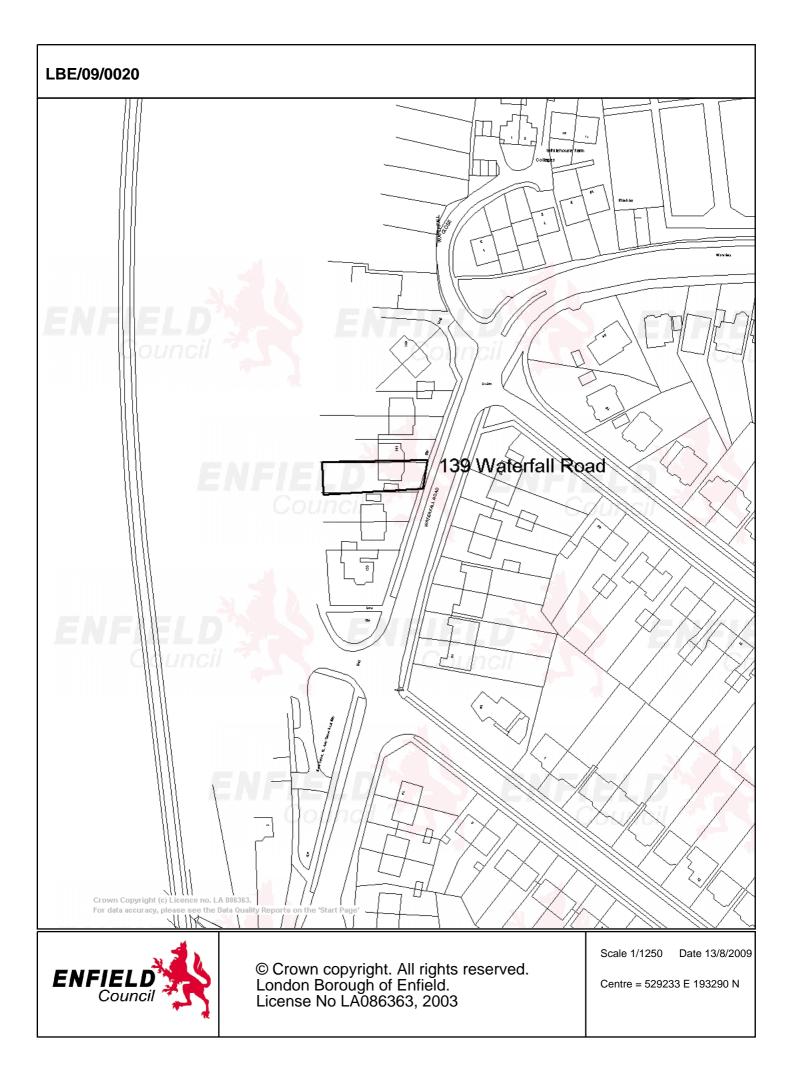
PLANNING COMMITTEE - 26th August 2009





Application Number: LBE/09/0020 Date of Registration: 15th May 2009 Ward: Southgate Green

Contact: Robert Lancaster 4019

Location: 139 and 130, WATERFALL ROAD, LONDON, N14 7JN

Proposal: Widening of vehicular access to both properties.

Applicant Name & Address:

Mr Hussain Rab, Highway Services - LBE ENFIELD COUNCIL DEPOT 7, MELLING DRIVE ENFIELD EN1 4BS

Agent Name & Address:

Recommendation: In accordance with Regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General) Regulations 1992, planning permission be deemed to be **GRANTED** subject to the following condition:

1. C51A Time Limited Permission

Site and Surroundings

Waterfall Road is an adopted highway linking Southgate Green to Arnos Grove and New Southgate. The properties fronting the road on its southern side are semi-detached residential dwellings with existing vehicular crossovers. Nearby are the Walker Cricket Ground and Old Southgate Cemetery both of which lies within the Southgate Green Conservation Area, the boundary of which runs along the northern side of Waterfall Road.

Proposal

Permission is sought for the widening of vehicle crossings at Nos. 130 and 139, Waterfall Road.

At No.130, the proposal involves widening the crossover by 1.2m to create a 6m shared crossover used by both No.128 & 130.

At No.139, the proposal involves an increase of 1m in width of the existing crossover giving a total crossing width of 4m.

Relevant History

Planning permission was granted in February 2009 for the widening of existing crossovers at Nos 104,106,134 and 144, Waterfall Road (ref: LBE/08/2223) and at Nos. 124 & 132 Waterfall Road (ref: LBE/09/0010).

Consultations

<u>Public</u>

Consultation letters were sent to 4 neighbouring properties. No objections have been received.

External: None

Internal: None

Relevant Policies

London Plan

4B.8 Respect local context and character

Unitary Development Plan Policies

(I)GD1	Regard to surroundings
(I)GD2	Development to improve the environment
(II)GD3	Aesthetic and functional design
(II)GD8	Access and Servicing
(II)T13	Creation or improvement of an access onto the public highway
(II)T17	Give high priority to the needs of pedestrians.
(II)C30	Development adjacent to Conservation Areas

Other Material Considerations

Revised Technical Standards for Footway Crossovers

Analysis

Impact on the Character and Appearance of the Surrounding Area

The widening of the two existing crossovers will form part of a comprehensive programme of street works being implemented by the Council's Highway Services which incorporate the works previously approved under ref: LBE/08/2223 and LBE/09/0010. The resultant appearance of the enlarged crossovers will be consistent with these approved works and thus fully integrated into the street scene. It is also noted that the widening of the existing crossovers does not involve any loss of existing street trees.

Impact on Highway Safety

The widening of the existing crossovers enables cars to better access the existing forecourt that is used to provide off street parking. No objections are raised in terms of highway safety.

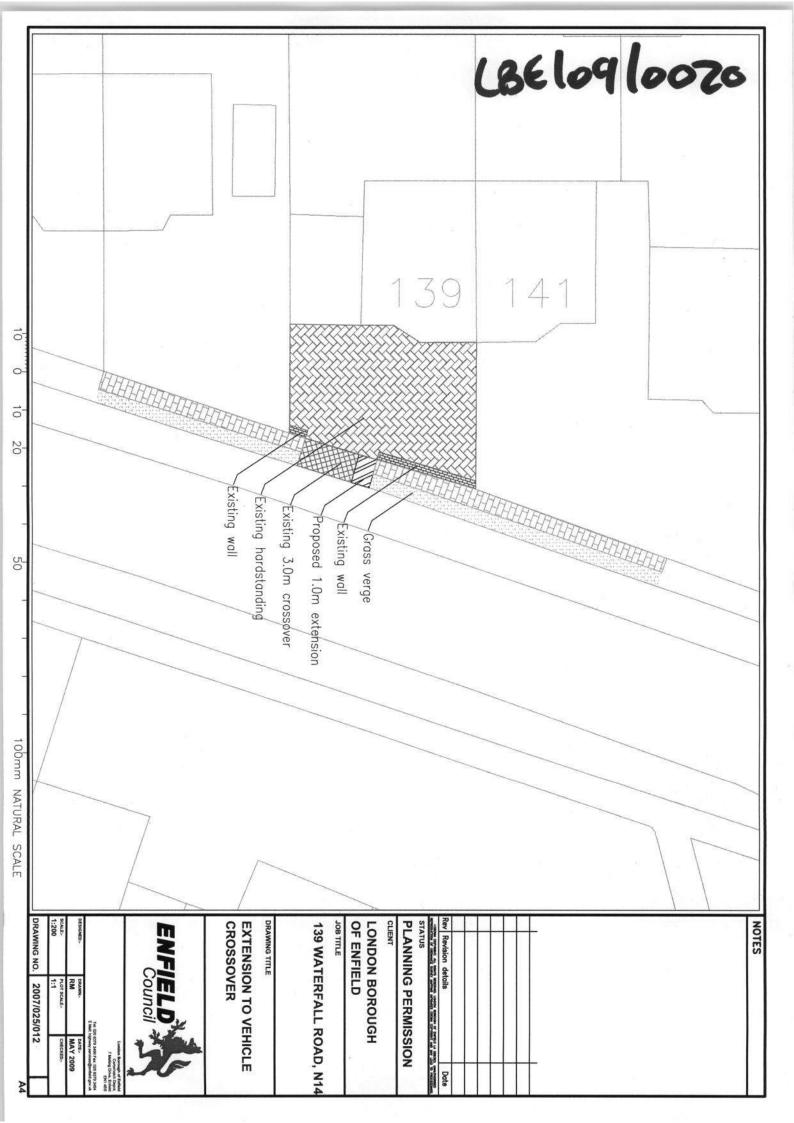
Sustainable Design and Construction

Whilst improvements to drainage through the use of porous materials and soakaways can often be sought in cases involving new vehicle access and off street parking, both forecourts are already hard surfaced and no alterations are proposed. No improvements can be secured in this instance.

Conclusion

In the light of the above it is recommended that consent be approved for the following reason:

The proposed widening of the vehicle crossings will not give rise to conditions prejudicial to the free flow and safety of traffic on the adjoining highway and will not detract from the from the character or appearance of the street scene or from the residential amenities of the neighbouring occupiers having regard to Policies (I)GD1, (I)GD2, (II)GD3, (II)GD6 and (II)T13 of the Unitary Development Plan and Policy 4B.8 of the London Plan.



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Application Number: LBE/09/0022 Date of Registration: 20th July 2009 Ward: Jubilee

Contact: Rob Singleton 3837

Location: TURIN GROVE SCHOOL, 34, TURIN ROAD, LONDON, N9 8DQ

<u>Proposal</u>: Installation of 3m high powder coated weld mesh fencing to part of east boundary with two 4m wide access gates and 3m high weld mesh fence with pedestrian gates to area south west of sports hall.

Applicant Name & Address:

Peter Dyster, Edu.& Leisure, London Borough of Enfield P.O.Box 51, Civic Centre Silver Street Enfield EN1 3XB

Agent Name & Address:

Mr Roy Mackie, Architectural Services CIVIC CENTRE SILVER STREET ENFIELD MIDDLESEX EN1 3XA

Recommendation: In accordance with Regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General) Regulations 1992, planning permission be deemed to be **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:

1. C51A Time Limited Permission

Site and Surroundings

Turin Grove School is surrounded by residential development on all sides with Nightingale Road to the east, St Mary's Road to the south and St Joseph's Road and Elmsworth Close to the west. Turin Road is to the north.

The main existing vehicle and pedestrian access to the main school building is from Turin Road, although the Delta City Learning Centre is independently accessed via a former emergency access off Nightingale Road.

Proposal

Permission is sought for the installation of replacement 3m high weldmesh security fencing to part of the eastern boundary with two 4m wide access gates. To the south-west of the site abutting the sports hall additional 3m high weldmesh security fencing will also be installed with associated pedestrian access gates. The security fences and access gates will have a green powder coated finish.

Relevant Planning History

The subject site has extensive planning history, however, the most relevant to this application are:

LBE/02/0010 – Erection of single storey detached building for use as City Learning Centre, access road and parking was granted in March 2003

LBE/07/0018 – Replace exiting west boundary fence with 3m high weldmesh security fence, construction of 8 new parking spaces together with associated works and new 3m high weld mesh security fence with two pedestrian access gates alongside the existing paved area was granted in February 2008

Consultations

<u>Public</u>

Consultation letters were sent to 126 adjoining properties. In addition notice was also displayed at the site. No objections have been received

Internal: None.

External: None.

Relevant Policies

London Plan

3A.14 Addressing the needs of London's diverse population	
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- 3A.21 Education Facilities
- 4B.5 Creating an inclusive environment
- 4B.7 Respect local context and communities

Unitary Development Plan

- (I)GD1 Regard to surroundings
- (I)GD2 Development to improve the environment
- (II)GD3 Aesthetic and functional design
- (II)GD6 Traffic generation
- (II)GD8 Access & servicing
- (II)T13 Access onto existing highways
- (II)T16 Pedestrian and disabled access
- (II)CS1 To facilitate through the planning process the work of various community services
- (II)CS2 To ensure development for community services complies with the Council's environmental polices

Other Material Considerations

PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Communities

Analysis

Background

Approval for the erection of 3m high weldmesh security fence was conferred to the Delta City Learning Centre under ref: LBE/07/0018. The proposed development does not differ in terms of the size and design of enclosure and thus a principle for this form of fencing has been established.

The application is resultant from a recent spate of thefts from the premises and an identified need to replace and upgrade the fencing enclosing the site.

Impact on Character and Appearance of Surrounding Area

Weld mesh fencing of the colour and style proposed, although 3m in height, has been accepted at other school locations and indeed as a suitable means of enclosure for the Delta City Learning Centre that forms part of the site.

Given the location of the proposed fencing to the rear of properties on Nightingale Road to the east and Elmsworth Close and St Mary's Road to the south-west, the proposed fencing will not be visible from main carriageways abutting the site or the existing street scene. It will therefore have minimal effect on the character and appearance of the surrounding area.

To the east of the site, in light of the separation of the proposed fencing from the rear boundaries of the adjacent residential properties of no less that 19.4m, the principle for an enclosure of this type established under ref: LBE/07/0018, the visual permeability and sympathetic colouring of the fencing, it is considered that it would not appear unduly solid or obtrusive when viewed from this aspect. In addition, the permeability of the fencing would maintain the 'green' outlook and the contribution of the open playing field to the character and appearance of the surrounding area.

To the south-west, the relationship of the proposed development to the surrounding area is notably different with the fencing sited within 6m of the nearest property lining St Joseph's Road and built to the rear boundary of No.133 St Mary's Road. However, in both instances the impact of the built form would be limited to an oblique view of the fencing and the overall mitigation afforded by the permeability of the enclosure and sympathetic colouring of the weldmesh would ensure that its impact is negligible.

Moreover, there are a number of trees located along each of the boundaries with a particular concentration of vegetation to the south-western boundary. The presence of these trees will continue to contribute to the visual amenity of the site as well as providing a natural screen to the fencing thus softening its overall impact.

Residential Amenity

A number of the surrounding residential dwellings back onto the school site. Whist it is acknowledged that the erection of the fence of the height proposed will be an additional feature in the rear aspect of all properties over the playing field, it is considered that this distance taking into account the design and appearance, is sufficient to mitigate against any undue impact or loss of outlook arising from its presence.

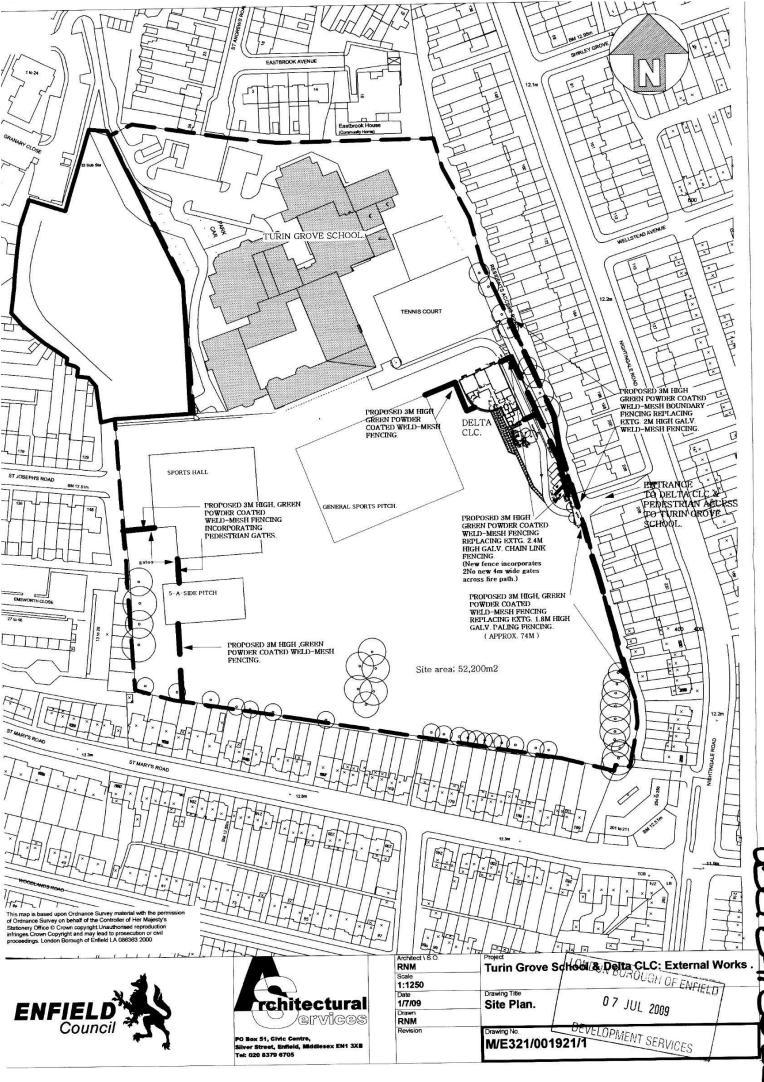
Highway Safety

Neither the siting or design of the fencing raises issues regarding sightlines at the primary access road servicing the site nor in general, issues of highway safety relating to the use of the associated car park.

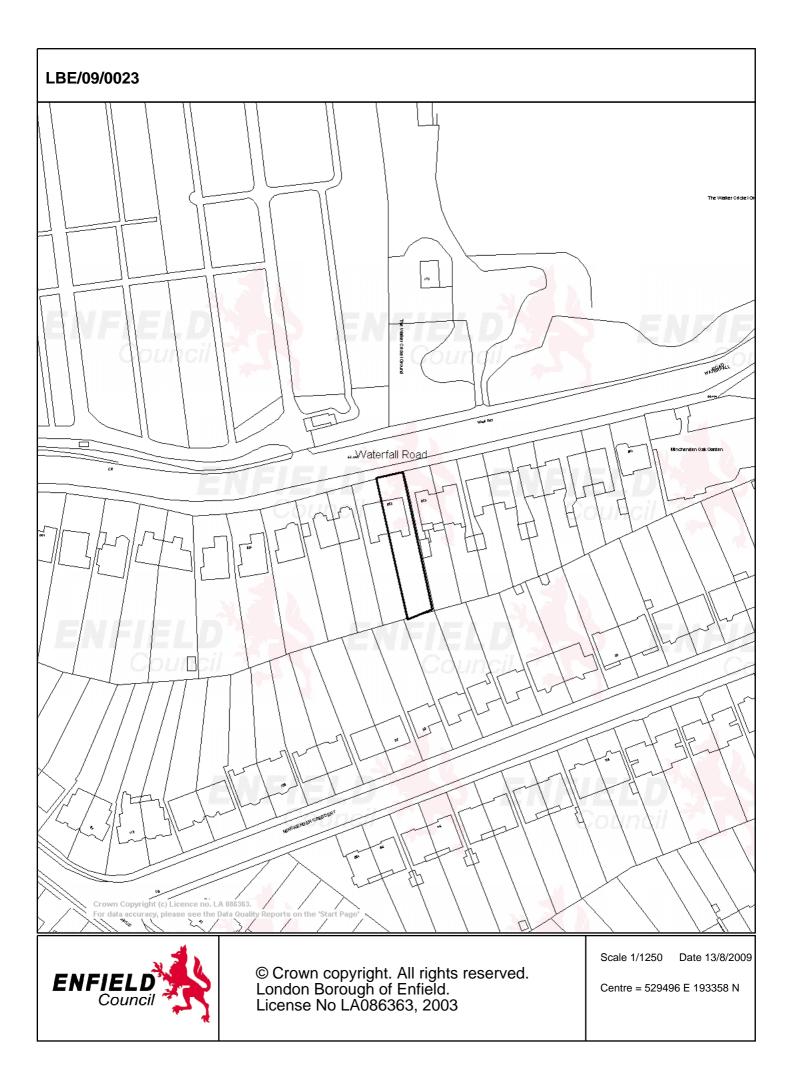
Conclusion

In light of the above, it is recommended that planning permission be GRANTED for the following reasons:

- 1 The proposed security fences and pedestrian access gates, due to their size, siting and open design, does not detract from the character and appearance of the surrounding area having regard to Policies (I)GD1 and (II)GD3 of the Unitary Development Plan.
- 2 The proposed security fences and pedestrian access gates, due to their siting and open design, does not give rise to conditions prejudicial to the amenities enjoyed by neighbouring residential properties having regard to Policies (I)GD1 and (II) GD3 of the Unitary Development Plan.
- 3 The proposed security fences and pedestrian access gates, due to their siting and open design, does not give rise to conditions prejudicial to highway safety having regard to Policies (II)GD6 and (II)GD8 of the Unitary Development Plan.









Application Number: LBE/09/0023 Date of Registration: 7th July 2009 Ward: Southgate Green

Contact: Kate Perry 3846

Location: 68, 128 and 137, WATERFALL ROAD, LONDON, N14 7LB

Proposal: Extension to existing vehicular crossover at 128 and 137 Waterfall Road and new vehicular access to no. 68 Waterfall Road.

Applicant Name & Address:

Mr Hussain Rab, LBE- Highway Services ENFIELD COUNCIL DEPOT 7, MELLING DRIVE ENFIELD EN1 4BS

Agent Name & Address:

RECOMMENDATION: In accordance with Regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General) Regulations 1992, planning permission be deemed to be **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:

- 1. C57 Sustainability
- 2. C51A Time Limited Permission

Site and Surroundings

Waterfall Road is an adopted highway linking Southgate Green to Arnos Grove and New Southgate. The properties fronting the road on its southern side are semi-detached residential dwellings with existing vehicular crossovers. Nearby are the Walker Cricket Ground and Old Southgate Cemetery both of which lies within the Southgate Green Conservation Area, the boundary of which runs along the northern side of Waterfall Road.

Proposal

Permission is sought for the widening of vehicle crossings at Nos. 128 and 137, Waterfall Road together with a new vehicular crossover at No. 68 waterfall Road.

At No.128, the proposal involves widening the existing crossover by 1.5m to create a 6.3 m shared crossover used by both Nos.128 & 130. An existing tree will be removed and replaced as part of the wider programme of works.

At No.137, the proposal involves an increase of 1.5m in width of the existing crossover giving a total crossing width of 4.5m.

At No.68, the proposed vehicular crossover would be 4.8 metres wide

Relevant History

Planning permission was granted in February 2009 for the widening of existing crossovers at Nos 104,106,134 and 144, Waterfall Road (ref: LBE/08/2223) and at Nos. 124 & 132 Waterfall Road (ref: LBE/09/0010).

Consultations

<u>Public</u>

Consultation letters were sent to 4 neighbouring properties. No objections have been received.

External: None

Internal: None

Relevant Policies

London Plan

4B.8 Respect local context and character

Unitary Development Plan Policies

(I)GD1	Regard to surroundings
(I)GD2	Development to improve the environment
(II)GD3	Aesthetic and functional design
(II)GD8	Access and Servicing
(II)T13	Creation or improvement of an access onto the public highway
(II)T17	Give high priority to the needs of pedestrians.
(II)C30	Development adjacent to Conservation Areas

Other Material Considerations

Revised Technical Standards for Footway Crossovers

Analysis

Impact on the Character and Appearance of the Surrounding Area

The widening of the two existing crossovers and the introduction of an additional crossover will form part of a comprehensive programme of street works being implemented by the Council's Highway Services which incorporate works previously approved under ref: LBE/08/2223 and LBE/09/0010. The resultant appearance of the enlarged crossovers and additional crossover will be consistent with these approved works and thus, will be fully integrated into the street scene.

Loss of Street Tree

The proposed widening of the crossover at No 128 involves the loss of an existing street tree. The Council's arboriculturalist has advised that the tree (along with others on Waterfall Road) has outgrown its location. As part of the wider programme of works being implemented therefore, it is proposed to replace this street tree and overall, there will be an increase from 6 to 10 trees along this section of Waterfall Road.

On this basis, it is considered the proposed works would not affect the character or appearance of the street scene or the setting of the adjacent Conservation Area.

Impact on Highway Safety

The widening of the existing crossovers and the formation of the additional crossover enables cars to better access the existing forecourts that are used to provide off street parking. No objections are therefore raised in terms of highway safety.

Sustainable Design and Construction

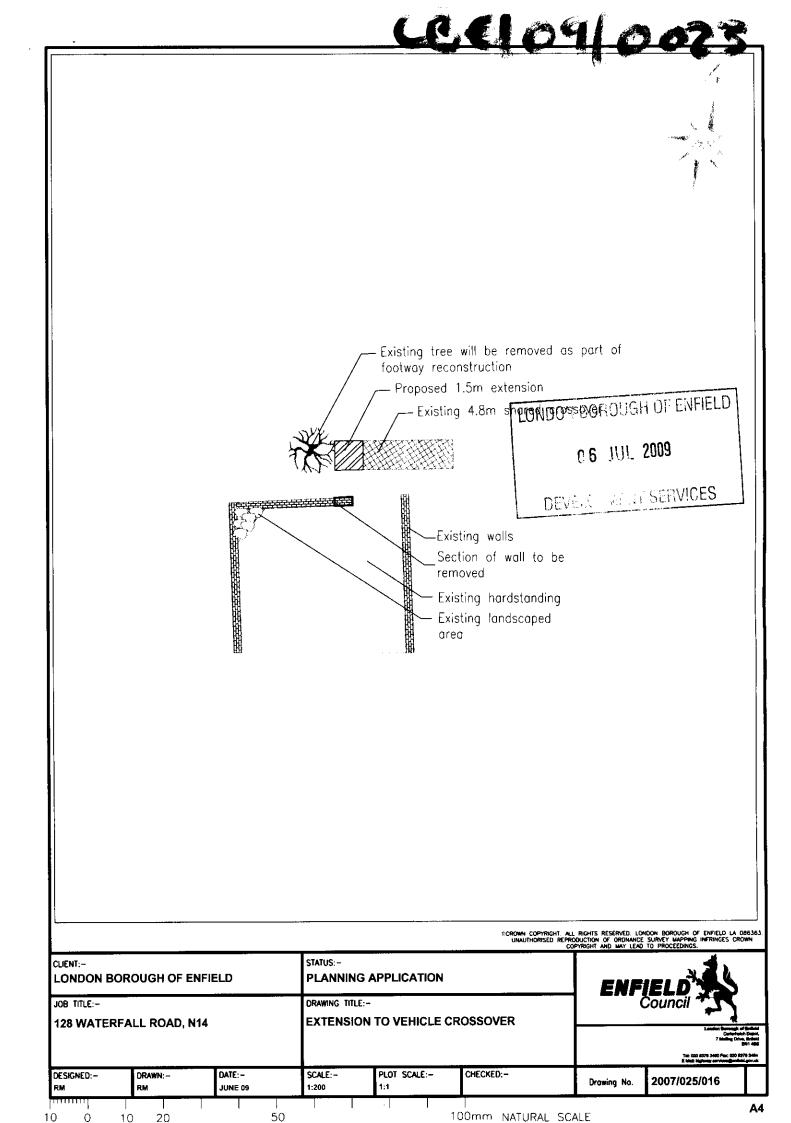
Whilst improvements to drainage through the use of porous materials and soakaways can often be sought in cases involving new vehicle access and off street parking, both proposals for the enlargement of the existing crossovers involve existing forecourts and are already hard surfaced. As no alterations are proposed to the forecourts, no improvements can be secured in this instance.

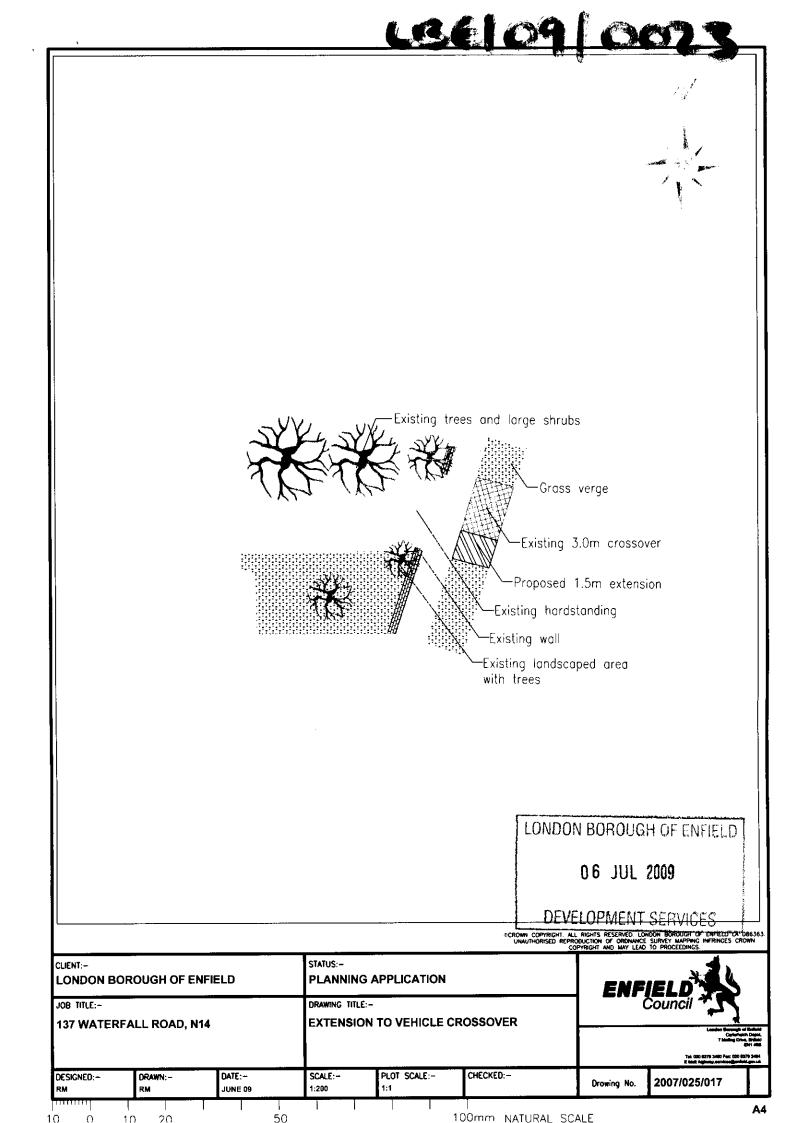
However, with regard to No 68 Waterfall Road, the existing grassed surface is being replaced by a shingle surface which is porous. This facilitates sustainable drainage and is therefore acceptable

Conclusion

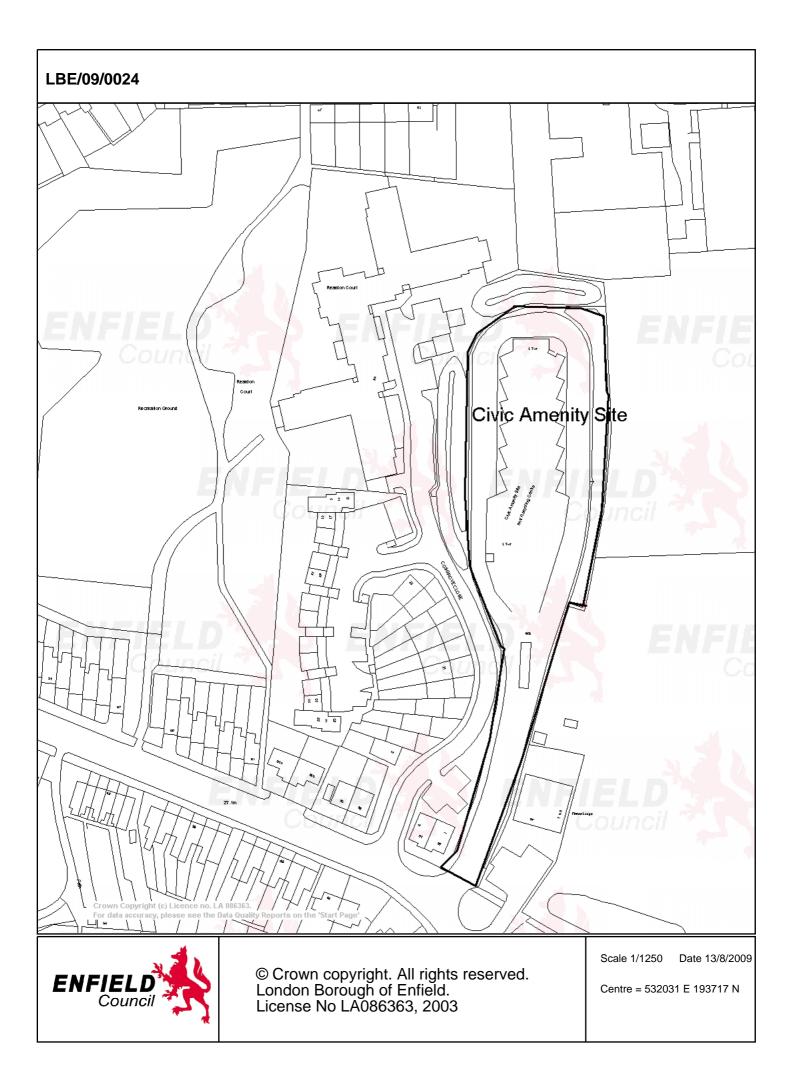
In the light of the above it is recommended that consent be approved for the following reason:

The proposed widening of the vehicle crossings and the creation of the new crossover will not give rise to conditions prejudicial to the free flow and safety of traffic on the adjoining highway and will not detract from the from the character or appearance of the street scene or from the residential amenities of the neighbouring occupiers having regard to Policies (I)GD1, (I)GD2, (II)GD3, (II)GD6 and (II)T13 of the Unitary Development Plan and Policy 4B.8 of the London Plan.





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Application Number: LBE/09/0024 Date of Registration: 8th July 2009 Ward: Winchmore Hill

Contact: David Warden 3931

Location: Barrowell Green Recycling Centre, Barrowell Green, London, N21

Proposal: Extension of opening hours from 07.45 hrs to 19.45 hrs on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Applicant Name & Address:

Nicky Fielder, Waste Management Civic Centre Silver Street Enfield EN1

Agent Name & Address:

Recommendation: That in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General Regulations) 1992 consent is deemed to be **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the commencement of development, details of a management plan aimed a minimising noise and disturbance at the site, including a review of working practices and details of activities which shall be restricted from taking place in the evenings, shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The management plan shall operate throughout the duration of this permission.

Reason: To ensure the use of the site does not prejudice the amenities of occupiers of nearby dwellings

2. The premises shall only be open for working between the hours of 08:00 - 16:15 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday and 08:00 - 19:45 Tuesday and Friday.

Reason: To safeguard the amenities of the occupiers of nearby residential properties.

3. This permission is granted for a limited period expiring on 30th November 2010 when the extended opening hours to 19:45 on Tuesdays and Friday hereby permitted shall be discontinued and/ opening hours shall revert to 16:15.

Reason: to enable the Local Planning Authority to monitor the effects of the increased opening hours having regard to the effects on the amenities of neighbouring and nearby residential properties, as well as the impact on the local road network.

Site and Surroundings

The existing recycling centre is located on the north side of Barrowell Green. The surrounding area is primarily residential, with properties along the western boundary and along Barrowell Green itself. Winchmore School and Barrowell Green playing fields are situated along the eastern boundary. Access is from Barrowell Green.

The site is currently opens from 07:15 to 16:15 Tuesdays to Fridays, 08:00 to 16:15 on Saturday and Sundays and is closed on Mondays.

Proposal

Permission is sought for an extension of opening hours on Tuesdays and Fridays only from the current closing time of 16:15 to the proposed time of 19.45 hrs. Permission is initially sought for a period of 12 months.

Relevant Planning Decisions

LBE/04/0016 Extension of operating hours to 19:45 on Tuesdays and Fridays, granted in August 2004 for a temporary period of 12 months.

Consultation

<u>Public</u>

Consultation letters were issued to 56 neighbouring properties. In addition, a site notice has been displayed at the site. In response, two letters of objection have been received raising all or some of the following points:

- Adjacent residential dwellings are directly affected by noise
- Noise levels are constantly high throughout opening hours, resulting in sleep deprivation
- Extended hours would further impede on the limited quite time that the site is closed
- 19:45 is well outside normal working hours
- Unfair infliction on surrounding residents
- Site is surrounded by residential properties
- Dust and poor air quality
- Vibrations from HGV movements
- Impact on nearby nursing home
- Impact on playing fields and schools
- Previous objections to the operation of the site were replied to
- Relocation of the site away from the residential area is sought
- Opening before 9:30 am is unnecessary
- Health hazards from rats, foxes, snakes and other pests

External None

Internal None

Relevant Policies

London Plan (2008)

- 3B.1 Developing London's economy
- 3C.23 Parking Strategy
- 4A.19 Improving air quality
- 4A.20 Reducing noise and enhancing soundscapes
- 4A.21 Waste strategic policy and targets
- 4A.22 Spatial policies for waste management
- 4A.23 Criteria for the selection of sites for waste management and disposal
- Annex 4 Parking standards

Unitary Development Plan

(I)GD1 (I)GD2	Regard to Surroundings / Integrated into Local Community Quality of Life and Visual Amenity
(II)GD3	Character / Design
(II)GD6	Traffic Generation
(II)GD8	Site Access and Servicing
(I)EN6	Minimise the environmental impact of all developments
(II)EN29	To ensure the recycling of as much waste material as possible.
(II)EN30	Land, air, noise and water pollution
(I)E1	Enfield as a Location for Business
(I)E2	Enhance, bring into use and retain employment uses
(I)E4	Most efficient use of employment land
(II)E2	Concentrate B1 – B8 uses within Primary Industrial Areas
(II)E15	Noise generated by industrial and warehousing development

Local Development Framework - Core Strategy Preferred Options

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to replace the UDP with a Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF Core Strategy will set out the spatial vision and strategic objectives for the Borough. The Core Strategy is at an early stage in its adoption process. As this continues the weight given to it will grow and the relevant objectives are reported to demonstrate the degree to which the proposals are consistent with the emerging policy direction.

SO3 Protect and enhance Enfield's environmental quality;

- SO5 Waste minimisation. recycling, management and treatment
- SO21 Sustainable Transport

Other Material Considerations

PPS1 D	elivering Sustainable	Communities
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- PPG4 Industrial, commercial development and small firms
- PPS10 Sustainable Waste Management
- PPG13 Transport
- PPS23 Pollution control
- PPG24 Noise
- PPS25 Flood Risk

Analysis

Background

There is no planning history in respect of the initial use of the site for waste purposes. However, there has been a waste use at the site since at least the 1940-50's, which is confirmed by a 1946 aerial photograph. The land was transferred to the Council from the Greater London Council in the 1980's. The facility in its current form appears on the 1991 aerial photograph, but was not present in 1981 edition. Various permissions were granted between 1983 and 1987 for the adjoining housing.

Whilst there are no conditions restricting hours at the site currently, planning permission has been sought to ensure transparency. The application presents an opportunity to formally control the hours at the site.

The proposed extended hours would increase the availability of recycling facilities to the public, which is supported by both UDP and London Plan policies. In addition, permission was previously granted for a temporary period in 2004, although it was never implemented. As such, subject to the detailed consideration of the impacts on residential amenity and highway safety below, the principle of development is considered acceptable.

Residential amenity

The proposal involves a three and a half hour increase in opening time from 16:15 to 19:45 on Tuesdays and Fridays. Residents concerns regarding the potential for increased noise and disturbance are noted especially as there will be more residents at home during this time. However, this impact must also be weighed against the benefits to the environment of such a facility which the Council is required to provide. Moreover, its increased use is supported by local, regional and national policy.

It must also be recognised that there is a longstanding waste use at the site and there is no readily available alternative location. Planning permission was previously granted for a temporary period in 2004.

It is considered that some of the concerns could be addressed through the implementation of a Management Plan that sought, wherever possible, to restrict noisier activities to the existing operating hours. Moreover, to mitigate the impact of the increased hours, such a Management Plan could cover activities throughout the operating hours and take opportunities to minimise disturbance. It is noted that residents have raised particular concerns about early morning operations. As such, a condition is proposed requiring a review of working practices and to identify activities that would be restricted from taking place in the evenings.

Having regard to all of the above matters, including the above mitigation measures, it is considered, on balance, that the increase in noise and disturbance during the extended hours would not be sufficient to warrant refusal in this instance. However, it will be necessary to restrict the permission to a temporary period. It is considered that a 1 year period would be appropriate, although there will be the need to discharge the above management plan condition before the extension of hours. As such, a total of 15 months is proposed.

Highway safety

The proposal would increase the movements taking place during the afternoon peak hours on Tuesdays and Fridays. However, the increased hours would also be likely to spread out some of the traffic movements over a larger number of hours. This has the potential to reduce traffic queuing to enter the site.

Overall, having regard to the above factors, it is not considered that the limited increase during peak hours would warrant refusal of this application. Moreover, the time limited permission will provide an opportunity to monitor the impact on surrounding highways. As such, this element of the proposal is considered acceptable.

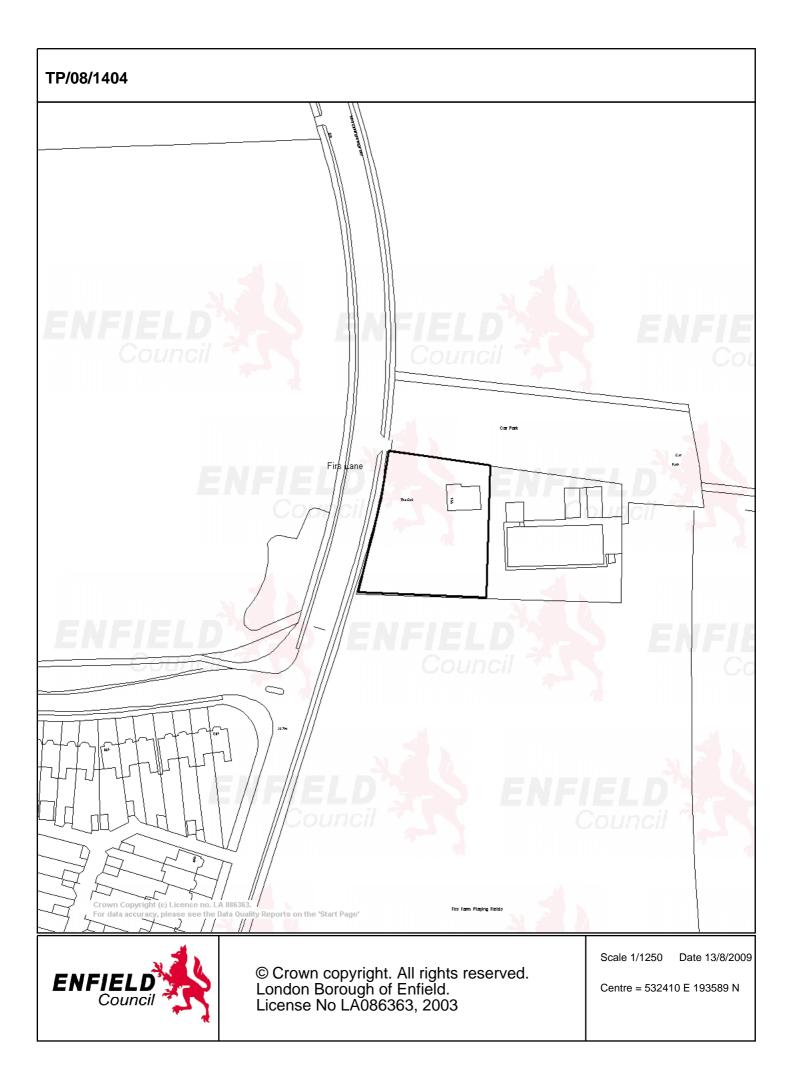
Conclusion

In the light of the above assessment, it is considered that the proposed be approved for the following reasons:

The proposed extension of hours would improve the availability of recycling facilities, having regard to policy (II)EN29 of the Unitary Development Plan, as well as policies 4A.21, 4A.22 and 4A.23 of the London Plan (2008) and the objectives of PPS1, PPG4 and PPS10.

The proposed extension of hours would not detract from the character or visual amenities of the surrounding area or unduly affect the amenities, in particular in respect of noise and disturbance or odour, of adjoining or nearby residential properties having regard to Policies (I)GD1, (I)GD2, (II)GD3, (I)EN6, (II)EN30 and (II)E15 of the Unitary Development Plan, as well as policies 4A.19 and 4A.20 of the London Plan (2008) and the objectives of PPS1, PPS3, PPG4, PPS10 and PPG24.

The proposed extension of hours, including the retention of existing parking and servicing facilities would not give rise to unacceptable on street parking, congestion or highway safety issues, having regard to Policies (II)GD6 and (II)GD8 as well as Policy 3C.23 of the London Plan and PPG13.



<u>Application Number</u>: TP/08/1404 <u>Ward</u>: Bush Hill Park <u>**Date of Registration**</u>: 15th July 2008

Contact: Robert Lancaster 4019

Location: THE OAK, 144, FIRS LANE, LONDON, N21 2PJ

<u>Proposal</u>: Demolition of existing building and erection of a detached single storey building comprising care home for 4 residents with learning and physical disabilities, with ancillary carer and office facilities.

Applicant Name & Address:

Woodgrove Care Trinominis House 125-129, High Street Edgware Middlesex HA8 7DB

Agent Name & Address:

Mr Val Flemming, Harrison Architects 36, Nightingale Lane Hornsey London N8 7QU

Recommendation: That the Planning Committee resolve to **GRANT** planning permission and subject to the application being referred to the Government Office for London as a departure from the adopted Unitary development Plan and the Office raising no objection; the Head of Development Services be authorised to grant planning permission subject to the following conditions

- 1. C05 Details of Development Landscaping
- 2. C07 Details of Materials
- 3. C09 Details of Hard Surfacing
- 4. C10 Details of Levels
- 5. C19 Details of Refuse Storage
- 6. C22 Details of Const. Vehicle Wheel Cleaning
- 7. C11 Details of Enclosure
- 8. C18 Details of Tree Protection
- 9. C46 No Subdivision
- 10. C48 Restricted Use

11. C57 Sustainability

12. C51A Time Limited Permission

Site and Surroundings

The site is located on the eastern side of Firs Lane and bounded on all sides (with the exception of the road frontage) by Firs Farm Playing Fields. The playing fields and the site itself are designated Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) with the site containing significant landscaping on all sides

Presently, there is a detached single storey dwelling situated in the north-east corner of the site, last occupied around 2004 for residential purposes. The property is currently vacant and is now a focus for anti social behavior. To the east of the site there is a large structure ancillary to the playing fields. Immediately to the north is a car park available for users of Firs Farm Playing Fields.

Vehicular access to the site is directly off Firs Lane. There is a secondary access from the adjacent car park to the north.

Proposal

Permission is sought for the demolition of the existing residential building and the erection of a detached single storey building for use as a care home for residents with learning and physical disabilities. The proposed building would also contain ancillary carer and office facilities in addition to the facilities for the residents.

The proposed structure would be sited to the rear of the site with parking to the front, accessed from the existing entrance off Firs Lane. The existing soft landscaping to all sides of the site would be retained and enhanced.

Relevant Planning Decisions

TP/01/1165 – an outline application for the erection of four detached houses and garages was refused in April 2002. The reason for refusal was as follows:

The proposed development of four detached houses and garages represents inappropriate development for a site within a designated area of Metropolitan Open Land and in the absence of any acknowledged 'very special circumstances', the proposal would detract from the character and physical structure of the Metropolitan Open Land in this location and the appearance of the site within the street scene and surrounding area to the detriment of the wider environment in terms of quality of life and visual amenity. This would be contrary to Policies II(O1), II(O2), II(O5), 1(GD1), 1(GD2), II(GD3) of LB of Enfield Unitary Development Plan.

TP/05/2144 – an application for the erection of a two-storey building to provide 8 training apartments was withdrawn without a decision in February 2006.

Consultations

Public:

Consultation letters were sent to 6 neighbouring properties. In addition, notice was published in the local press and displayed at the site. No replies were received.

Internal

Adult and Social Care raise no objection.

Transportation raises no objection.

External:

Enfield Primary Care Trust Health raises no objection to the proposal.

Thames Water raises no objection to the proposal.

The Mayor of London is not required to be notified notwithstanding the status of the application as a departure, because the proposal does not involve the construction of a building with a floorspace of more than 1,000 sq.m

Any other comments will be reported at the meeting

Relevant Policy

London Plan

- 3D.10 Metropolitan Open Land
- 3A.3 Maximising the Potential of Sites
- 3A.13 Special Needs and Specialist Housing
- 3A.18 Enhancement of Social Infrastructure and Community Facilities
- 3C.23 Parking Strategy
- 3D.14 Biodiversity and Nature Conservation
- 3D15 Trees and Woodland
- 4A.1 Tackling Climate Change
- 4A.3 Sustainable Design and Construction
- 4A.14 Sustainable Drainage
- 4B.8 Respect Local Context and Communities

Unitary Development Plan

(II)01	 resist development in Metropolitan Open Land except in very special circumstances
(II)O2	 increase recreational use and public access and seek environmental improvements having regard to nature conservation within Metropolitan Open Land
(II)C38	 resist development entailing loss of trees of acknowledged public amenity value
(II)GD1	- development appropriately located
(II)GD3	- high standard of design reflecting best aspects of areas character
(II)GD5	- requirement for landscaping and planting scheme in all development proposals
(II)GD6	- traffic likely to be generated
(II)GD8	- site access and servicing
(II)GD10	 integration of development into the economic, social and economic framework of the locality
(II)GD11	 access for people with disabilities
(I)H1	- Strategic housing Need
(I)H2	 Resist loss to existing housing stock

(II)H4 (I)H1	- Special needs housing requirements - Housing stock
(II)H6	- Balance of housing stock
(II)H8	- Residential amenity
(II)H9	- Amenity space
()	- Special needs housing
(II)H18	
(II)H22	 Identify housing requirements for persons with special needs
(II)T16	- adequate access for pedestrians and people with disabilities in all development
(II)T32	 parking facilities to take into account the need of people with disabilities
(II)CS1	- facilitate the work of community services especially in
()	regard to land requirements to ensure a full range of services and facilities may be provided
(II)CS2	- to ensure design and siting of buildings of service providers
	accords with Council's environmental policies
(II)CS2	- those services that are responsibility of the Council are
	provided at optimum locations
(II)EN22	- encourage energy conservation technology in all development
(II)EN30	- regard to land, air, noise and water pollution when
	considering all development

Other Material Considerations

- PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Communities
- PPG2: Green Belts
- PPS3: Housing
- PPG17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (2002)

Local Development Framework

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to replace the UDP with a Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF Core Strategy will set out the spatial vision and strategic objectives for the Borough. The Core Strategy is at an early stage in its adoption process. As this continues the weight given to it will grow and the relevant objectives are reported to demonstrate the degree to which the proposals are consistent with the emerging policy direction.

SO3	Protect and enhance Enfield's environmental quality
SO9	New social facilities
SO10	Address social deprivation, child poverty and inequalities in health and educational attainment
SO16	Preserve the local distinctiveness
SO17	Safeguard established communities and the quality of the local environment

Analysis

Metropolitan Open Land

There are strict controls relating to development in Metropolitan Open Land with the fundamental aim being to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open: the most important characteristics being their openness and permanence. Within an established built up area such as Enfield, open space represents a finite resource. Care must therefore be taken when considering options for its future use. Consequently, there exists a strong presumption against allowing development in such locations.

Policy (II))01 seeks to resist within Metropolitan Open Land except in very special circumstances, proposals for the construction of new buildings, extensions to existing buildings of for change of use of land and existing buildings, for purposes not normally considered appropriate in Metropolitan Open Land. Policy (II)02 goes on to state that certain general uses together with associated buildings will be accepted as being appropriate in Metropolitan Open Land provided that the proposals or ancillary buildings do not damage the open nature or character of Metropolitan Open Land. Residential Care use is therefore considered to represent an appropriate form of development subject to the open nature and character of the Metropolitan Open Land being preserved and that very special circumstance exist. This approach is not inconsistent with Policy 3D.10 of the London Plan which seeks to protect MOL from inappropriate development and in so doing:

- a) protect open space to provide a clear break in the urban fabric and contributing to the green character of London;
- b) protect open space which serve the needs of Londoners outside their local area;
- c) protect open space which contains a feature or landscape of national or regional significance

Further guidance in the London Plan states that appropriate development should minimize any adverse impact on the open character of the MOL through sensitive design and siting, and be limited to small scale structures to support outdoor open space uses.

Inappropriate Development

Policy (II)O2 of the adopted Unitary Development Plan (which is a saved policy), includes educational and institutional uses as being appropriate in MOL. It is considered that the proposed care home would constitute a small institutional facility. However, there is a clear link in policy between MOL and Green Belt and it is to be afforded the same level of protection as set out in PPG2 Green Belt.

PPG2 advises that the construction of new buildings is to be considered inappropriate unless it is for the following purpose:

- a) agriculture and forestry;
- b) essential facilities for outdoor sports and recreation;
- c) limited extension, alteration or replacement of existing dwellings;
- d) limited infilling in existing villages;
- e) limited infilling or redevelopment of major existing or developed sites identified in the adopted plan.

Criterion [c] would be most applicable in this instance although it is caveated by guidance which states that the development should not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building, the extension or alteration of dwellings is not inappropriate. In addition, the replacement of existing dwellings need not be inappropriate provided the new dwelling is not materially larger than the dwelling it replaces.

However, PPG2 does not include educational and institutional uses within the classification of new development which would be appropriate in Green Belt locations. Consequently, the proposal must be considered as inappropriate development and very special circumstances need to exist before it can be supported.

Very Special Circumstances

It is clear that very special circumstances are therefore needed to justify setting aside the general presumption against development taking place on Metropolitan Open Land.

Guidance on what constitutes "very special circumstances" is contained in PPG2 wherein it states "very special circumstances to justify inappropriate development will not exist unless the harm by reason of inappropriateness and any other harm, is clearly outweighed by other considerations". In this instance, four factors exist that contribute to the establishment of very special circumstances:

- i) the continued vacancy of this residential property and the under utilisation of this previously developed land;
- ii) the established need for additional residential care facilities of this nature in the Borough;
- iii) the retention of the site's contribution to the open nature and character of the MOL;
- iv) the design of the proposed development not detract form the appearance of the site where visible and its contribution to the more open are of MOL surrounding the application site
- *i)* the continued vacancy of this residential property and the under utilisation of this previously developed land

Whilst the application site is covered by a wider MOL designation, it does constitute previously developed land due to its present residential use. Also, the site itself does not perform as open space serving the needs of the local and wider London community nor does it contain a feature of landscape of national or regional significance. However, the site does have significant tree coverage especially around the site periphery and as a result, contributes to the green character of London: another objective of the MOL designation.

Mindful of this latter objective and with regard to the criteria contained in PPG2, it is recognized that the gross internal area of the proposed building involves an increase of 165 sq.m to 280sq.m. This could be argued to represent more than a limited enlargement of over the existing building (gross internal area of 115 sq.m). However, the proposed building is centrally positioned within the site and thus, maintains the effective tree screen around the boundary. Moreover, its predominant single storey form and proposed design, would sit comfortably within this landscaped setting. As a result, given the fact that this is previously developed land where some of form of more intensive albeit limited residential development could be reasonably expected and the fact that outwardly, the contribution of the site to the wider and more open MOL would not be prejudiced.

ii) the established need for additional residential care facilities of this nature in the Borough;

The Council's Department of Adult and Social Care support the proposed development citing a clear and real need for a facility of this type that fulfils a specialist need in a modern single level form that is not currently available elsewhere in the Borough. It is considered the development would contribute to the range of community facilities available within the Borough to serve the community in keeping with the objectives of Policy (II)CS1 so that the full range of facilities and services may be provided appropriate to the needs of the Borough.

iii) The retention of the site's contribution to the open nature and character of the MOL;

As has been already been established, the site constitutes previously developed land and has significant tree coverage especially around the periphery of the site. Nevertheless, it is recognized that the resultant building would have a greater footprint and thus, potentially a greater presence in the surrounding MOL than the existing building.

It is considered that the considerable landscaping surrounding the edge of the site would mitigate the visual impact of the scheme and minimize the visual presence and impact of the scheme. As a result, there would be only limited close range views or filtered views through the tree screen. Furthermore, the scheme retains trees along the eastern boundary thus maintaining the screening of the larger neighboring structure to the east of the application site.

The screen of existing trees surrounding the site is to be retained, as is significant the Oak tree within the site. It is considered that the proposed siting of the development would not prejudice their long-term health or survival

As a result it is considered that the any harm that will arise to the open character and nature of the Metropolitan Open Land will be minimal and outweighed by the benefits associated with the proposed residential care facilities. It is also proposed that to secure additional planting around the site.

iv) the design of the proposed development not detract form the appearance of the site where visible and its contribution to the more open are of MOL surrounding the application site.

The single-storey building, would be situated to the rear of the site, some 23m from the front boundary with Firs Lane and 175m from the closest properties located on the opposite side of that lane.

The proposed building comprises of three principal elements integrated with pitched roofs. The building is 5.8m in height. The northern flank wall has a gable end. The southern flank wall has considerable glazing with solar panels on the pitched roof. The development would retain a 5m gap to the southern boundary and 12m from the northern boundary.

The proposed dwelling is considered to respect the constraints of the site, set back from the road with good spacing between the flank walls and site boundary resulting in a development that does not unduly impact on the open character of the Metropolitan Open Land.

The appearance of the building is considered to have a limited impact on the character of the area and street scene due to its interesting and sympathetic design, limited height (5.8m) and significant landscaping surrounding the edge of the site and is considered to represent an improvement over the existing structure at the site.

Due to the height and siting of the proposed development, along with the visual screen provided by the landscaping surrounding the site, it is considered not to be detrimental to the residential amenities of neighbouring residents in terms of any adverse effect on, outlook, light, privacy or general residential amenities enjoyed by neighbouring properties

Conclusion regarding the case for "Very Special Circumstances"

Very special circumstances to justify inappropriate development will not exist unless the harm by reason of the developments inappropriateness (and any other harm) is clearly outweighed by other considerations.

The UDP supports the principle that special consideration that can be given to development proposals for education and institutional uses within MOL. However, due to PPG2 and the London Plan, the proposed development is still considered to represent inappropriate development needing "very special circumstances" to be demonstrated. In this case it is considered that the following are factors which support this case:

- i) the continued vacancy of this residential property and the under utilisation of this previously developed land;
- ii) the established need for additional residential care facilities of this nature which are not available elsewhere in the Borough;
- iii) the retention of the site's open nature and character, along with screening of the larger structure to the east of the application site;
- iv) the design and minimal impact of the proposed development on the MOL

Although the proposed building is larger than that existing, within the context of this site, it is considered the development would have minimal impact on the natural and open setting of the Metropolitan Open Land. Furthermore, it is considered that any harm that may be caused is outweighed by its benefits associated with the use of the proposed development. As a result, in this case "very special circumstances" are considered to exist.

Integration with Surrounding Area

Notwithstanding the MOL designation of the surrounding area, it is considered the proposed residential care home would bean appropriate use within the wider residential context and would not affect the residential character or amenities of the locality.

Sustainable Design and Construction

The proposal incorporates a number of measures including a solar water heating system and solar roof panels sited on the south facing roof, the inclusion of a 'sedum' roof which is an insulant and the use of timber framed double glazed windows. In addition, the building is of timber construction and clad with timber boarding. The hard-surfacing parking area will be a constructed using a permeable material.

In the light of these measures, the proposal scores 78% against the Council's own sustainability assessment. It is considered that the proposal is in accordance with the objectives of Policy 4B.6 'Sustainable Design and Construction' of the London Plan.

Access and Traffic Generation,

Vehicular access to the site would be from an existing entrance onto Firs Lane adjacent to the access to the adjacent car parking area and to the north of the junction of Firs Lane and Barrowell Green. Notwithstanding the proximity of these points, the level of traffic associated with the development is considered not to be significant and there would be no highway safety concerns.

Parking and Servicing

Parking provision for the proposed development would be 4 spaces. This level of provision is considered adequate for the type and intensity of proposed use and the number of staff attending the site.

The proposal would involve an increase in the area set aside for parking and servicing. Visually, this is acceptable as the parking area would be screened from the adjoining MOL and street scene by the retained and enhanced boundary landscaping. It is considered therefore that this would have minimal presence in terms of safeguarding the character and appearance of the Metropolitan Open Land. Nevertheless, a condition is recommended to sure an appropriate surface and construction is employed to maximize sustainable surface water run off.

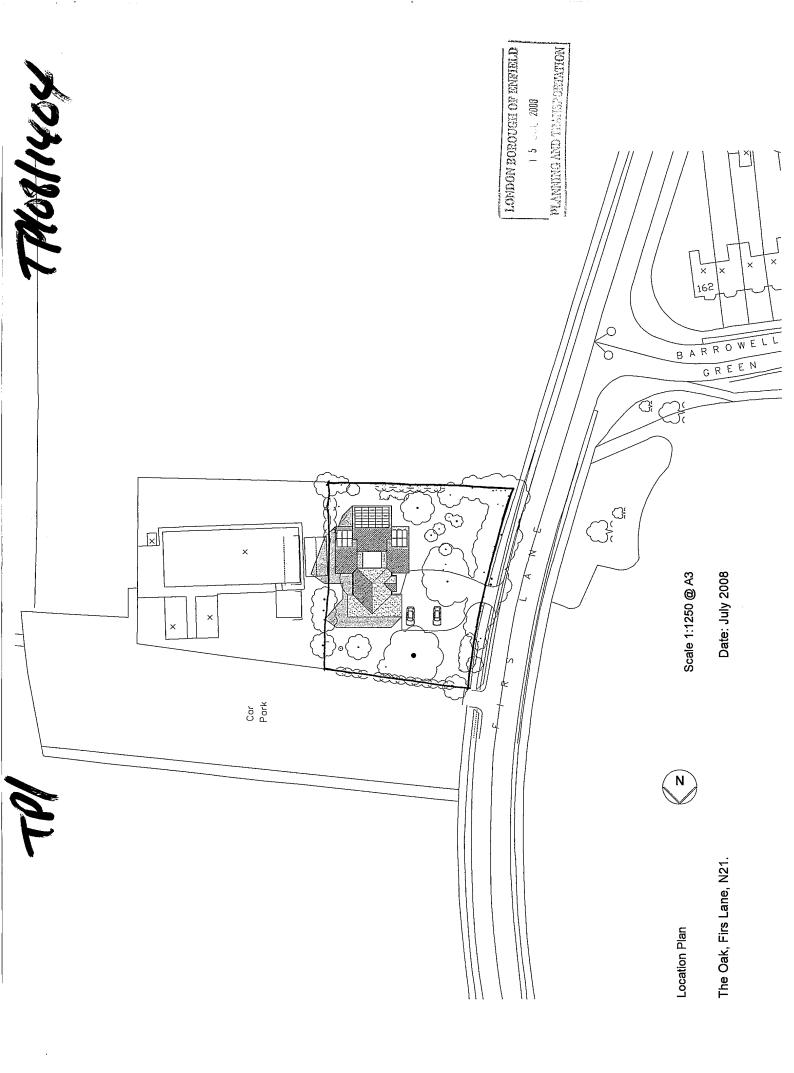
Conclusion

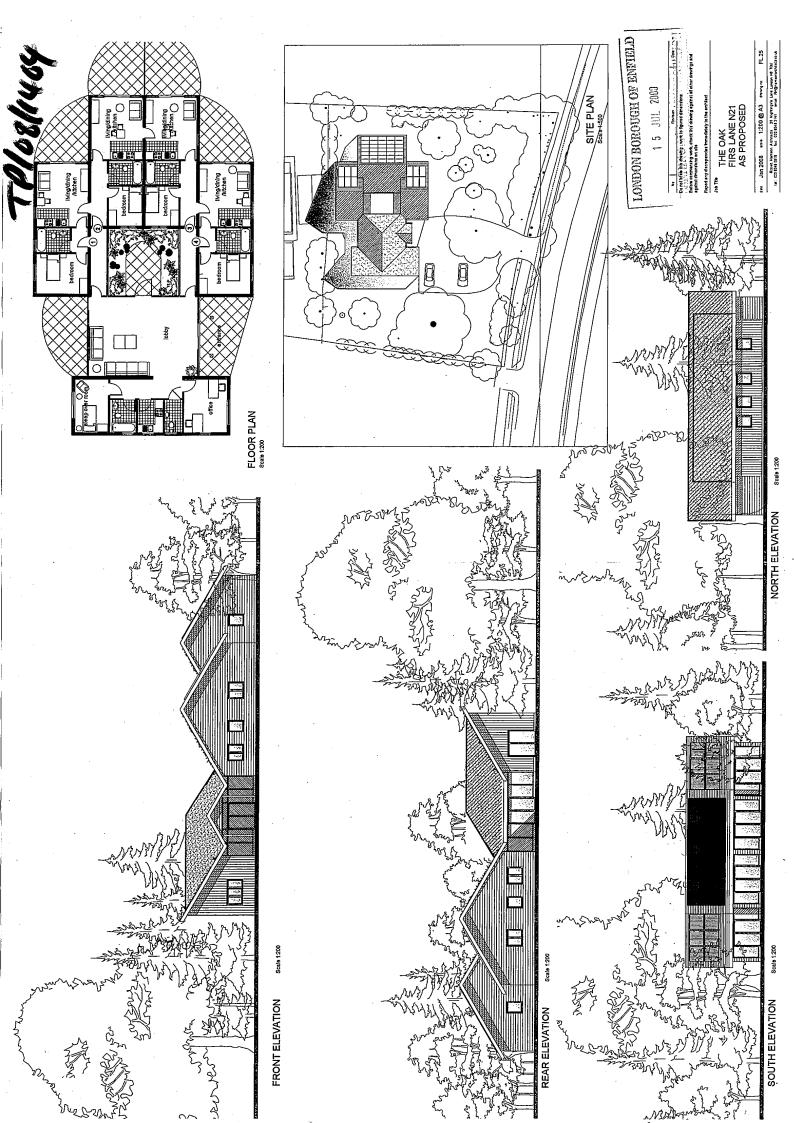
In conclusion, it is considered that "very special circumstances" exist to support a departure from normally applied policy in MOL regarding development with particular weight given to the proposed benefits associated with the use of this previously developed site.

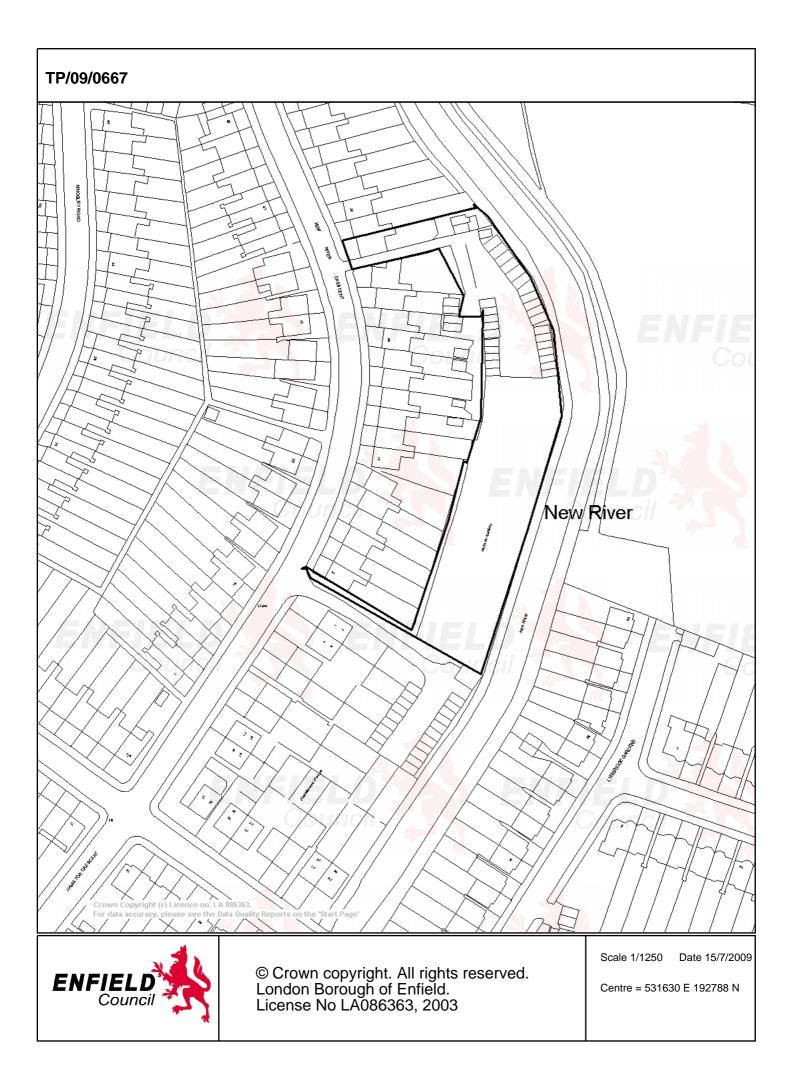
Moreover, it is considered that the proposed building due to its size, bulk, siting and height would not have an undue detrimental impact on the character of the Metropolitan Open Land nor would it prejudice the residential amenities of neighbouring occupiers.

In the light of the above, it is recommended that the proposal is accepted for the following reasons:

- 1. The proposed development, due to the i) the continued vacancy of this residential property and the under utilisation of this previously developed land; ii) the established need for additional residential care facilities of this nature in the Borough; iii) the retention of the site's contribution to the open nature and character of the MOL; iv) the design of the proposed development not detract form the appearance of the site where visible and its contribution to the more open are of MOL surrounding the application site; it is considered that very special circumstances exist in this case to warrant departure from Development Plan Policy in order to allow development in Metropolitan Open Land having regard to Policies (II)O1, (II)O2, (II)GD3 (II)CS1 and (II)CS2 of the Unitary Development Plan and Policies 3d.10, 3A.13, 4A.3 and 4B.8 of the London Plan.
- The proposed development does not result in conditions which would affect the residential amenities of nearby and neighbouring residential properties nor the wider residential character of the surrounding area having regard to Policies (I)GD1, (I)GD2, (II)GD1 and (II)GD3 of the Unitary Development Plan and Policy 4.b.8 of the London Plan.
- 3. The proposed development die to the access and parking proposed does not give rise to conditions prejudicial to the free flow and safety of vehicles using the adjoining highway having regard to Policies (II)GD8 and (II)GD8 of the Unitary Development Plan and Policies 3C.23 of the London Plan
- 4. The sustainability measures identified in the sustainability assessment form submitted on 15.07.2008 are considered to be sufficient to meet the requirements of Interim Policy SDC1 of the UDP, therefore achieving a suitable level of sustainable design and construction.







Application Number: TP/09/0667 Ward: Palmers Green Date of Registration: 18th May 2009

Contact: David Warden 3931

Location: 34, New River Crescent, And Land At Rear Of, 2-32, New River Crescent, London, N13 5RF

Proposal: Demolition of No. 34 New River Crescent and construction of an access road to facilitate the erection of a total of 36 residential units (incorporating 9 affordable units), comprising 33 units within two 3-storey blocks (6 x 1-bed, 10 x 2-bed, 13 x 3-bed, 4 x 4-bed), with accommodation in roof space, rear dormer windows, roof terraces and balconies to front and rear, together with conversion of detached garage block into 3 x 2-bed units, and provision of associated open and covered car parking bays.

Applicant Name & Address:

New Riverside OFFICE 885, GREEN LANES LONDON N21 2QS

Agent Name & Address:

Stephens Design Associates The Old Post Office Stores Cottered Nr Buntingford Herts SG9 9QL

Note to Members

At the July Planning Committee meeting, determination of this application was deferred to enable further advice from officers to be prepared in respect of certain issues: namely; overdevelopment of the site, amenity space provision and procedural matters. The further advises is set out below followed by the previous report for your reference.

Overdevelopment

Density

Concerns have been raised regarding the classification of the application within the PTAL 2-3 urban bracket of the London Plan.

The site lies within PTAL 1. However, the northwest boundary of the site is located only 10 metres outside of PTAL 2 and within 500 metres of Palmers Green District Centre. The relevant policy of the London Plan is entitled 'Maximising the potential of sites' and, in accordance with guidance within PPS3 on the most efficient use of land, the site has been considered within the higher PTAL 2-3 bracket.

The London Plan (2008) defines 'urban' as:

areas with <u>predominantly dense development</u> such as for example <u>terraced houses</u>, mansion blocks, a mix of different uses, medium building footprints and <u>typically buildings</u> <u>of two to four storeys</u>, <u>located within 800 metres walking distance of a District centre</u> or, along main arterial routes [emphasis added]

'Suburban' is defined as:

areas with predominantly lower density development such as for example detached and <u>semi-detached houses</u>, predominantly residential, small building footprints and typically buildings of <u>two to three storeys</u> [emphasis added]

It should be noted that there are few, if any, detached properties within the immediate surroundings. There are also a greater number of terraced dwellings and flats rather than semi-detached properties. Having regard to these definitions, it is considered the site lies within an 'urban' area; albeit it is closer to 'suburban' than 'central' (the most intensive category).

The above classification reflects that adopted during the assessment of Scheme C, which was refused by the Planning Committee in March 2008. Consequently, it was not a matter of dispute before the Inspector at the subsequent appeal nor was it questioned as part of the Inspectors own assessment during the appeal.

Notwithstanding any discussions that may have taken place at the Planning Committee meeting in July 2008, and giving checked the minutes of this meeting, Scheme B was not refused on the grounds of overdevelopment. The sole reason for refusal related to the visual impact of the proposal.

Whilst each application must be judged on its own merits, regard must be had to previous relevant decisions and appeal decisions. The current application provides for a less dense proposal than Scheme C and it is considered there has been no material change in circumstances that would support the introduction of a reason for refusal on the grounds of overdevelopment.

Scale and Bulk

The primary consideration for this application is whether the application has made sufficient changes to address the Inspectors previous concerns. Excluding overlooking, which is addressed in the conclusion below, these concerns involved the increase in height of the connecting and end blocks by 2.9 metres. The Inspector concluded these elements would appear unduly dominating and intrusive, as well has having an unacceptable impact on the outlook of adjoining occupiers.

In summary, the proposal has been reduced such that compared with approved Scheme B it now involves only a 400mm increase in height of at the eaves and 900 mm increase in height of the ridges of the connecting and end blocks. These eaves and ridges will be over some 27 and 29.5 metres from the nearest dwelling, respectively, and over 9 and 11.5 metres from the end of the nearest garden, respectively.

Having regard to these factors, it is considered that this revised scheme would no longer result in a dominant or intrusive impact on the character of the area, nor would it unduly affect the outlook of adjoining occupiers.

Amenity Space

Concerns were raised regarding the use of the Net Internal Area of the building for the assessment of the amount of amenity space required. However, this figure constitutes the combined Gross Internal Area of each of the flatted units themselves and in terms of continuity, reflects the method of assessment within previous schemes.

Concerns were also raised that the New River acts as a barrier, restricting access to Hazelwood Sports Ground. However, taking the pedestrian footbridge over the New River located to the north of the site, the site is only 150 metres walking distance to the children's play area in the northwest corner of the recreation ground.

Overall, the current proposal results in proportionately the same amount of amenity space as Scheme C, where the Inspector did not dismiss the appeal on these and there has been no material change in circumstances that would warrant a different approach to this proposal. Without a material change in circumstances, no robust grounds are felt to exist to warrant refusal of this application.

Procedural matters

In respect of density and amenity space provision, Members have been advised that to refuse this current application on either ground would be difficult to justify and unlikely to be supported on appeal.

In particular, Circular 03/2009 deals with costs at appeals

Planning authorities are not bound to accept the recommendations of their officers. However, if officers' professional or technical advice is not followed, authorities will need to show reasonable planning grounds for taking a contrary decision and produce relevant evidence on appeal to support the decision in all respects. If they fail to do so, costs may be awarded against the authority.

While planning authorities are expected to consider the views of local residents when determining a planning application, the extent of local opposition is not, in itself, a reasonable ground for resisting development. To carry significant weight, opposition should be founded on valid planning reasons which are supported by substantial evidence. Planning authorities should therefore make their own objective appraisal and ensure that valid planning reasons are stated and substantial evidence provided

It is recognised that the Committee should not be unduly cautious when making decisions due to the risk of costs at appeal. However, the sums involved can be substantial and act as a drain on public funds. Members need to acknowledge that it may be inappropriate to pursue a course of action that had little or no prospect of success.

Other matters

Since the last meeting one further objection has been received stating concerns that reflect those detailed in the main report.

A signed unilateral undertaking has now been received that adequately secures the education contribution and the affordable housing provision.

Conclusion

In summary, the current scheme:

- 1) is less dense than Scheme C, where no objection was raised to density;
- 2) provides for **proportionately the same amount of amenity space** as Scheme C, where the Inspector did not dismiss the appeal on the these grounds;
- 3) provides for **proportionately more parking** than both Scheme B and Scheme C, neither of which were refused due to the amount of parking;
- 4) removes the overlooking concerns of the Inspector in the Scheme C appeal;
- 5) the scheme provides a **housing mix that almost precisely mirrors** that sought in the Housing Needs Assessment.
- 6) one of the additional units is within the garage block reflecting Scheme C, the other is an additional affordable unit
- 7) involves only a 400 mm increase in height of at the eaves, which are themselves located over 27 metres from the nearest dwelling and over 9 metres from the end of the nearest garden
- 8) involves only a 900 mm increase in the height of the ridges, which are themselves located over 29.5 metres from the nearest dwelling and over 11.5 metres from the end of the nearest garden

It is considered the matter upon which the authority must take a balanced view relates to the scale and bulk of the proposed building; as stated above, to seek to refuse the application on the other grounds discussed would be unreasonable.

Having regard to all relevant factors, it is considered that the proposed increase in height of the connecting blocks would not warrant the refusal of planning permission. Accordingly, the recommendation remains that permission be granted.

Recommendation

That planning permission be **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:

 No development shall take place until full details of the existing and proposed ground levels or contours, means of enclosure, car parking layouts, other vehicle and pedestrian accesses, junctions and circulation areas, street and other forms of external lighting (including mitigation for the New River), and surfacing materials/markings have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. These works shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure that they are constructed to satisfactory standard, in the interests of safety, access needs of the proposed use, visual amenity and amenities of the adjoining occupiers.

2. The development hereby approved shall not commence until a mechanism to secure the provision of no waiting restrictions at the site access has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interests of the free flow of traffic and highway safety.

3. The parking areas shown on approved plan 05/557/31C received by the Local Planning Authority on 8th May 2009 shall be provided prior to the occupation of the dwelling to which they relate and shall be only be used for the parking of private motor vehicles and shall not be used for any other purpose.

Reason: To ensure that the development complies with Unitary Development Plan Policies and to prevent the introduction of activity which would be detrimental to amenity.

4. That development shall not commence on site until a construction methodology has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The construction methodology shall contain: a photographic condition survey of the roads and footways leading to the site, details of construction access and vehicle routing to the site, arrangements for vehicle servicing and turning areas, arrangements for the parking of contractors vehicles, arrangements for wheel cleaning, arrangements for the storage of materials, hours of work. The development shall then be undertaken in accordance with the approved construction methodology unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure the implementation of the development does not lead to damage to the existing roads, prejudice highway safety or the free-flow of traffic on New River Crescent, and to minimise disruption to neighbouring properties.

5. The development hereby approved shall not be occupied until the measures set out in the Marishal Thompson & Co Ecological Assessment dated 30th June 2006 have been completed.

Reason: To minimise the impact of the proposal on the natural environment and maximise the potential for ecological diversity.

6. The development shall not commence until details of trees, shrubs and grass to be planted on the site have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall include measures to enhance the natural environment in accordance with the objectives of PPS9. The planting scheme shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details in the first planting season after completion or occupation of the development whichever is the sooner. Any planting which dies, becomes severely damaged or diseased within five years of planting shall be replaced with new planting in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To provide a satisfactory appearance and ensure that the development does not prejudice highway safety.

7. The development hereby approved shall not commence until a bat survey has been undertaken, in accordance with the most recent guidance published by Natural England, and any necessary mitigation measures completed in accordance with details, which shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure the proposal does adversely affect a protected species.

8. No development shall take place until an assessment has been carried out into the potential for disposing of surface water by means of a sustainable drainage (SuDS) scheme, in accordance with the principles of sustainable drainage systems set out in national planning policy guidance and statements, and the results of that assessment have been provided to the local planning authority. The assessment shall take into account the design storm period and intensity; methods to delay and control the surface water discharged from the site; and measures to prevent pollution of the receiving groundwater and/or surface waters.

Reason: To ensure that the proposal would not result in an unacceptable risk of flooding from surface water run-off or create an unacceptable risk of flooding elsewhere.

9. Surface water drainage works shall be carried out in accordance with details that have been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the local planning authority before the

development commences. Those details shall include a programme for implementing the works. Where, in the light of the assessment required by the above condition, the local planning authority conclude that a SuDS scheme should be implemented, details of the works shall specify:

i) 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 or any other arrangements to secure the operation of the scheme throughout its lifetime; and

ii) the responsibilities of each party for implementation of the SuDS scheme, together with a timetable for that implementation.

Reason: To ensure implementation and adequate maintenance to ensure that the proposal would not result in an unacceptable risk of flooding from surface water run-off or create an unacceptable risk of flooding elsewhere.

- 10. C07 Details of Materials
- 11. C19 Details of Refuse Storage & Recycling Facilities
- 12. C59 Cycle parking spaces
- 13. C51A Time Limited Permission

Site and Surroundings

The site is located to the rear of no's 2 to 32 New River Crescent and includes no. 34 New River Crescent. The northern part of the site has 28 garages whilst the southern part of the site is vacant. The southern was previously used as allotments gardens but became overgrown since the cessation of the use. This part of the site was subject to enforcement action regarding rodents, rubbish and its unkempt nature and as a result, the site has now been cleared.

Immediately to the west of the site is the New River, which lies adjacent to the Hazelwood Sports Grounds. On all other sides, including the southwest, the site is surrounded by 2 storey semi-detached and terraced houses.

Proposal

Permission is sought for the redevelopment of the site for residential use. The proposal includes the demolition of the end-of-terrace house at no. 34 New River Crescent to provide a widened access to the site off New River Crescent.

The application includes 36 units comprising 6×1 bed, 10×2 bed, 13×3 bed and 4×4 bed flats in two part 2 storey and part 3 storey blocks with dormer windows to the eastern elevation providing accommodation in the roof and 3×2 bed residential dwellings in the converted garages retained on the northern part of the site. All other garages on the site will be demolished.

The plans show a total of 45 car parking spaces, including 6 'unallocated' spaces. Cycle storage for 44 cycles is provided within the ground floor area of the connecting blocks linking the three storey elements, at the end of some of the undercroft parking spaces, under the stairs to the former garage blocks and within storage areas adjacent to the speed humps near Blocks C and D.

Relevant Planning Decisions

TP/08/0115 Demolition of No. 34 New River Crescent and construction of an access road to facilitate the erection of a total of 39 residential units (8 x 1-bed, 14 x 2-bed, 11 x 3-bed, 3 x 4-bed) in two 3 storey blocks, incorporating accommodation in roof space with rear dormer windows, roof terraces and balconies to front and rear, together with conversion of detached garage block into 3 x 2-bed units, and provision of associated open and covered car parking bays, refused in March 2008 for the following reason:

1. The proposed development due to its size and massing would result in the introduction of an overly dominant and visually intrusive form of development detrimental to the character and appearance of the surrounding area and the visual amenities enjoyed by neighbouring properties, as well as providing the perception of overdevelopment of the site, contrary to Policies (I)GD1, (I)GD2, (II)GD3, (II)H9, (I)EN3, (II)EN9, (II)EN11, and II)O10 of the Unitary Development Plan and Policy 4B.8 of the London Plan as well as the objectives of PPS1 and PPS3.

An appeal was dismissed in November 2008. The Inspector considered the increased height and massing of the connecting blocks would appear unduly dominating and obtrusive, which in turn would also adversely affect the outlook of residents in New River Crescent. In addition, the Inspector considered the additional overlooking from the Velux style rooflights and replacement of only bedroom windows with some living room and kitchen windows to the second floor level of the western elevation. (Scheme C)

TP/06/2450 Demolition of building at 34 New River Crescent and erection of 32 residential units (comprising 4 x 1 bed, 22 x 2 bed and 6 x 3 bed) in 2 pairs of part 2, part 3 storey blocks with accommodation in roof space and rear inverted dormer terraces, roof terraces, together with conversion and extension of existing single storey building into 2 one bed studio flats and access to New River Crescent and associated car parking (revised scheme), refused February 2007, allowed on appeal October 2007. (Scheme B)

TP/06/1439 Demolition of building at 34 New River Crescent and erection of 32 residential units (comprising 30 x 2 bed and 2 x 3 bed) in 2 pairs of 4 storey blocks with balconies to the east elevation, together with part demolition and conversion of existing single storey building into 2 one bed studio flats and access to New River Crescent and associated car parking, refused October 2006, dismissed on appeal October 2007. (Scheme A)

Consultation

<u>Public</u>

Consultation letters issued to 371 neighbouring properties and a total of 249 responses received objecting to the application. These comprise 222 standard letters and 27 individual letters and raise some or all of the following points:

Character and appearance issues:

- Scheme B should be considered to be the absolute limit for development
- Increase in the number of residents from 134 to 161 (20%)
- Overdevelopment of this backland site
- Density at 88 units per hectare exceeds PTAL 0-1 in the London Plan

- Significant reduction in amenity space, but increase in family accommodation outside of any guidelines

- Height and scale of the connecting blocks to the same height as the eaves of the main blocks, resulting in a loss of visual relief

- Out of keeping with the surrounding houses
- Increased size and scale of the retained and altered garage block
- Too many units, too many storeys
- Demolition of no. 34 compromises the integrity of the terrace
- Lack of sensitivity to the original form of the estate
- Impact on the character of the area

Impact on neighbouring property and future residents issues

- Overlooking of dwellings and the park
- Increase in windows to the eastern elevation
- Loss of outlook
- Reduction in visual relief
- Noise and disturbance
- Lack of amenity space
- Low quality accommodation proposed providing for related social issues
- Loss of light
- Increased pollution
- Reduction in standards of accommodation for future occupiers
- Closer to Lynbridge Gardens than previous scheme
- Stress to residents from repeat applications

Highway issues:

- Increased traffic due to a 20% increase in residents
- Impact on parents and children using Hazelwood School
- Lack of parking
- Parking below UDP standards
- Impact on road safety, in particular from additional parked cars
- Worsening of the effective single lane created by parked cars to New River Crescent,
- compounded by the curve in the road
- Congestion in the wider area
- Impact on emergency access
- Impact from other nearby developments
- Road is a cut through
- Impact during construction
- Part of the access is not within the ownership of the applicant

Sustainability and environmental issues:

- Greenfield site
- Loss of natural habitat
- Impact on a protected species
- Light pollution
- Impact on surrounding trees
- Site is part of the natural flood plain
- Natural springs have previously appeared
- Loss of allotment land

Other matters:

- Lack of capacity at local schools and healthcare facilities
- Increased pressure on local infrastructure will be detrimental to existing and new residents

- Lack of sewer capacity
- Precedent
- Lack of need for additional housing, particularly in the current climate
- Change in mix of the units
- Reduction in the number of smaller more affordable units
- Potential for increased crime and anti-social behaviour
- Loss of a single family dwelling
- Lack of street lighting
- Potential for increased risk of flooding
- Inaccurate representation of the site levels
- Inconsistent site area between Scheme's B and Scheme D, the description of external amenity rather than total amenity and the extent of reduction in property price in the sales values
- Misleading that it represents only minor alterations
- Impact of the housing market is not sufficient basis for further development
- Impact on surrounding properties prices
- Repeated applications aim to 'wear down' residents
- Scheme B should never have been granted permission

A letter of objection from Friends of Hazelwood Rec has also been received stating the following concerns:

- Principle of development

- Development would be an eyesore for park users, in contrast to the existing gardens of two storey houses that border the site

- Loss of secluded quite nature of Hazelwood Rec, one of few available open and sporting areas
- Overlooking
- Over dominant

- Scale, particularly adjacent to the New River corridor will increase the detrimental environmental impact

- Loss of habitat
- Impact on future plans to open up the rec to part of the New River

External

Thames Water has no objections to the application, subject to directives regarding surface water drainage and protection of the New River.

Natural England has no objection subject to conditions regarding a lighting strategy, measures to enhance the natural environment and a bat survey of no. 34 New River Crescent.

London Fire & Emergency Planning Authority (LFEPA) is satisfied with the proposals.

Any other responses will be reported at the meeting.

<u>Internal</u>

Director of Education comments the potential average annual pupil product taken to the nearest whole numbers is the same as for the previous application: an average of 4 primary aged pupils and 1 secondary aged pupil a year. As there is inadequate spare capacity in local schools. A financial contribution of £72,222 has been secured.

Housing Strategy states that a residual value of more than £1 million is generated when using the Established Use Value of £500k as in scheme B, which already includes an element of affordable housing. In this Scheme, Housing Strategy note that the a higher Established Use Value has

been assumed of £1,772,000, thereby reducing the contribution to affordable housing. This potentially affects the benefits to the provision of affordable housing.

The Place Shaping Team have no comments to make.

Any response from the Enabling Team, the Head of Economic Development or Cleansing will be reported at the meeting.

Relevant Policies

London Plan (2008)

- 3A.1 Increasing Supply of Housing
- 3A.2 Borough Housing Targets
- 3A.3 Maximising the potential of sites
- 3A.5 Housing choice
- 3A.6 Quality of new housing provision
- 3A.8 Definition of affordable housing
- 3A.9 Affordable housing targets
- 3A.10 Negotiating affordable housing in individual private residential and mixed-use schemes
- 3A.11 Affordable housing thresholds
- 3A.17 Addressing the needs of London's diverse population
- 3C.21 Improving Conditions for Walking
- 3C.22 Improving Conditions for Cycling
- 3C.23 Parking Strategy
- 3D.14 Biodiversity and Nature Conservation
- 4A.3 Sustainable Design and Construction
- 4A.7 Renewable Energy
- 4A.14 Sustainable drainage
- 4B.2 Architectural design
- 4B.8 Respect the context of local communities
- Annex 4 Parking standards.

Unitary Development Plan

- (I)GD1 Regard to Surroundings / Integrated into Local Community
- (I)GD2 Quality of Life and Visual Amenity
- (II)GD3 Character / Design
- (II)GD6 Traffic Generation
- (II)GD8 Site Access and Servicing
- (II)H6 Range of size and Tenure
- (II)H8 Privacy and Overlooking
- (II)H9 Amenity Space
- (II)T13 Creation or improvement of accesses
- (I)EN3 Nature conservation
- (II)EN9 Development in sites of nature conservation importance
- (II)EN11 Wildlife Corridors
- (II)O6-O9 Green Chain Corridors
- (II)O10 Regard to the contribution of open land.

Local Development Framework - Core Strategy Preferred Options

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to replace the UDP with a Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF Core Strategy will set out the spatial vision and strategic objectives for the Borough. The Core Strategy is at an early stage in its adoption process. As this continues the weight given to it will grow and the relevant objectives are reported to demonstrate the degree to which the proposals are consistent with the emerging policy direction.

- SO1 Sustainability and Climate Change
- SO2 Biodiversity
- SO3 Protect and enhance Enfield's environmental quality;
- SO6 High quality, sustainably constructed, new homes to meet the aspirations of local people
- SO8 Affordable Housing, Family Homes and Social Mix
- SO11 Safer and stronger communities
- SO16 Preserve the local distinctiveness
- SO17 Safeguard established communities and the quality of the local environment
- SO21 Sustainable Transport

Other Material Considerations

- PPS1 Delivering Sustainable Communities
- PPS3 Housing
- PPG13 Transport

Analysis

Principle

The principles associated with the residential development of this site including form, appearance and relationship to neighbouring properties together with vehicular access onto New River Crescent, has been established by previous planning decisions. In particular, the planning permission granted under ref: TP/06/2450 (Scheme B), which was allowed on appeal, accepted 34 units.

In addition, although a further application for 39 units was refused (ref. TP/08/0115 – 'Scheme C'), and an appeal against this decision dismissed, the Inspector concluded that 1) the increased height and massing of the connecting and link blocks along with the creation of a would result in an unduly dominating and intrusive development; 2) this same increase would result in a loss of visual relief creating a more dominating and imposing development detrimental to the amenities of neighbouring residents, primarily in New River Crescent; and 3) the introduction of more actively used rooms in the upper floors of the west elevation and the overall increase of windows at a higher level would create additional overlooking resulting in an unacceptable loss of privacy. There was no mention of any objection to the density and number of residential units proposed.

These previous planning applications and appeal decisions are key material considerations in determining acceptability and in particular, weight must be focused on whether the concerns of the Inspector in assessing 'Scheme C', have now been addressed.

The main considerations of this application will be whether the increased number of units, revised mix and alterations to the scheme would result in an unacceptable impact on the character and appearance of the area, neighbours amenities or highway safety when compared with both the approved 'Scheme B', the Inspectors findings in relation to 'Scheme C' and the appropriate policies.

Character and Appearance of the area

Density

The site lies within 500 metres of Palmers Green district centre within an area characterised by a mixture of terraced and semi-detached houses but few high density developments. For the purposes of the London Plan (2008) density matrix, it is considered the site lies within an urban area; albeit it is closer to suburban than central. Whilst the site is located within PTAL 1 its proximity to Palmers Green district centre and associated public transport indicates it should be considered within the higher PTAL 2-3 bracket. The density matrix suggests a density of 200 to 450 habitable rooms per hectare. Given the predominance of units with more than 3.8 habitable rooms within the vicinity of the site the matrix suggests a unit range of 45 to 120 units per hectare, which is the least dense option within PTAL 2-3 Urban. Taking into account the above, particularly the distance from Palmers Green district centre, as well as the sites location within Green Chain Corridor, Wildlife Corridor and Site of Nature Conservation Importance on the UDP proposals map, and the New River being a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation, it is considered than an acceptable density could be towards the middle of the 200 to 450 hrph range: around 325 hrph.

The application proposes 36 units (6 x 1-bed, 13 x 2-bed, 13 x 3-bed, 4 x 4-bed). This results in 124 habitable rooms giving a residential density of 302 hrph or 88 u/h. The proposed density therefore lies below the desired mid point of the range identified above. However, it is an increase from the 257 hrph or 83 u/h in the approved 'Scheme B', although here the Inspector acknowledged the density to be at the lower end of the density range for flats in this area set out in the London Plan. Furthermore, though 'Scheme C' sought permission for 39 units with a density of 317 hprh or 95 u/h, it was not refused due to a conflict with these density standards or on grounds of overdevelopment.

The question of whether the proposed scheme represents an appropriate form of development and not an overdevelopment of the site, however, must involve more than a numerical assessment. It must take into account the relationship of the development to its surroundings and the streetscene, as well as its impact on residential amenity to establish acceptability.

'Scheme C' sought to provide an additional storey of accommodation in the connecting link and end blocks. This entailed an increase in ridge and eaves height of 2.9 metres creating a three storey façade and a continuous eaves line. The application was refused due to the resultant visual impact and the perception that it resulted in overdevelopment of the site'. The Inspector concluded that these elements appeared unduly dominating and intrusive, but made no specific reference to overdevelopment of the site when dismissing the appeal.

The current proposal also seeks to increase the height of the connecting link and end blocks. However, the extent of the increases are far more limited with the ridge height increasing by only 0.9 metres and the eaves height by only 0.4 metres. This retains a separation from the main ridge and eaves of 3 and 2.5 metres, respectively, and, in particular, two storey façades to the link and end blocks. The design elements will be discussed in more details below. However, it is considered that notwithstanding the increases in height, the link and end blocks will remain subordinate to the main buildings and retain the 'outbuilding' like appearance an important characteristic present in 'Scheme B' but lacking in 'Scheme C'.

The additional unit within the garage block will also add to the overall quatum development. However, this is considered to be acceptable and has not been highlighted as an issue by the previous Inspector Overall, the numerical assessment provides that the proposed density is acceptable and although there is an increase in height in the connecting links and end blocks, this is sufficiently limited to address the visual impact which was of concern in Scheme C. *Amenity Space*

The scheme proposes approximately 1,418 square metres of amenity space, of which approximately 260 square metres is in the form of balconies and terraces. The GIA of the units is approximately 2,733 square metres and therefore, the amenity space required is 1,975 square metres. The proposal achieves only 52% of the overall GIA. In addition, 18% of the total amenity space is provided as balconies and terraces against a maximum UDP standard of 15%. Compared with previous proposals, the approved appeal 'Scheme B' and dismissed appeal 'Scheme C' included amenity space at levels of 66% and 52% of the GIA with 24% and 26% of the amenity space provided in the form of balconies and terraces, respectively.

In addition, the Inspector for 'Scheme B' considered that a level below the UDP standard was acceptable, placing weight on the level of space around the buildings rather than a numerical standard. Weight was also given to the proportion of one bedroom units, the open setting to the east of the site and guidance within both the London Plan and PPS3 regarding more efficient use of land.

In respect of 'Scheme C', the Inspector discussed the proposed increase in size of the buildings without any equivalent increase in surrounding space that provided their visual setting. However, he concluded that matters relating to height and massing were more relevant in reaching an assessment on the relative merits of the scheme in visual terms. In addition, he noted that the Council did not allege the amount or type of amenity space would be insufficient for recreational purposes and concluded that the matters of height

This current scheme proposes a similar level of external amenity space as 'Scheme B' and 'Scheme C'. However, it involves reduced terraces, in favour of internal accommodation. The proportion of amenity space provided as balconies and terraces is much closer to the adopted standard than within either of the previous schemes. However, this is due to the reduction in the terraced areas; rather than any increase in external amenity space. The size of the terraces and their consequent potential for noise and disturbance was the subject of objection from local residents; the benefits of their reduction are discussed in more detail later. The scheme also involves a larger proportion of family sized units in relation to 'Scheme B'. However, this was also the case with 'Scheme C'.

Overall, whilst the current scheme proposes a material reduction in the proportionate amount of amenity space and includes more family sized units in relation to 'Scheme B', the space around the buildings remains largely unchanged and the site remains adjacent to a large recreation ground. Furthermore, the proportion of amenity space is comparable with that found acceptable in 'Scheme C'. Having regard to the requirements of the London Plan and PPS3 regarding the efficient use of land, the proposed level of amenity space is considered acceptable and remains consistent with the principles previously established.

Design and Appearance

The overall architectural design of the scheme reflects that previously approved and is considered acceptable. The changes to the scheme by comparison with approved 'Scheme B' largely relate to the increase in height of the linking and end blocks and reduction in terraced areas in favour of internal accommodation, as well as the retention of further garage units to provide an additional unit.

First taking the garage conversion, the proposal seeks to retain a further 6.2 metres of the garage block and also includes an amended roof structure that is approximately 0.5 metres higher. The resulting building is 6.8 metres high and 18.2 metres wide, as was the case with 'Scheme C'. Whilst this will further increase the height of the existing garage buildings, as well as reading as a larger mass, it is not considered that this will unduly impact on the character and appearance of the surrounding area. Furthermore, as stated above, the Inspector did not include this element of the scheme as a matter of concern between the parties at the appeal. The alteration to this element is, therefore, considered acceptable.

As discussed above, the ridge and eaves heights of the link and end blocks have increased in height by 0.9 and 0.4 metres, respectively, when compared with approved 'Scheme B', reducing the separation from the main ridge and eaves from 3.9 to 3 metres and 2.9 to 2.5 metres, respectively. In 'Scheme B' the Inspector's decision gave considerable weight to the form and horizontality of the approved scheme stating "the roofs...would be pitched, and this would give something of a linear form to the development notwithstanding their truncated ridges". It went on to state that "the connecting blocks would give a further horizontal theme to the buildings and they would generally appear as outbuildings in relation to the main blocks. The size and magnitude of the individual blocks would be comparable with that of other pairs of dwellings in the area" concluding that this would not be out of keeping. In 'Scheme C' the connecting blocks were increased by 2.9 metres leaving only 1 metre of separation from the main ridge and in the respective appeal the Inspector considered that "the raised height of the connecting links would erode the gaps between the upper floors of the main blocks...they would significantly alter the 'size and magnitude' of the individual blocks which would no longer be comparable to other pairs of dwellings in the area" before concluding that "the increased height and massing of the secondary elements would result in an unacceptable increase in the overall bulk of the development at its higher levels". In respect of the current proposal, the degree of the increase in ridge and, in particular, eaves height is considerably more limited than in 'Scheme C'. There is not a continuous eaves line and the link and end blocks provide for a subordinate appearance stepping down from a three to a two storey facade. Having particular regard to the limited extent of the increase above approved 'Scheme B' and the retention of a two storey façade to the connecting blocks, it is considered that the proposal would not result in an increased height and massing that would be dominating or intrusive as was the case with 'Scheme C'. As such, having regard to all of the above matters, it is considered this element of the proposal is acceptable.

As with 'Scheme C', Block C and the north east corner of block D have been re-sited approximately 1 and 0.5 metres closer to the New River, respectively; it is understood this is due to a boundary dispute at the rear of no. 16 New River Crescent. However, it is not considered this materially alters their relationship with the New River such that it forms an unacceptable element of the proposal.

Housing Mix and Affordable Housing Provision

The approved 'Scheme B' included 18% 1 bed, 65% 2 bed and 18% 3 bed units. The dismissed appeal 'Scheme C' was amended during the course of the application to more closely align with the current housing needs assessment, which focuses on the need for larder family sized accommodation. This provides for a preferred mix of 13% 1 bed, 37% 2 bed, 36% 3 bed and 14% 4 bed units.

The current application proposes a mix of 17% 1 bed, 36% 2 bed, 36% 3 bed and 11% 4 bed units, which almost mirrors that set out within the housing needs assessment. This offers a significant improvement over the approved appeal 'Scheme B'. If considered on the basis of habitable rooms, 59% of the overall scheme now comprises 3 and 4 bed units, with 70% of the affordable habitable rooms comprising 3 and 4 bed units.

Notwithstanding the acceptability of the massing discussed above, this improvement of housing mix and provision of 3 and 4 bed affordable units must also weigh in favour of this scheme.

The scheme includes 9 affordable units, comprising 3 x 1 bed intermediate units and 1 x 2 bed, 4 x 3 bed and 1 x 4 bed social rented units. This forms 25% of the overall scheme on a unit basis or 23% on a habitable rooms basis, which approximately accords with the approved appeal 'Scheme B'. The mix of these units has, however, significantly improved to more 3 and 4 bedroom units.

The current application was accompanied by a Three Dragon Toolkit Appraisal which seek to establish the level of affordable housing that can be viably provided on the site having regard to the relevant costs involved. Based on current prices the appraisals provided for the approved 'Scheme B' and the current proposal show a loss £131,000 and additional profit of £54,000 against site acquisition costs. In addition, the requisite education contribution has been increased by approximately £25,000, which would make these values approximately minus £156,000 and £29,000, respectively.

Housing Strategy considers that the existing use value should not include the additional value of the land created by the approval of 'Scheme B'. The applicant contends that this is the proper approach having regard to the guidance notes. Housing Strategy's concern is that when compared with what they consider should be the existing use value (EUV) there is a surplus of approximately some £1,000,000 within the appraisal available for contribution towards affordable housing. However, this surplus would only be present if the land were to be available for development at a price that excluded any 'hope value', or indeed now development value created by the extant permission of 'Scheme B'. In this instance, the developer has provided details of the site acquisition costs and these show that a limited additional profit that would be unlikely to justify additional affordable housing provision.

Housing Strategy has suggested that the developer be required to reduce the rate at which they are selling the units to the Registered Social Landlord (RSL) to reduce the reliance on Housing Corporation grant funding. However, the previously accepted Unilateral Undertakings sought only to secure the provision of affordable housing and not the price at which units could be sold to an RSL.

Moreover, the current application seeks to provide an additional 2 units and a revised mixed. Of the 2 additional units provided one is an additional affordable unit and whilst overall the units provided are larger this is also the case with the 9 affordable units provided. Overall, the scheme provides a comparable respective amount of affordable housing to that agreed in 'Scheme B' and 'Scheme C' and as there has been no material change in policy it would be difficult to justify additional provision without clear evidence that there was a true surplus available within the relevant development appraisal. In this instance, it is considered, on balance, that an acceptable level of affordable housing is proposed.

Having regard to all of the above matters, the proposed mix and affordable housing provision is, therefore, considered acceptable.

Impact on Neighbouring Properties

Outlook and Privacy

In 'Scheme C' the Inspector considered that the increased height and bulk of the secondary elements would effectively remove the visual relief provided by these previously subordinate elements. He concluded this would result in a more dominating and imposing development that would impinge upon the outlook of the properties fronting New River Crescent and to a more

limited extent the nearest properties in Lynebridge Gardens. The current scheme also seeks to increase the height of these secondary elements. However, as discussed above, the increase is far more limited. In particular, the increase is largely involves the increase of a roof that slopes away from the properties within New River Crescent and is located on the opposite site of the building to the properties in Lynebridge Gardens. Where 'Scheme C' provided for an entirely three storey façade, the secondary elements within the current proposal would be retained at two storey. It is considered this would largely retain the visual relief that was found to be necessary by both Inspectors. Having regard to the above matters, it is considered that the proposed increases to the secondary elements would be sufficiently limited that they would not impinge upon the outlook of the existing residents.

In relation to privacy, the 'Scheme C' Inspector considered the addition of velux style rooflights and more actively used rooms to the second floor facing west towards the properties fronting New River Crescent to resulting in an unacceptable loss of privacy. The current scheme does not propose velux style rooflights to western elevation and returns the second floor plan to provide only bedrooms with west facing windows. As such, it is considered these elements of the proposal reflect 'Scheme B, and would not result in material increase in overlooking.

The scheme includes minor changes to the fenestration at first floor level of the link blocks on both the east and west elevations, as well as some alterations to the configuration of the windows at third floor level to the north and south ends of each block. However, these largely serve bedrooms and, moreover, it is not considered these changes would result in a material increase in overlooking from the development. Four velux style rooflights to each block are now proposed to the east elevation. However, the views from these rooflights would be comparable with, if not more limited than, those available from the inset balconies that reflect those previously approved with 'Scheme B' and their limited number, as well as the separation distances and angles involved, would serve to prevent an unacceptable loss of privacy or the perception of being overlooked.

The proposed balconies and roof terraces, albeit reduced in size, reflect the positions approved within 'Scheme B'. They will largely overlook the recreation ground, which is a matter supported by the principles of Secure By Design. The potential for overlooking from these balconies to the rear of Lynbridge Gardens was a matter that the Inspector noted with slight concern but ultimately found to be acceptable. Whilst the current buildings have been re-sited approximately 1 metre closer to Lynbridge Gardens, a separation distance of approximately 23.5 metres to the end of the garden to no. 40 Lynbridge Gardens and 39 metres to the rear of the property itself are retained and it is not considered this would result in a material increase in overlooking. However, notwithstanding the above, the developer has agreed to provide a 1.8 metre high screen to the southernmost block that will ensure any views from this terrace will be to the south. Having regard to the Inspectors decision in relation to 'Scheme B', it is considered any views in the direction of the rear of Lynbridge Gardens from the remaining terraces, would be sufficiently distant and/or oblique to prevent an unacceptable level of overlooking.

There have been some minor changes to the remaining balconies. However, it is not considered these alterations would have any materially greater impact on the surrounding properties.

The accuracy of the submitted ground levels has also been raised as a concern. However, these reflect those submitted and agreed at both appeals and appear to reflect those present when visiting the site.

Overall, having regard to all of the above matters and findings Inspectors findings, it is considered that the current proposal would not result in an unacceptable loss of outlook or privacy to the surrounding residents.

General noise and disturbance

The impact on no. 36 New River Crescent in respect of noise and disturbance from the proposed access was considered acceptable in the approved scheme. It is not considered that the extra 2 units with a revised overall mix would result in additional traffic movements that would materially increase this level of noise and disturbance. In addition, the current application includes speed reducing features within the access that will move vehicles away from the side of no. 36 New River Crescent and thus reduce the level of noise from vehicles transmitted to this property. Moreover, the current layout reflects that of 'Scheme C', where this element was found to be acceptable.

As detailed above, the scheme involves reduced elevated terraces. Notwithstanding the acceptability of these areas within both 'Scheme B' and 'Scheme C', their reduction in size will serve to limit the potential for noise and disturbance that would be detrimental to the amenities of nearby residents. Moreover, these areas will be infilled with accommodation that would act as a significant barrier to the passage of sound further reducing the potential for disturbance.

Whilst the 2 additional units and revised mix would result in a greater intensity of use, it is considered that the increased activity on the site, given the residential nature of the proposal, would not unduly detract from the residential amenities of neighbouring occupiers. Furthermore 'Scheme C' involved a greater number of units and habitable rooms where these matters were found to be acceptable.

Parking and Access

The current proposal includes a total of 45 car parking spaces, 6 of which are 'unallocated' along the access way and 4 of which are disabled spaces, along with 44 cycle spaces. The previously approved scheme included 42 spaces for 34 units, resulting in a ratio of 1.2 spaces per dwelling. In the current scheme, the ratio increases to 1.3 spaces per unit, this is an improvement upon both the approved 'Scheme B' and dismissed appeal 'Scheme C'.

Transportation have though raised concerns regarding the excessive reversing distance for fire appliances and refuse freighters although this has not changed from the previous schemes and it must be noted that the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority do not object to the proposals. Further matters have been raised regarding the nature of the access construction, access junction detail and surfacing of the southern footpath. However, these matters can be adequately addressed by the proposed details conditions.

The proposal includes an additional 2 units over the approved scheme with a revised mix of units as discussed above. However, it is considered that this limited increase in traffic movements could be accommodated on New River Crescent and adjoining highways and would not result in an unacceptable risk to highway safety.

Overall, it is considered that, subject to standard conditions, the proposed access and parking arrangements are acceptable.

Sustainable Design and Construction

The proposal incorporates green roofs on the flat tops of the 3-storey blocks and permeable and green paving for areas of hard surfacing. The proposal scored 75% in the sustainability assessment. It is considered that the proposal is in accordance with the objectives of policy 4A.3 'Sustainable Design and Construction' of the London Plan.

Legal Agreements

A unilateral undertaking, that reflects the previously agreed wording, is currently being completed and an update will be provided at the meeting. This includes the requisite contribution for education and secures the affordable housing discussed above.

Other matters

An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment accompanied the application, along with a letter from English Heritage confirming that the assessment has demonstrated that it is unlikely that archaeological remains will be disturbed during construction of the development. As such, a condition relating to archaeology will no longer be necessary.

Concerns have been raised regarding the impact of the proposals on the environment, disruption during construction process, the impact on house prices, the lack of need for new housing and that the developer is seeking to 'wear residents down' with repeat applications. Taking each in turn, it is not considered that this proposal will result in materially greater impacts on the environment than the approved scheme and reasonable disruption during the construction process as well as any impact on house prices are not material planning considerations. It is not considered that the provision of 2 additional units along with a revised mix would give rise to detailed considerations of the level of housing required within the Borough, which tends to be material only with larger schemes. Whilst this current application is the forth in a sequence extending over the last 3 years, each application has been for a revised scheme responding to issues in the light of an accepted principle of development and each must be assessed on its own merits.

Conclusion

In the light of the above assessment, having particular regard to the previous Inspectors decisions and the improvements to the provision of family sized accommodation, it is considered that the proposed be approved for the following reasons:

The proposed erection of 36 residential units including 9 affordable units would contribute to increasing the range of the Borough's housing stock, as well as providing suitable affordable housing, having regard to policies (I)GD1, (I)GD2 and

(II)H6 of the Unitary Development Plan, policies 3A.1, 3A.2, 3A.5, 3A.6, 3A.8, 3A.9, 3A.10 and 3A.11 of the London Plan (2008), the objectives of PPS1 and PPS3 and appeal decisions APP/Q5300/A/07/2048256/NWF and APP/Q5300/A/08/2076421/NWF.

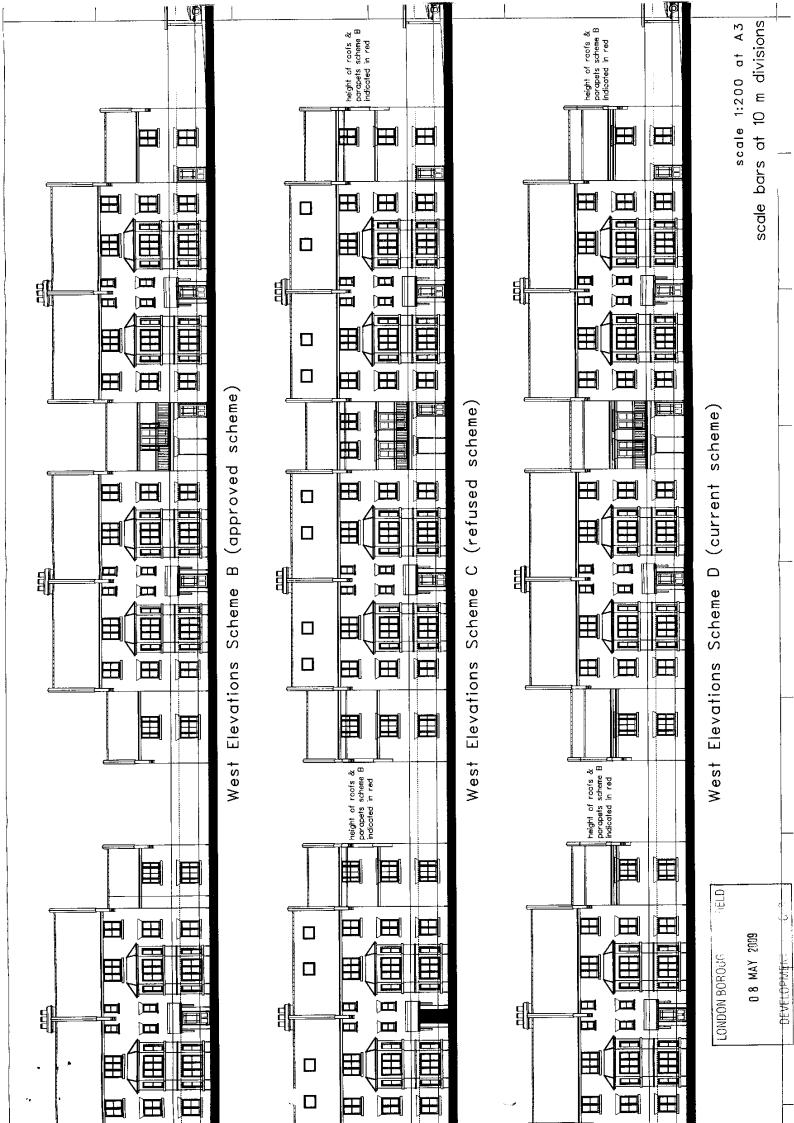
The proposed erection of 36 residential units would not detract from the character and appearance or the visual amenities of the surrounding area having regard to Policies (I)GD1, (I)GD2, (II)GD3, (I)EN3, (II)EN9, (II)EN11, (II)O6, (II)O7, (II)O8, (II)O9 and II)O10 of the Unitary Development Plan, as well as the objectives of PPS1 and PPS3 and appeal decisions APP/Q5300/A/07/2048256/NWF and APP/Q5300/A/08/2076421/NWF.

The proposed erection of 36 residential units would not unduly affect the amenities of adjoining or nearby residential properties having regard to Policies (I)GD1 and (I)GD2 of the Unitary Development Plan, as well as the objectives of PPS1 and PPS3 and appeal decision APP/Q5300/A/07/2048256/NWF and APP/Q5300/A/08/2076421/NWF.

The proposed erection of 36 residential units would not unduly prejudice through overlooking or loss of privacy, the amenities enjoyed by neighbouring properties, having regard to Policy (II)H8 of the Unitary Development Plan, as well as the objectives of PPS1 and PPS3 and appeal decisions APP/Q5300/A/07/2048256/NWF and APP/Q5300/A/08/2076421/NWF.

The proposed erection of 36 residential units including the provision of 45 parking spaces and 44 secure cycle spaces and resulting in the loss of existing garage facilities would not give rise to unacceptable on street parking, congestion or highway safety issues, having regard to Policies (II)GD6, (II)GD8 and (II)T13 as well as Policy 3C.23 of the London Plan, the objectives of PPG13 and appeal decisions APP/Q5300/A/07/2048256/NWF and APP/Q5300/A/08/2076421/NWF.







Application Number: TP/09/0671 Ward: Southgate Green Date of Registration: 18th May 2009

Contact: Richard Laws 3605

Location: 44-48, AMBERLEY ROAD, LONDON, N13 4BJ

<u>Proposal</u>: Part two storey, part three storey rear extension to provide nine extra bedrooms and new dining room to existing residential care home and a rear conservatory.

Applicant Name & Address:

Mr Haresh Dhunnoo 44-48, AMBERLEY HOUSE 44-48, AMBERLEY ROAD LONDON N13 4BJ

Agent Name & Address:

Mr Mike Forrester, Forrester Associates Spadesbourne House 184, Worcester Road Broomsgrove Worcs B61 7AZ

Recommendation : That planning permission be **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:

- 1. C08 Materials to Match
- 2. C10 Details of Levels
- 3. C11 Details of Enclosure
- 4. C12 Details of Parking/Turning Facilities
- 5. C17 Details of Landscaping
- 6. C19 Details of Refuse Storage & Recycling Facilities
- 7. C25 No additional Fenestration
- 8. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendment) Order 2005, or any amending Order, the premises and extensions shall only be used as a elderly persons nursing home and shall not be used for any purpose within Use Class C2, or for any other purpose.

Reason To ensure the use of the premises does not prejudice amenities of the occupiers of nearby residential properties or give rise to conditions prejudicial to the free flow and safety of traffic using adjoining highways.

9. That details of noise insulation to windows in the north elevation of the proposed development shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local Planning authority

before the extensions are occupied.

Reason: To avoid nuisance to the occupants of the development hereby approved.

10. C51A Time Limited Permission

Site and Surroundings

The application site comprises three properties: Nos 44 to 48 Amberley Road which are currently in use as an elderly persons residential care home. The care home currently provides accommodation for 16 residents with 21 staff that are split on a 3-shift rotation system.

Situated on the corner of the junction of Amberley Road and Bourne Hill, the frontage is paved and provides for a number of car parking spaces accessed from Amberley Road. There is also vehicular access into the site off Bourne Hill. There is a belt of conifer trees on the boundary of the site that front on to Bourne Hill, which screens the rear garden of the site from this view.

Proposal

Permission is sought for a part three storey, part two-storey addition to the existing nursing home, which would extend along the Bourne Hill frontage. The extensions are cut into the ground to provide a semi- basement level and reduce the overall height. In addition, a rear conservatory is proposed, measuring 5.2 metres in depth.

At present, the care home contains 15 residents' bedrooms (as well as a staff bedroom), together with dining room, siting room, conservatory, kitchen, laundry and office to cater for 16 residents. Although the extension contaims14 beds, due to internal rearrangement involving the original property, there would only be a maximum of 25 bedrooms and a total of 25 residents.

Four parking spaces are indicated on the Amberley Road frontage; in addition 3 spaces are shown accessed off Bourne Hill via an existing crossover. There would also be an increase in staff from 21 to 30 split on a rotation shift system.

Relevant Planning History

TP/87/0793 – Change of use of 44 Amberley from house to nursing home for the elderly in connection with the existing use at 46-48, erection of single storey extension at rear of 46- 48 was granted in October 1987

TP/00/0312-Part two storey, part three storey rear extension to provide 9 extra spaces and new dining room to existing residential care home was granted July 2000

TP/00/0312/ REN1- Renewal of unimplemented permission (part two storey, part three storey rear extension to provide nine extra bed spaces an new dining room to residential care was granted April 2004. Although unimplemented, this permission remains valid until 29th April 2010

Consultations

<u>Public</u>

Consultation letters were sent to 30 neighbouring properties. In response, 6 letters of objection have been received raising all or some of the following points:

- Previous application for 9 extra bed spaces, not 9 extra rooms

- Likely extra traffic caused by extension e.g. visitors, staff, medical services etc
- Noise and disturbance/ health and safety concerns
- Already too many conversions within Amberley Road, which exceed the limit
- -Site close to junction, car parking proposed increase dangers particularly spaces in Bourne Hill,
- Further detract from residential character of street scene
- Increase in bedrooms from 15- 24 results in an over intensive use
- Street scene suffer if more residents forced to convert their front gardens
- Already very busy road and any increase in traffic only increase these dangers
- Increased congestion and traffic, further impact on parking issues
- Very large extension/ oversized development extension virtually consume all the garden of 48 Amberley Road
- Building effect trees on site, loss of well established trees
- 3-storey element out of character with neighbouring properties
- Proximity and height of development result in loss of light
- Current application greater scale than previous application granted
- Issues of privacy/ overlooking and security
- Impact on residential character of Amberley Road

In addition, a letter of objection has been received from the Fox Lane Residents Association raising the following points:

- Already too many conversions in street
- Result in over intensive use of site leading to increase in activity, general noise and
- Detract from residential character and amenities of the area

 Increase in traffic using Amberley Road itself, and particularly the increased use of car parking spaces off Bourne hill detrimental to pedestrian and highway safety
 Contrary to UDP Polices

External: None

Internal: None

Relevant polices

London Plan

- 4B.8 Respect Local context and communities
- 4B.1 Design Principles for a compact city
- 3C.23 Parking strategy

Unitary Development Plan

- (I) GD1 Developments have appropriate regard to surroundings
- (I) GD2 Improve environment
- (II) GD3 Character/ Design
- (II) H8 Privacy
- (II) H13 Extensions on return frontage
- (II) H12 Residential extensions
- (II) GD6 Traffic generation
- (II) GD8 Servicing
- (I) CS1 To seek to have regards to requirement of community services
- (II) CS2 To liaise with service authorities

Local Development Framework- Core Strategy Preferred Options

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to replace the UDP with a Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF core Strategy will set out the spatial vision and strategic objectives for the Borough. The Core Strategy is at an early stage in its adoption process. As this continues the weight given will grow and the relevant objectives are reported to demonstrate the degree to which the proposals are consistent with the emerging policy direction.

- SO7 Distinctive and balanced communities
- SO11 Safer and Stronger communities
- SO16 Preserve local Distinctiveness
- SO17 Safeguard communities and the quality of the local environment

Other Material Considerations

- PPS1 Delivering Sustainable Development
- PPG13 Transport

Analysis:

Background

Planning permission has been granted for the part two storey / part three storey rear extension currently proposed. Previously, the development provided nine additional bed spaces as well as a new dining room (ref: TP/00/0312/REN1) to create a total of 25 bedrooms accommodating 25 residents. However, although unimplemented, this permission is still valid until 29th April 2010 and could still be implemented. The permission is therefore a material planning consideration.

It must be noted that the size, height and footprint of the extensions in this current application (with the exception of an additional new conservatory) remains as previously approved. There are though some minor alterations regarding the fenestration and internal layout.

As a consequence of these decisions, the principle of the proposed development is established. Concerns raised by residents and the Winchmore Hill Residents Association must therefore be assessed against this background.

Design and Appearance of Extension

The proposed part two storey, part three-storey extension now proposed remains similar in appearance to that previously accepted. There are differences in the fenestration and the position of the lift shaft. However, these are of a minor nature and do not affect the acceptability of the proposed scheme. No objection is therefore raised.

No objections are raised regarding the proposed conservatory in terms of its design or appearance.

Impact on residential amenities of surrounding properties

Given the scale of the extensions previously approved, it is considered the current proposal would not have any materially different impact on the residential amenities of surrounding properties fronting Bourne Hill or No. 42 Amberley Road in terms of loss of privacy or residential amenity. In particular, it should be noted that a distance of approximately 10.8m would be retained from the nearest bedroom windows of the extension to the rear garden of 42 Amberley Road, which is the same distance as previously approved. No objection can therefore be raised.

The proposed 5.2 metres deep by 6 metre wide conservatory, would be sited 7 metres from the boundary with 42 Amberley Road and as a result, would have no adverse impact on residential amenity through a loss of light or outlook.

Traffic/ parking

A total of 7 spaces are proposed: 4 accessible from Amberley Road and 3 accessible from Bourne Hill via an existing crossover. This parking layout remains the same as previously approved under TP/00/0321/REN1 and in the absence of any material change in circumstances pertaining to the highway or traffic generation, it is considered that the traffic implications arising from this proposal would be no different to that previously accepted notwithstanding the traffic and parking issues raised by residents.

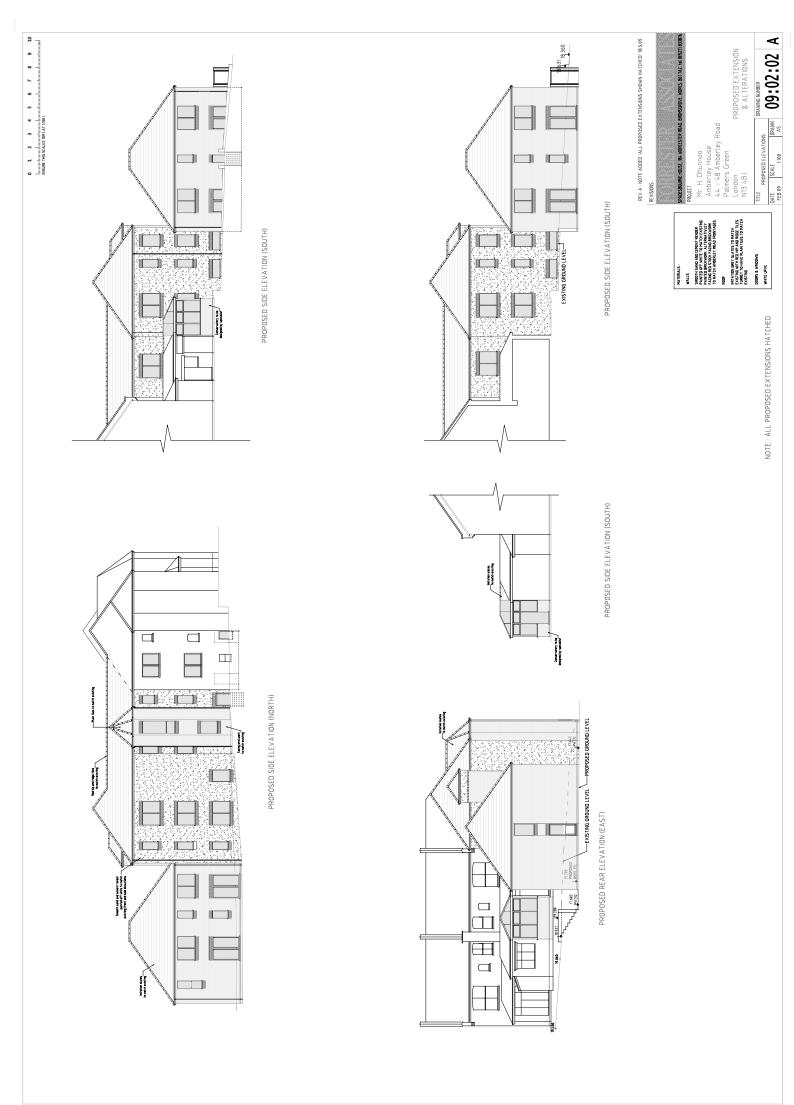
Conclusion

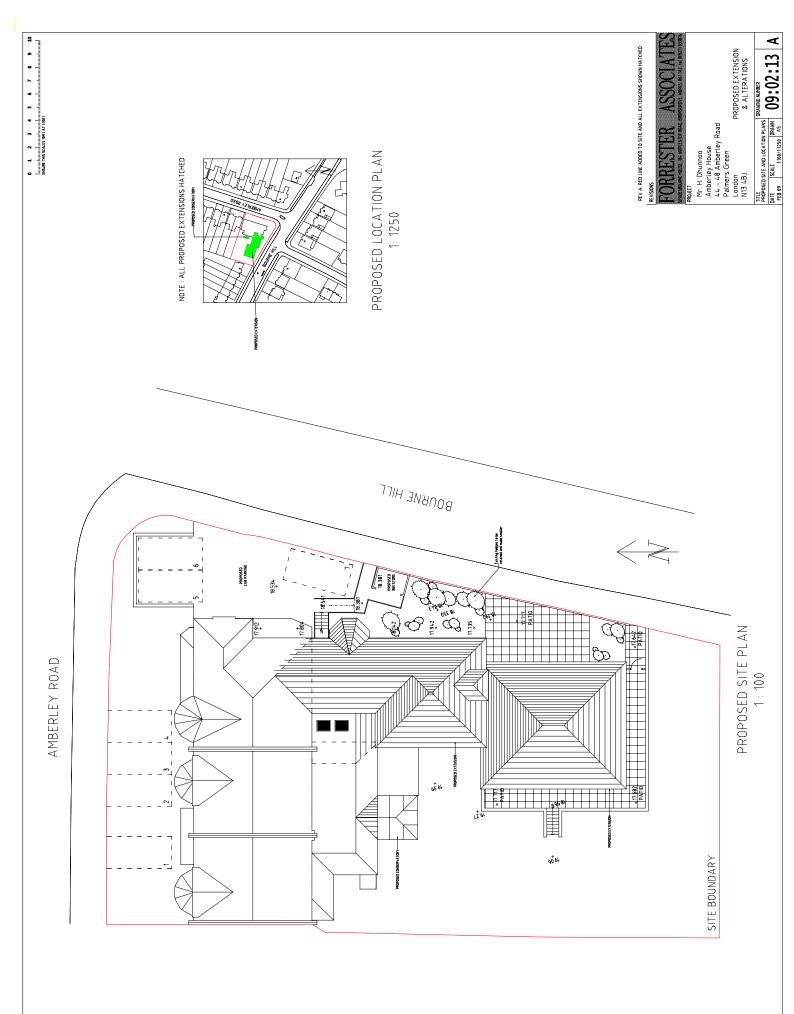
In light of the above assessment, and having regard to the previous planning permission, it is considered that the proposal be approved for the following reasons.

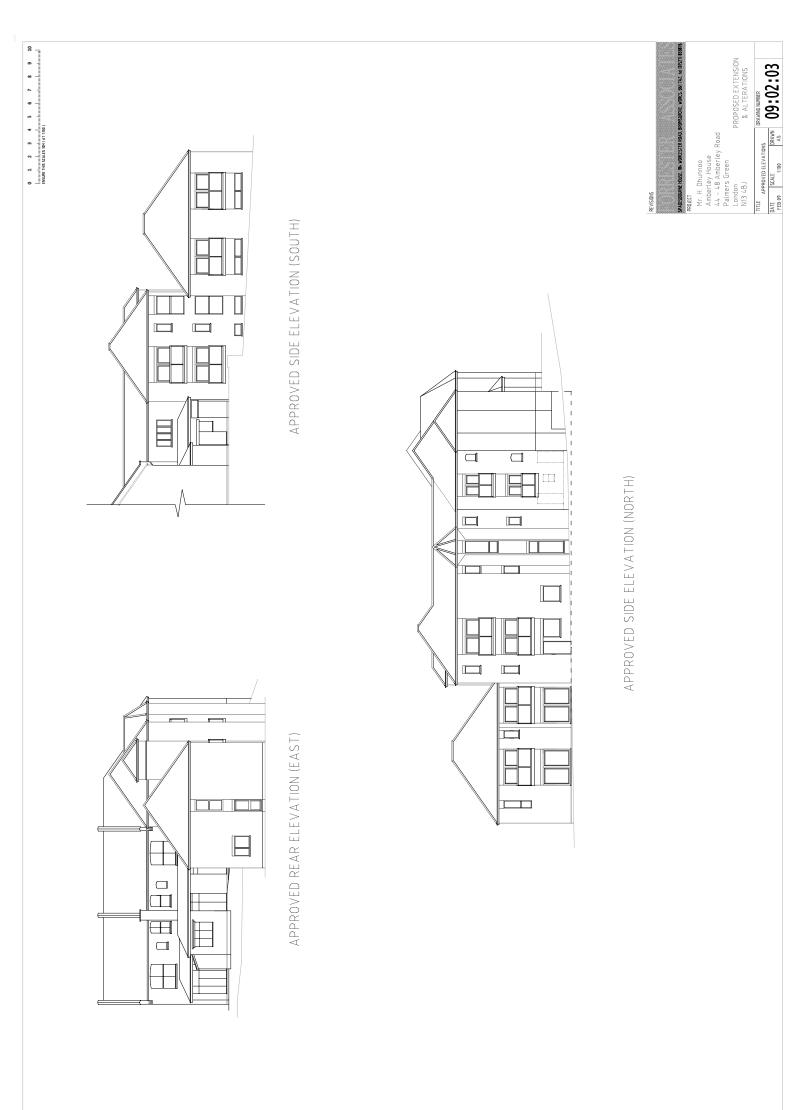
1 The proposed part two storey, part three storey extension and rear conservatory to the existing residential care home due to its size, siting, design and external appearance would not adversely impact on the residential amenities of surrounding properties having regard to Policies (I) GD1, (I) GD2, (II) H8 and (II) H12 of the Unitary Development Plan.

2 The proposed part two storey, part three storey extension and rear conservatory to the existing residential care home due to their design and appearance would not detract from the character and appearance of the surrounding locality having regard to Policies (I) GD1, (I) GD2 and (II) GD3 of the Unitary Development Plan as well as having regard to London Plan Policy 4B.8.

3 The proposed extensions to the existing care home provides an acceptable level of off site parking provision and would not adversely impact on highway safety having regard to Policies (II) GD6 of the Unitary Development Plan and London Plan Policy 3C.23









Application Number: TP/09/0758 Ward: Grange Date of Registration: 26th May 2009

Contact: Jo Fyfe 1605

Location: 25, OLD PARK RIDINGS, LONDON, N21 2EX

Proposal: Loft conversion involving rear dormer and 3 velux roof lights to the front elevation.

Applicant Name & Address:

Mr Garabetian 25, OLD PARK RIDINGS LONDON N21 2EX

Agent Name & Address:

D L Jackson 31, King James Avenue Cuffley Herts EN6 4LN

Note for Members

Members deferred consideration of the application at the last meeting to enable officers to discuss further the proposed front roof lights with the applicant.

The applicant's agent has confirmed that he wishes this part of the proposal to be considered and that the roof lights are to be from the 'velux' conservation range.

Members will recall that at the last meeting officers amended the recommendation to include a condition that notwithstanding the specification of 'velux' conservation roof lights submitted details be submitted of roof light of a design appropriate to the building and its conservation area setting.

In the circumstances of the agent's clarification the recommendation is amended to one of refusal because the design of the roof lights is not considered to be appropriate.

Recommendation: That planning permission be **REFUSED** for the following reason:

 The proposed roof lights on the front elevation by reason of their design and siting would detract from the appearance of the property in the street scene and would not serve to preserve the character of Grange Park Conservation Area having regard to Policies (I)C1 and (II)C30 of the Unitary Development Plan.

Site and Surroundings

The property is a semi detached single-family dwelling house located on the western side of Old Park Ridings, opposite Grange Park Methodist Church. The surrounding area is characterised by similar residential development. The site is in Grange Park Conservation Area.

Proposal

The applicant proposes to convert the loft into two bedrooms, involving a rear dormer measuring 2.0m in width, 1.6m in height and 1.9m in depth from the original roof of the dwelling, and three roof lights (0.55m x 0.98m) to the front roof slope, of 'velux' conservation style with a central glazing bar

Relevant Planning Decisions

None.

Consultation

<u>Public</u>

5 neighbouring properties were consulted, a site notice was posted outside the property on 19 June 2009, and a press notice. One response was received:

Grange Park Conservation Area Study Group- Proposed roof lights to the front are in contravention of conservation area policy.

Councillor Neville supports the view of Grange Park Study Group.

Relevant Policies

Unitary Development Plan Policies

(I)C1	Preserve and enhance Conservation Areas
(II)C30	Extensions in a Conservation Area
(I)GD1	Regard to surroundings
(I)GD2	Development to improve the environment
(II)GD3	Aesthetic and functional design
(II)H15	Roof extensions

Other Relevant Policy

Planning Policy Guidance 15 (PPG15) – Planning and the Historic Environment

Grange Park Conservation Area Character Appraisal (as approved November 2008)

Analysis

Rear dormer

Policy (II)H15 of the Unitary Development Plan provides for roof alterations and stipulates that rear dormers are generally considered acceptable providing the following criteria are met:

- Dormer is appropriate size and design within the roof plane;
- Dormer is in keeping with the character of the property; and
- Dormer is not dominant when viewed from the surrounding area.

The plans show that the dormer would be set down from the ridge by 650mm, up from the eaves by 1.3m and inset from the northern side of the roof by 900mm. It would be located to one side of the roof slope, closer to No.27 Old Park Ridings due to the shape of the rear roof plane. It is

considered that the size and design of the dormer would not result in a dominant feature in the roof slope, thereby complying with Policy (II)H15 of the Unitary Development Plan.

All the properties along this section of Old Park Ridings have existing rear dormer windows, of various sizes and positions within the roof plane, and therefore the principle of the dormer would not be out of keeping with the surrounding area, with due regard to Policies (I)GD1 and (I)GD2 of the Unitary Development Plan. Furthermore, the proposed dormer matches the existing dormer to the rear of the adjoining semi-detached property, No.27 Old Park Ridings, which are smaller than the majority of the dormers in the surrounding area.

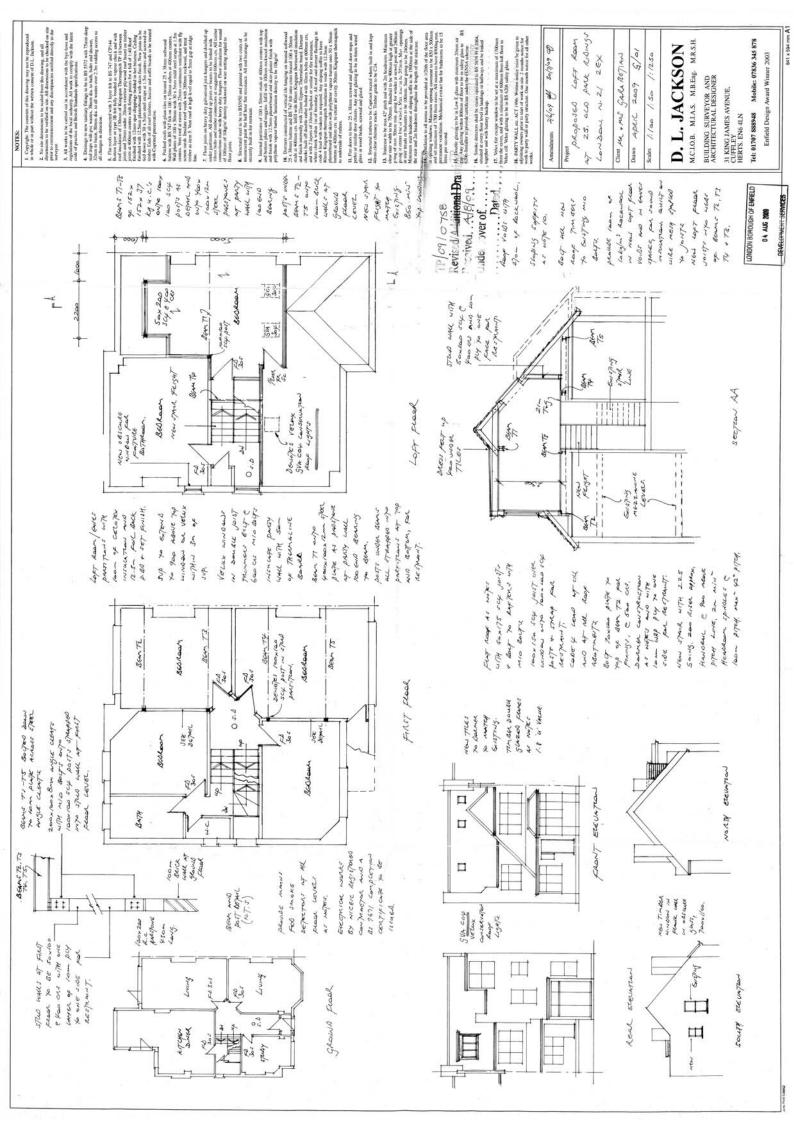
With regards to the conservation area, due to the size, design and materials proposed, and the fact that No.25 Old Park Ridings is the lone roof slope to the rear without a dormer in this section of the road, it is considered the dormer would not affect the preservation of the character of the dwelling, with regards to Policy (I)C1 of the Unitary Development Plan.

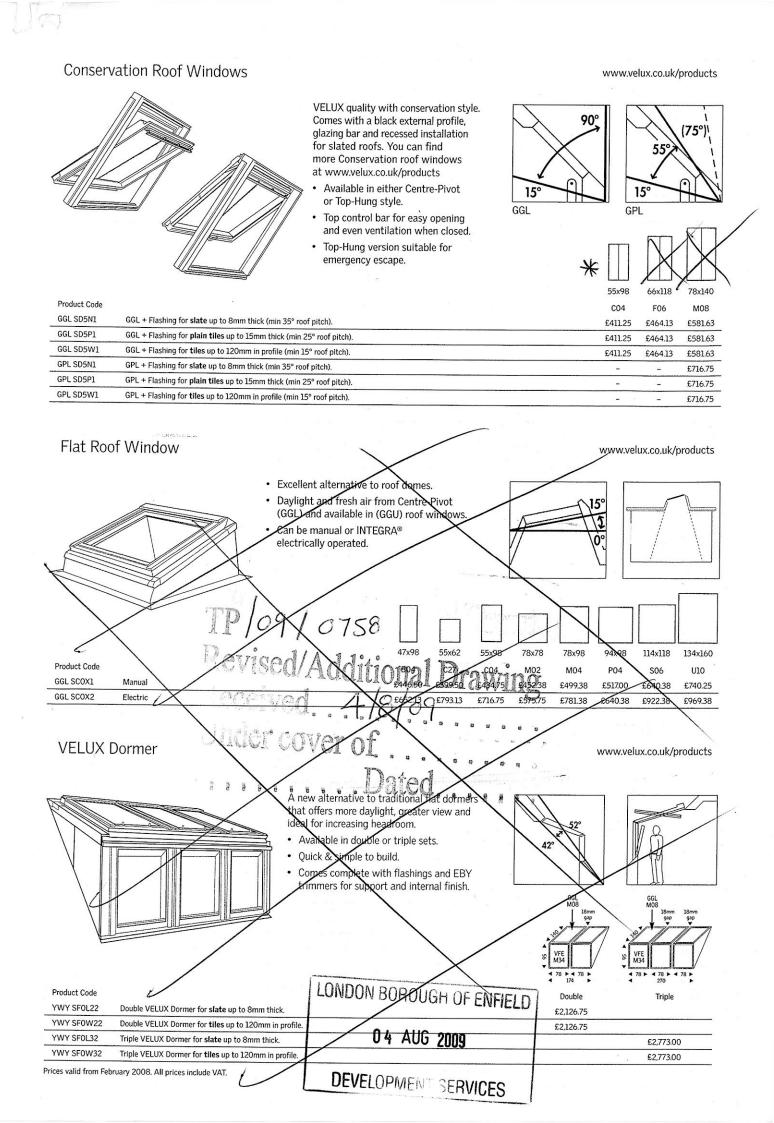
Roof lights

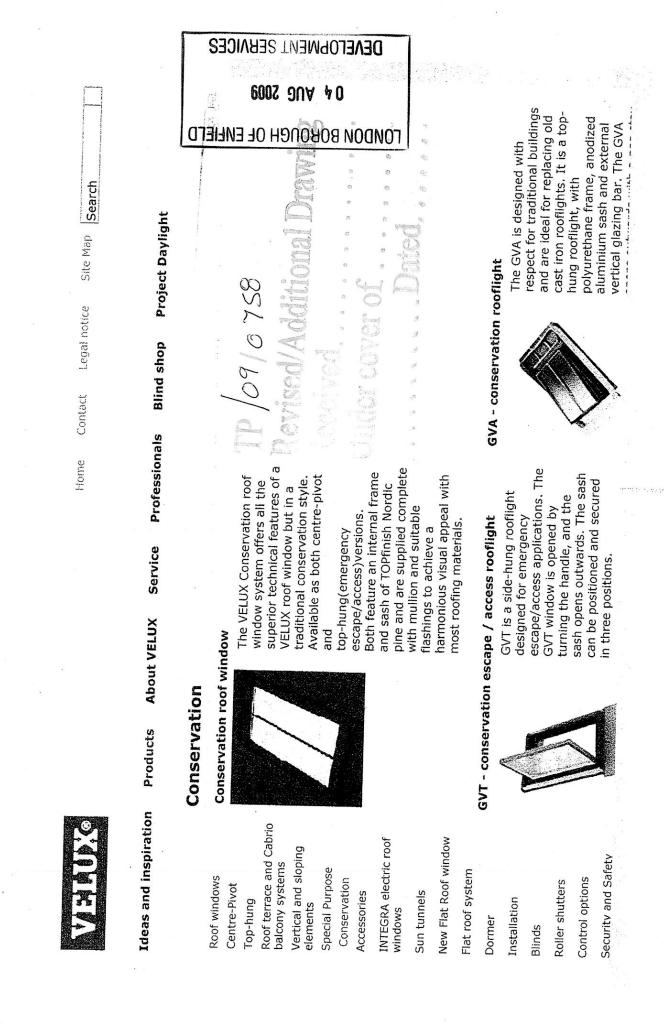
There are a number of properties with front 'velux' roof lights in the street that were installed prior to conservation area designation.' In this context it is considered that in principle the installation of roof lights of an appropriate design on the application property whilst not enhancing the character of the conservation would serve to preserve its character. However, the design of the roof lights proposed that are of modern appearance and set proud of the existing roof slope are considered to be inappropriate in this context.

Conclusion

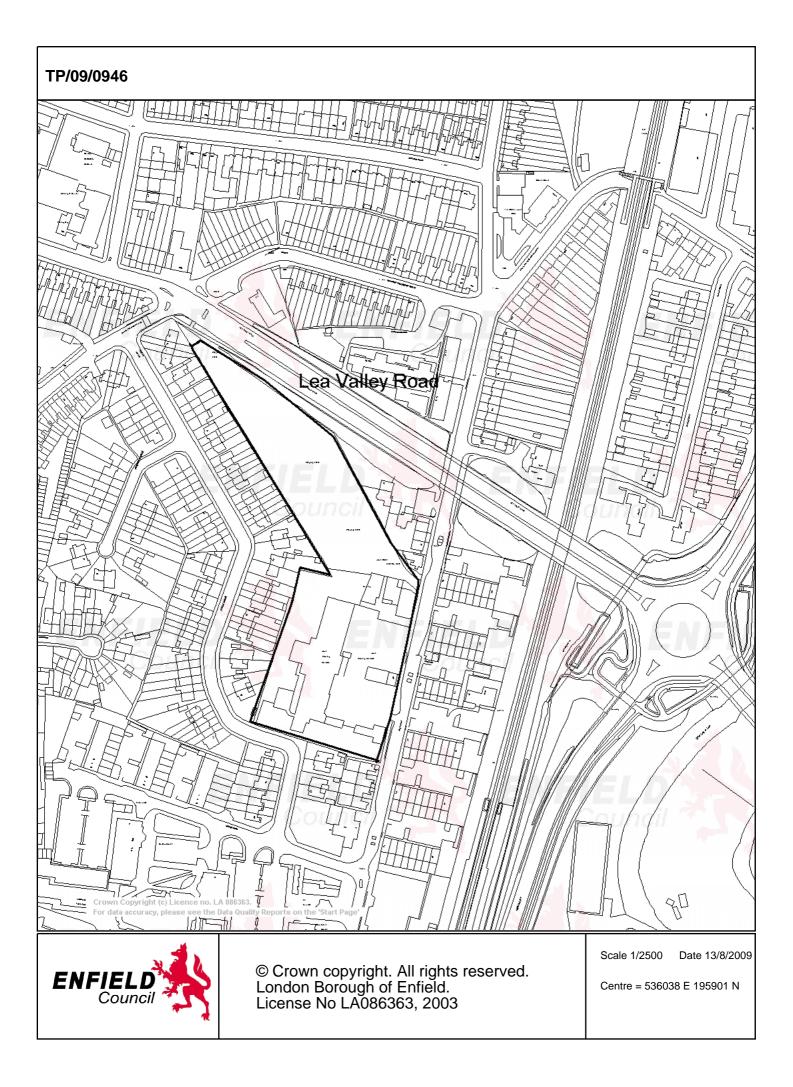
It is recommended planning permission be refused.







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Application Number: TP/09/0946 Ward: Ponders End Date of Registration: 14th July 2009

Contact: David Snell 3838

Location: ALMA PRIMARY SCHOOL, ALMA ROAD, ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX, EN3 4UQ

Proposal: Erection of entrance canopy and detached play shelter within playground.

Applicant Name & Address:

Mrs J Feavearyear ALMA PRIMARY SCHOOL ALMA ROAD ENFIELD MIDDLESEX EN3 4UQ

Agent Name & Address:

Recommendation: That planning permission be GRANTED, subject to the following condition:

1. C51A Time Limited Permission

Site and surroundings

Primary school campus fronting Alma Road and Curzon Avenue.

Proposal:

Erection of open sided front entrance canopy with clear sheet roof and a detached play shelter/seating area within the playground.

Relevant planning history

None

Consultation

<u>Public</u>

18 surrounding properties were consulted. No replies have been received.

Policy

The London Plan

3A.24 Education facilities

Unitary Development Plan

(I) GD1 Appropriate regard to surroundings

(II)GD3 Design (II)CS1Community services

Local Development Framework

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to replace the Unitary Development Plan with a Local Development Framework. At the heart of this portfolio of related documents will be the Core Strategy which will set out the long-term spatial vision and strategic objectives for the Borough.

In response to consultation in respect of Issues and Options which identified key areas, the Council is now consulting on the Preferred Options for the Core Strategy. As a policy document, the Core Strategy is at an early stage in its process to adoption and thus, presently, can only be afforded limited weight as a material consideration. As the process continues the weight to be attributed to the Core Strategy will increase and the relevant policies are reported to demonstrate the degree to which development proposals are consistent with the emerging policy direction for the Borough.

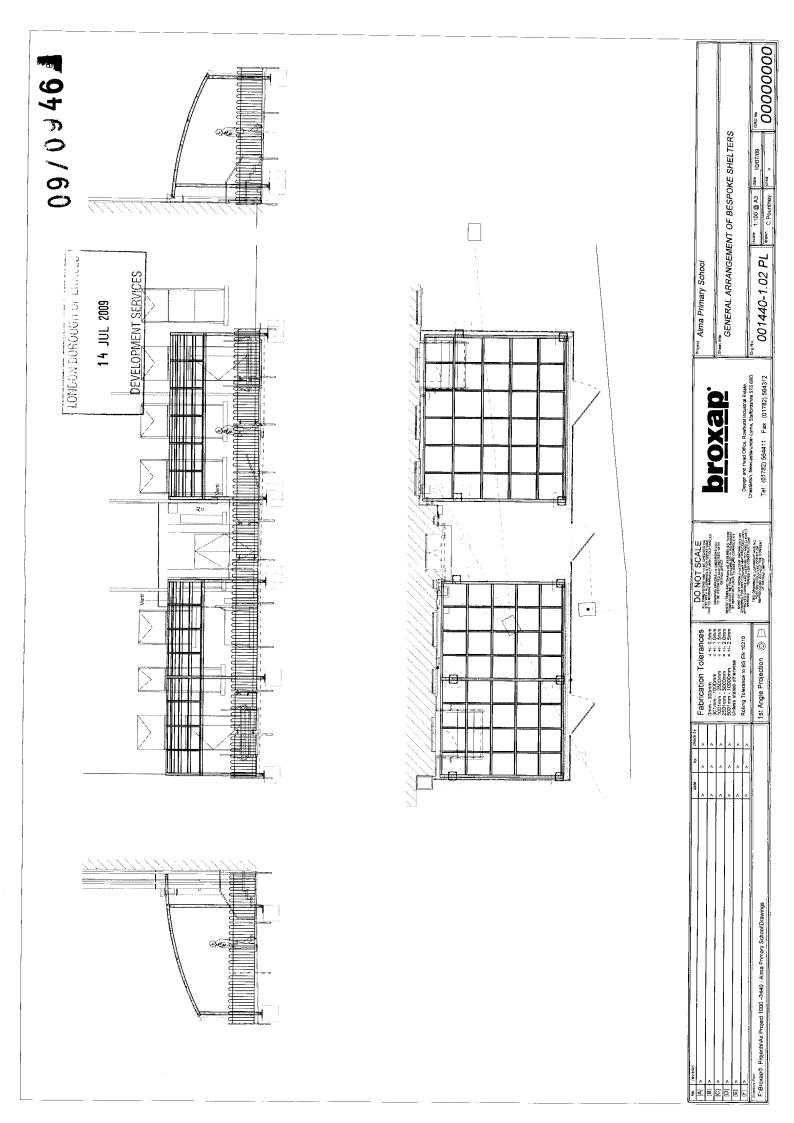
Core policy 16 Children and young people

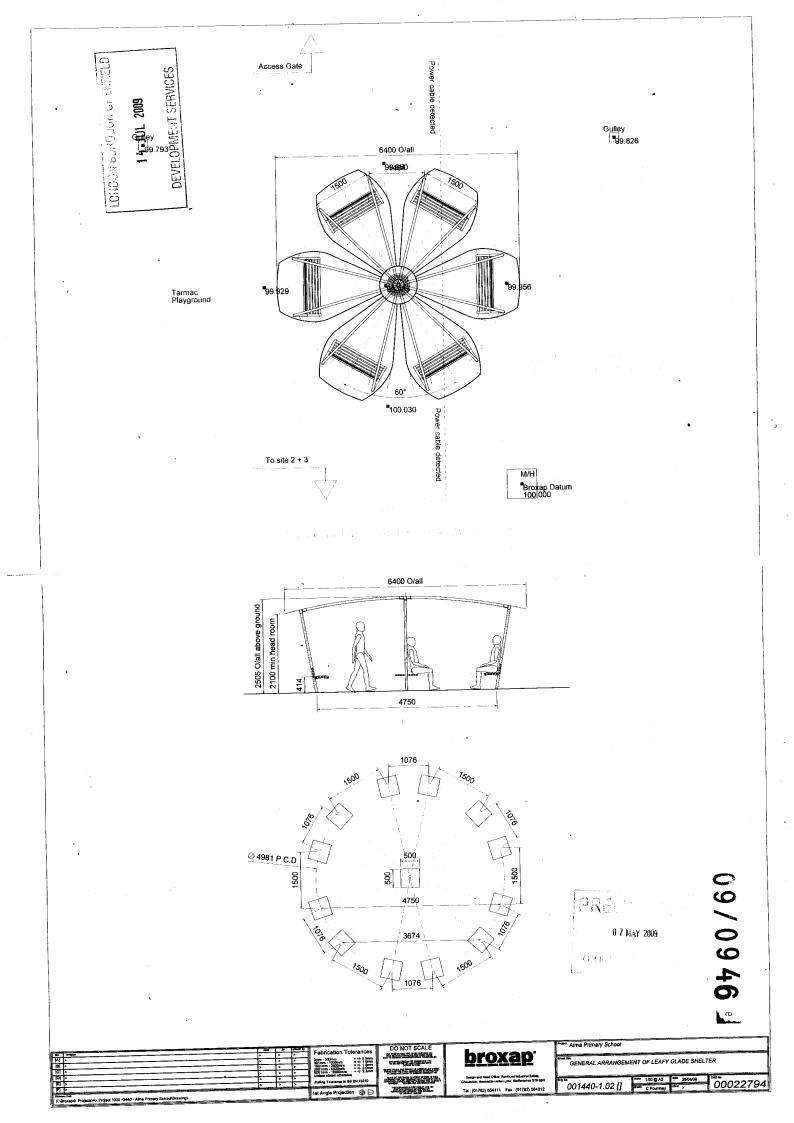
Analysis

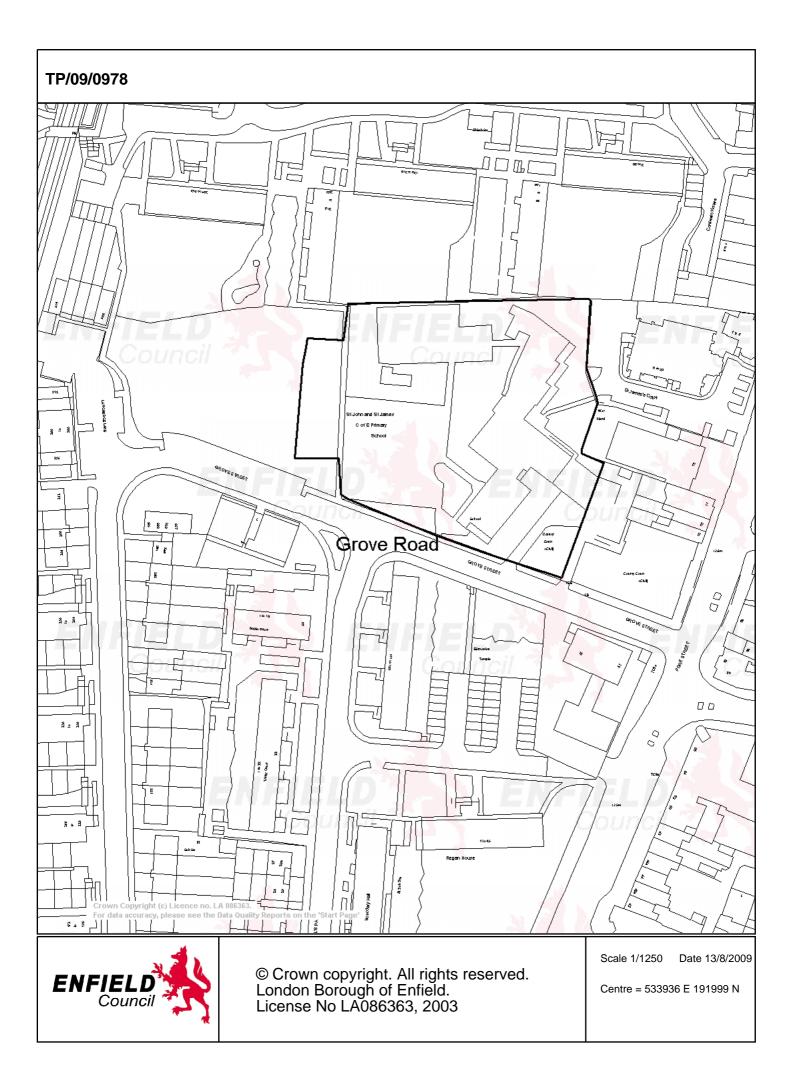
The proposed canopy would not detract from the front elevation of the building and is considered to be acceptable. The proposed play shelter is of good design and is considered to be acceptable in the context of the school playground. The proposals have no impact external to the school campus.

It is recommended that planning permission be granted for the following reasons:

 The proposed development would be of acceptable design within its context and improves school facilities having regard to Policies (II)CS1, (I)GD1 and (II)GD3 of the Unitary Development Plan and Policy 3A.24 of the London Plan.







Application Number: TP/09/0978 Ward: Upper Edmonton Date of Registration: 3rd July 2009

Contact: Richard Laws 3605

Location: ST JOHN AND ST JAMES C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL, GROVE STREET, LONDON, N18 2TL

Proposal: Detached building to north-west of school to provide additional teaching facility.

Applicant Name & Address:

The Governors ST JOHN AND ST JAMES C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL GROVE STREET LONDON N18 2TL

Agent Name & Address:

Mr Thomas Wells, SCABAL 57-60, Charlotte Road London EC2A 3QT

Recommendation: That planning permission be **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions.

- 1. C07 Details of Materials
- 2. C51A Time Limited Permission

Site and Surroundings

St John and St James Church of England Primary School comprises a mix of two and single storey buildings located on the north side of Grove Road, which is to the west of Fore Street and adjacent to St James Open Space.

The surrounding area is characterised by a mix of 2 storey residential properties predominantly on Langhedge Lane, large residential tower blocks 4-7 storeys in height to the north, west and south of the site and the more commercial character of Fore Street to the east. The eastern boundary of the site adjoins Fore Street South Conservation area. Vehicular access to the site is from Grove Street.

Proposal

Permission is sought for a single storey pavilion building to provide an additional teaching facility and is an addition to a comprehensive scheme to expand the school to 2 forms of entry previously approved under TP/09/0051.

The pavilion would be situated towards the northern boundary between the existing toilet block to the east and the temporary classrooms to the west. The pavilion would have a pentagonal shape covering an area of 63 sq.m and a pitched roof. The pavilion has been designed to sit within the proposed new landscaped grounds of the school.

Relevant Planning Decisions

TP/09/0051- an application for a two storey extension to provide 12 additional classrooms, hall and associated facilities, single storey rear extension to kitchen, single storey detached storage building and formation of multi use (MUGA) involving repositioning of existing footpath crossing St James Public Open Space and repositioning of vehicular and pedestrian accesses to school together with rearrangement of car park was granted planning permission in March 2009

Consultation

<u>Public</u>

Consultation letters were sent to 129 neighbouring and nearby residential properties. A site notice was also displayed at the site. No responses have been received.

External: None

Internal:

Education support the application. They advise that the proposed scheme will enable St John and St James CE Primary School to contribute towards achieving the strategic priorities set out in the Authority's Children and Young People's Plan 2006 –2009. This additional teaching facility is part of the overall scheme to expand the school to 2 forms of entry, which was approved under planning Ref: TP/09/0051. The development will not result in staff or pupil numbers other than those already approved under TP/09/0051.

Relevant Policies

London Plan

- 3A.21 Education Facilities
- 4A.6 Sustainable Design and Construction
- 4B.8 Respect local context and communities
- 3C.23 Parking strategy

Unitary Development Plan

- (I) GD1 Appropriate regard to surroundings
- (I) GD2 Quality of life and visual amenity
- (II) GD3- Character/ Design
- (II) GD6 Traffic generation
- (II) GD8 Site Access and Servicing
- (II) C30 Development adjacent to Conservation Area
- (I) CS1- Facilitate the work of various community services
- (II) CS2 Siting and design of buildings

Other Policy considerations

PPS1- Delivering Sustainable Communities

Local Development Framework

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to replace the UDP with a Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF Core Strategy will set out the spatial vision and strategic objectives of the Borough. The Core Strategy is at an early stage in its adoption process. As this continuous the weight given to it will grow and the relevant objectives are reported to demonstrate the degree to which the proposals are consistent with emerging policy direction

- SO 3 Protect and Enhance Enfield's environmental quality
- SO1 Preserve Local Distinctiveness
- SO17 Safeguard established communities and quality of local environment

Analysis

The proposal would provide additional teaching capacity and would thus, support the objectives of Policies (II) CS1 of the Unitary Development Plan and Policy 3A.24 of the London Plan.

The proposed single storey-teaching pavilion would be sited 3.2 metres from the north boundary of the school. The nearest residential properties would be flats located in blocks on Joyce Avenue, in particular, Nos 92-126 (even). As a single storey structure with an overall height of 5.1 metres, it is considered that this additional building will have no adverse impact on the amenities of these nearest residential properties.

In addition, the overall design and appearance of the pavilion is considered acceptable in terms of its setting within the overall school complex having regard to Policies (I) GD1 and (I) GD3 of the Unitary Development Plan. It is also considered that the design is of sufficient quality to integrate with its surroundings to preserve the setting and appearance of the adjacent Conservation Area

Conclusion

In light of the above it is recommended that planning permission be granted for the following reasons:

1. The proposed single storey pavilion building to provide additional teaching facilities would improve school facilities in accordance with Policy (II) CS1 of the Unitary Development Plan and Policy 3A.24 of the London Plan.

2. The proposed development has appropriate regard to its surroundings and does not detract from the amenities of surrounding residential occupiers or adjacent Conservation Area having regard to policies (I) GD1, (I) GD2 and (II) C30 of the Unitary Development Plan.

3. The development does not involve any increase in staff or pupils and thus, would not give rise to conditions prejudicial to the free flow and safety of vehicles using the adjoining highways having regard to Policy (II)GD6 of the Unitary Development Plan.

