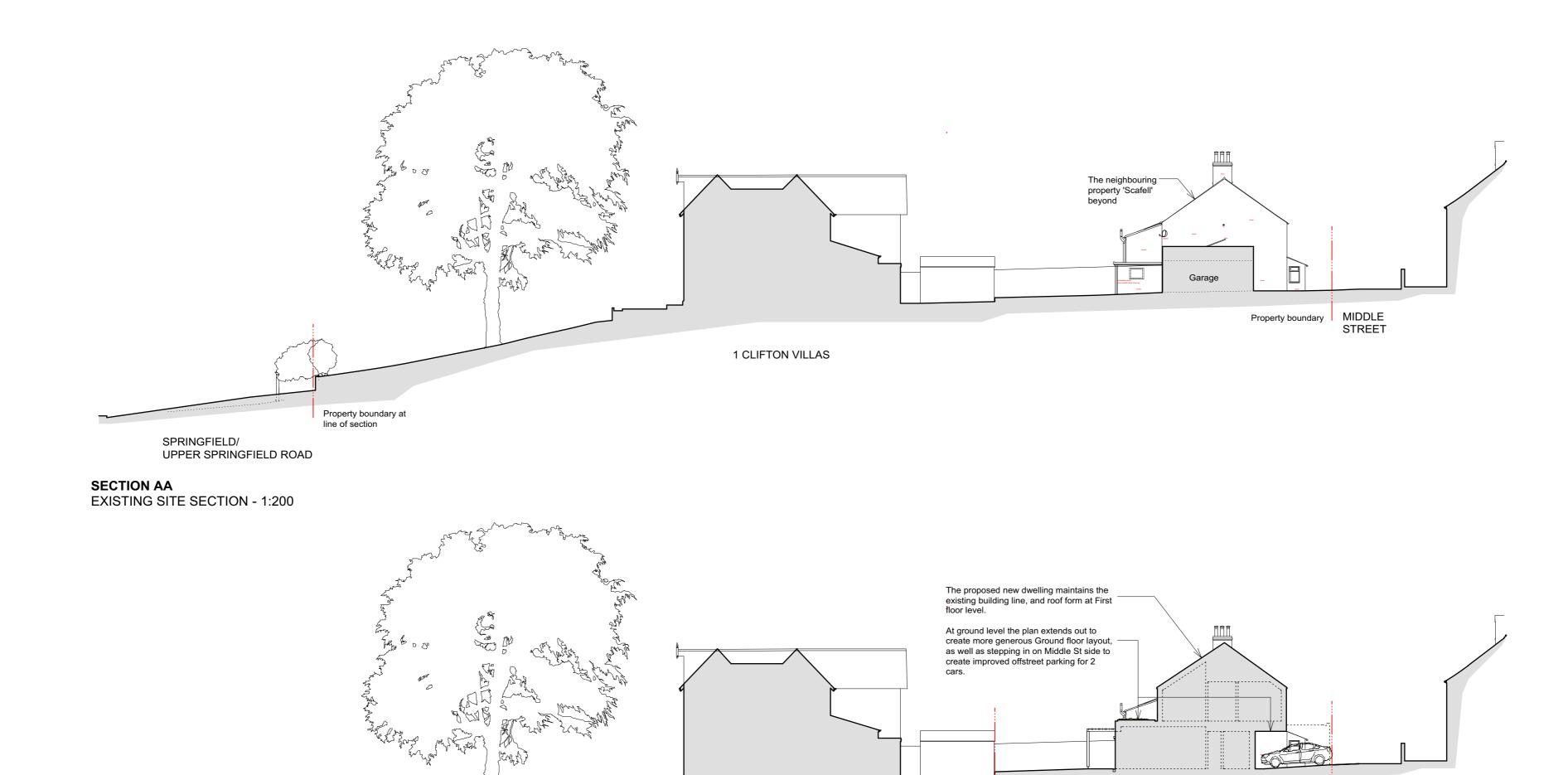
Property | MIDDLE boundary STREET

Proposed boundary between 1 Clifton Villas

and new plot.

MIDDLE

PROPOSED SITE SECTION - 1:200



1 CLIFTON VILLAS



SPRINGFIELD/

Proposed landscaping intended to re-create the

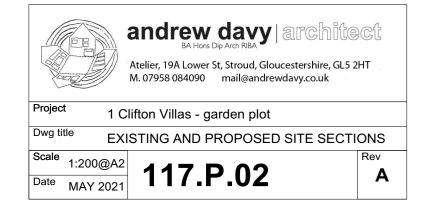
new retaining wall line.

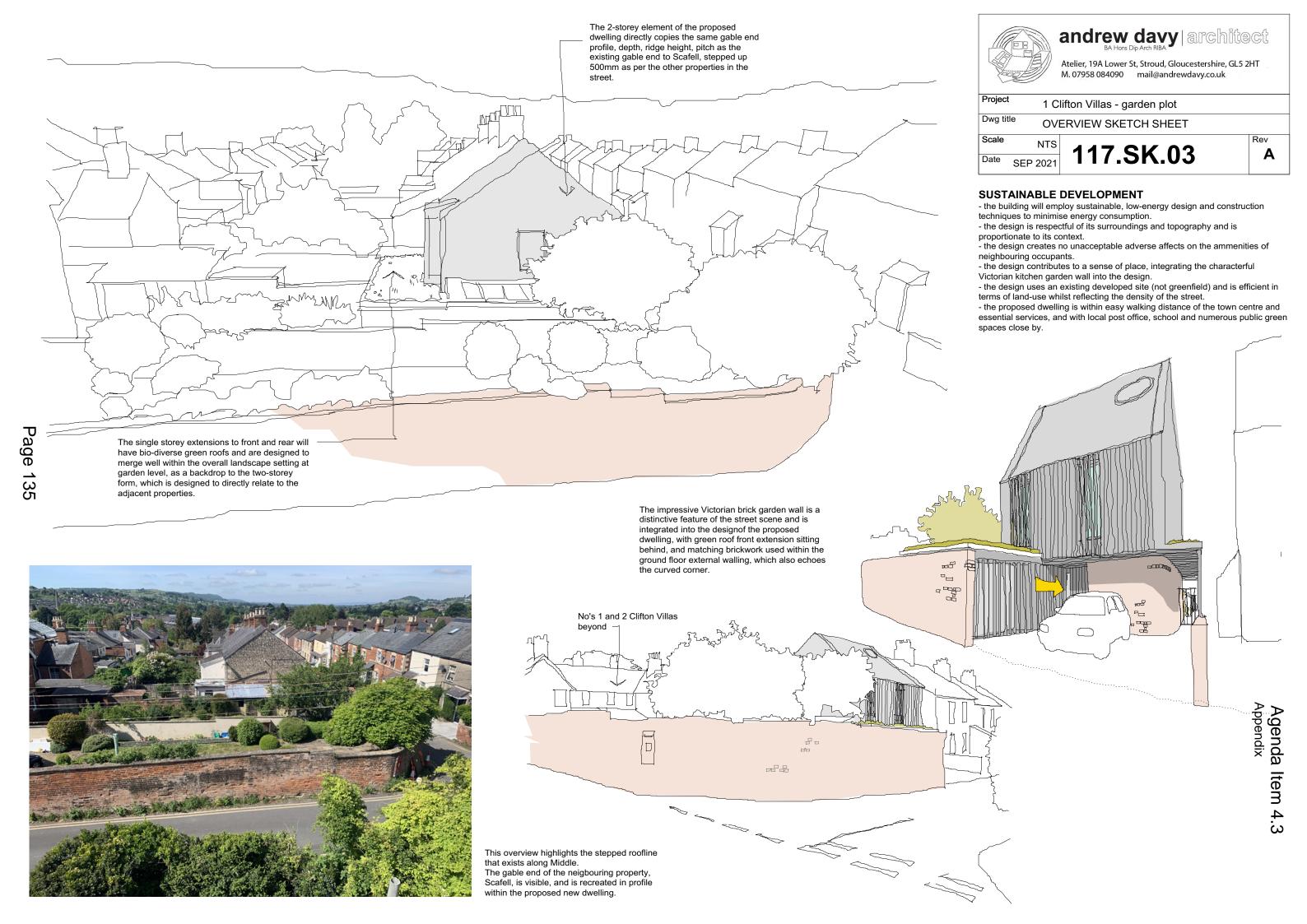
UPPER SPRINGFIELD ROAD

hedge character but on the

Property boundary at line of section







### Clifford, Adam

From: Gemma Davis <gem-dav@hotmail.co.uk>

 Sent:
 01 July 2021 20:07

 To:
 Davis, Gemma







Page 137







Page 139

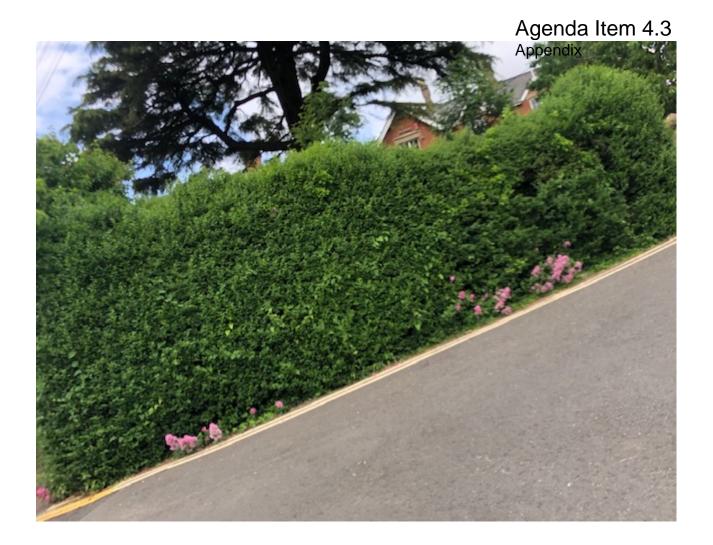




Page 141

Agenda Item 4.3 Appendix







Page 143





# DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICE APPLICATION & ENFORCEMENT PERFORMANCE STATISTICS Q1 & Q2 2021 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE 12/10/21 FOR INFORMATION

Dear Councillor,

Please find below the development management application and enforcement statistics for the first and second quarter of 2021. Due to the timing of the October committee meeting, it has been necessary to cut short the statistics for Quarter 3 by a week and this is highlighted in the tables in red.

The statistics include information from the previous four years by way of comparison. They also include tables for the Covid 19 period to focus on the impact this has had on the service.

By way of context, the national targets for the determination of applications are 60% for major applications and 70% for all others. While the tables look at all applications as a whole, you will see that cumulative percentages far exceed the national targets.

I hope the information is self-explanatory, but if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me, Griff Bunce, or John Chaplin.

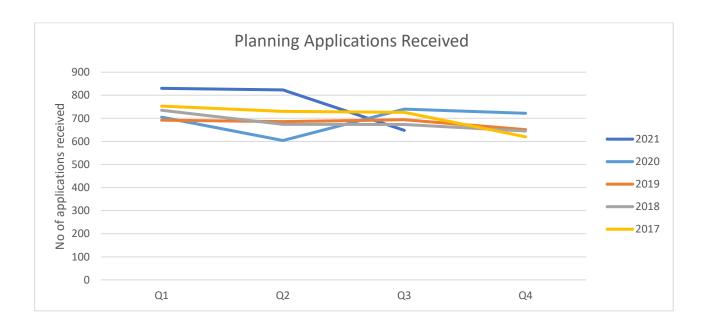
Geraldine LeCointe, Head of Development Management 28/09/21

### **Development Management Applications**

**Table 1: Planning Applications – Received** 

Development Management	20	021	20	20	20:	19	20:	18	201	<b>L7</b>
No of	Q1	830	Q1	705	Q1	692	Q1	735	Q1	753
applications received	Q2	823	Q2	604	Q2	686	Q2	674	Q2	730
per quarter	Q3	648*	Q3	740	Q3	694	Q3	673	Q3	726
(Excludes	Q4		Q4	722	Q4	651	Q4	645	Q4	620
Pre-applications)	Total	2301*	Total	2771	Total	2723	Total	2727	Total	2829

<sup>\*</sup> Figure up to 24.09.2021

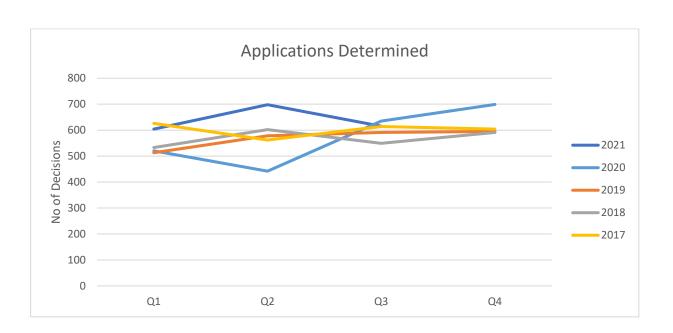




**Table 2: Planning Applications – Determined** 

Development		202	21	20	20	20	19	20	18	20	17
Management		No	% in	No	% in	No	% in	No	% in	No	% in
			time		time		time		time		time
No of	Q1	604	93%	520	85%	513	88%	533	87%	626	91%
applications determined	Q2	698	91%	442	89%	578	86%	602	89%	562	88%
per quarter	Q3	615*	90%	635	95%	591	84%	549	84%	614	84%
(Excludes Pre-	Q4			699	94%	595	88%	591	85%	604	86%
applications)	Total & Average % for Year	1917*	91%	2296	91%	2277	87%	2275	86%	2406	87%

<sup>\*</sup> Figure up to 24.09.2021





### **Planning Applications - Covid period comparisons**

Table 3: Planning Applications received - Covid period

Applications received – Covid period								
COVID Pandemic - comparison	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18				
No of applications received in the period between 23rd March to 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept following year e.g. 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 20 – 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept 21 (Excludes Pre-applications)	4415	4063	4086	4202				

**Table 4: Planning Applications determined - Covid period** 

Applications determined - Covid period							
COVID Pandemic - comparison	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18			
No of applications determined between (23rd March to 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept following year) (Excludes Pre-applications)	3738 of which 92% in time	3348 of which 88% in time	3480 of which 86% in time	3557 of which 86% in time			



### **Enforcement Statistics**

**Table 5: Enforcement Enquiries - Received** 

Enforcement	20	021	20	20	20	19	20	18	20	17
	Q1	218	Q1	153	Q1	132	Q1	120	Q1	108
No of enquiries received per quarter	Q2	158	Q2	168	Q2	128	Q2	96	Q2	132
(Excludes compliance, No action &	Q3	144*	Q3	165	Q3	110	Q3	96	Q3	83
solicitor/estate agent queries)	Q4		Q4	118	Q4	126	Q4	90	Q4	83
	Total	520*	Total	604	Total	496	Total	402	Total	406
Annual Percentage Increase/Decrease on previous year		•	1	22%	1	23%	1	1%	1	7%

<sup>\*</sup> Figure up to 24.09.2021

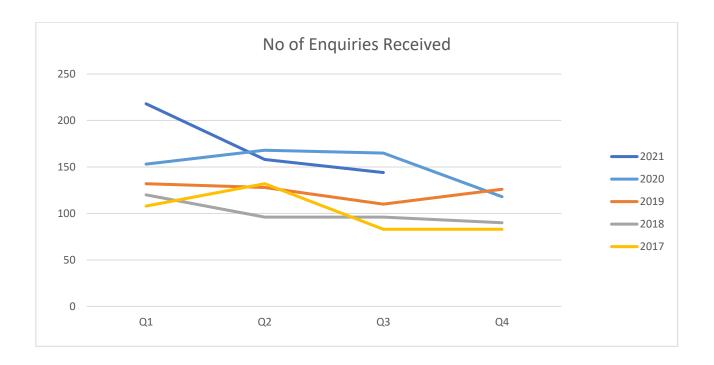
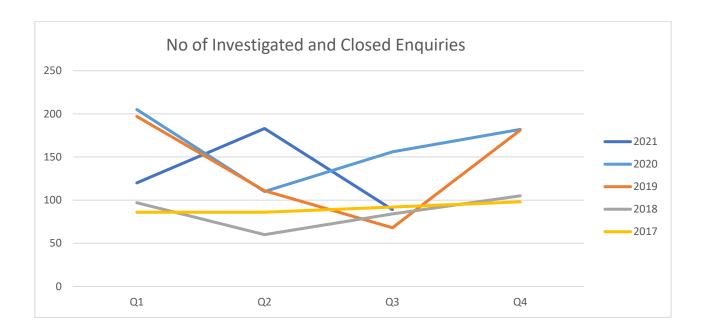


Table 6: Enforcement Enquiries – Investigated and closed

Enforcement	20	21	20	20	20	19	20	18	20	17
No of enquiries resolved/closed per	Q1	120	Q1	205	Q1	197	Q1	97	Q1	86
quarter	Q2	183	Q2	110	Q2	111	Q2	60	Q2	86
(Excludes compliance/No action &	Q3	89*	Q3	156	Q3	68	Q3	84	Q3	92
solicitor/estate agent	Q4		Q4	182	Q4	181	Q4	105	Q4	98
queries	Total	392*	Total	653	Total	557	Total	346	Total	362

<sup>\*</sup> Figure up to 24.09.2021





### **Enforcement Enquiries - Covid period comparisons**

**Table 7: Enforcement Enquiries received - Covid period** 

Enforcement Enquiries received - Covid period							
COVID Pandemic - comparison	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18			
No of enquiries received between (23rd March to 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept following year) (Excludes compliance, No action & solicitor/estate agent queries)	982	859	657	617			

Table 8: Enforcement Enquiries investigated and closed - Covid period

Enforcement Enquiries investigated and closed - Covid period								
COVID Pandemic - comparison	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18				
No of enquiries closed between (23 <sup>rd</sup> March to 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept following year) (Excludes compliance, No action & solicitor/estate agent queries)	853	828	626	523				

### Table 9: Enforcement Enquiries – Summary of Enquiries Received/Closed

(Excludes compliance, No action & solicitor/estate agent queries)	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Enquiries Received	520*	604	496	402	406
Of these the number closed in	281*	393	323	262	262
the same year	54%*	64%	65%	66%	65%
Of those closed above the average working days taken to resolve	26*	26	34	42	34
No of Open Enquiries at the	239*	219	171	137	144
end of the year	46%*	36%	35%	34%	35%
No of Enquiries currently open as of 24.09.2021	239*	102*	70*	23*	5*

<sup>\*</sup> Figures based on records up to 24.09.2021

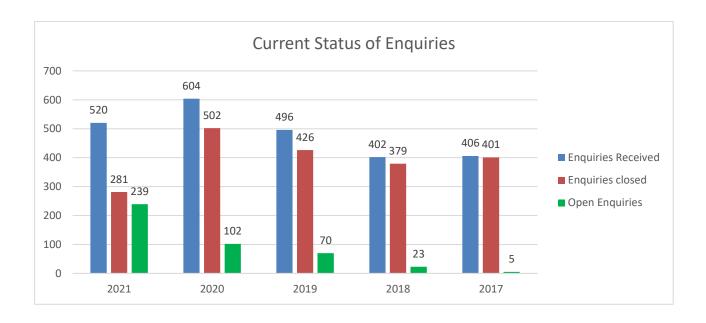




Table 10: Enforcement/Breach of Condition Notices – Served

Notice Type	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
No of Enforcement notices	4*	4	2	4	2
No of Breach of Condition	0*	0	0	0	0
notices					

<sup>\*</sup> Figures up to 24.09.2021

Case Reference	Address	Notice Type	Date issued	Compliance Date
S.20/0680/UNBWK	New house at Site of Former Verona Cottage Sticky Lane Hardwicke	Enforcement Notice	23.09.2021	29.07.2022 (subject to no appeal)
S.19/0074/UNBWK	Land Opposite New Inn Waterley Bottom North Nibley	Enforcement Notice	03.03.2021	21.04.22 (appeal dismissed)
S.21/0033/UENG	Horizons Main Road Whiteshill	Enforcement Notice	25.02.2021	29.06.21
S.19/0184/UNBWK	The Wad Damery Lane Berkeley	Enforcement Notice	16.02.2021	05.04.22 (appeal dismissed)
S.19/0517/BRCON	Crown Inn, High Street, Minchinhampton	Listed Building Enforcement Notice	19.08.2020	Notice complied with
S.19/0074/UNBWK	Land Opposite New Inn, Waterley Bottom, North Nibley	Enforcement Notice	21.02.2020	Notice nullified at appeal
S.19/0332/UENG	Lot 1 & 2 Waterley Bottom, North Nibley	Enforcement Notice	14.02.2020	Appeal against notice dismissed. 26 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
S.14/0453/UNLB	Delacy Cottage, The Street, Frampton On Severn	Listed Building Enforcement Notice	14.02.2020	4 <sup>th</sup> May 2022

