## Bath & North East Somerset Council

#### **Democratic Services**

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Date: 25 May 2016 E-mail: Democratic\_Services@bathnes.gov.uk

## To: All Members of the Development Management Committee

**Councillors:-** Rob Appleyard, Jasper Becker, Paul Crossley, Matthew Davies, Sally Davis, Eleanor Jackson, Les Kew, Bryan Organ, Caroline Roberts and David Veale **Permanent Substitutes:- Councillors:** Neil Butters, Ian Gilchrist, Liz Hardman, Dine Romero and Karen Warrington

Chief Executive and other appropriate officers Press and Public

Dear Member

## Development Management Committee: Wednesday, 1st June, 2016

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **Development Management Committee**, to be held on **Wednesday**, **1st June**, **2016** at **2.00 pm** in the **Brunswick Room - Guildhall**, **Bath** 

The Chair's Briefing Meeting will be held at 10.00am on Tuesday 31 May in the Meeting Room, Lewis House, Bath.

The rooms will be available for the meetings of political groups. Coffee etc. will be provided in the Group Rooms before the meeting.

The agenda is set out overleaf.

Yours sincerely

Marie Todd for Chief Executive

If you need to access this agenda or any of the supporting reports in an alternative accessible format please contact Democratic Services or the relevant report author whose details are listed at the end of each report.

This Agenda and all accompanying reports are printed on recycled paper

## NOTES:

- 1. Inspection of Papers: Any person wishing to inspect minutes, reports, or a list of the background papers relating to any item on this Agenda should contact Marie Todd who is available by telephoning Bath 01225 394414 or by calling at the Guildhall Bath (during normal office hours).
- 2. Public Speaking at Meetings: The Council has a scheme to encourage the public to make their views known at meetings. They may make a statement relevant to what the meeting has power to do. They may also present a petition or a deputation on behalf of a group. Advance notice is required not less than two full working days before the meeting (this means that for meetings held on Wednesdays notice must be received in Democratic Services by 4.30pm the previous Friday)

The public may also ask a question to which a written answer will be given. Questions must be submitted in writing to Democratic Services at least two full working days in advance of the meeting (this means that for meetings held on Wednesdays, notice must be received in Democratic Services by 4.30pm the previous Friday). If an answer cannot be prepared in time for the meeting it will be sent out within five days afterwards. Further details of the scheme can be obtained by contacting Marie Todd as above.

3. Details of Decisions taken at this meeting can be found in the minutes which will be published as soon as possible after the meeting, and also circulated with the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime details can be obtained by contacting Marie Todd as above.

Appendices to reports are available for inspection as follows:-

**Public Access points -** Reception: Civic Centre - Keynsham, Guildhall - Bath, The Hollies - Midsomer Norton. Bath Central and Midsomer Norton public libraries.

**For Councillors and Officers** papers may be inspected via Political Group Research Assistants and Group Rooms/Members' Rooms.

## 4. Recording at Meetings:-

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 now allows filming and recording by anyone attending a meeting. This is not within the Council's control.

Some of our meetings are webcast. At the start of the meeting, the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is to be filmed. If you would prefer not to be filmed for the webcast, please make yourself known to the camera operators.

To comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, we require the consent of parents or guardians before filming children or young people. For more information, please speak to the camera operator

The Council will broadcast the images and sound live via the internet <u>www.bathnes.gov.uk/webcast</u> An archived recording of the proceedings will also be available for viewing after the meeting. The Council may also use the images/sound recordings on its social media site or share with other organisations, such as broadcasters.

- 5. Attendance Register: Members should sign the Register which will be circulated at the meeting.
- 6. THE APPENDED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE IDENTIFIED BY AGENDA ITEM NUMBER.

## 7. Emergency Evacuation Procedure

When the continuous alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building by one of the designated exits and proceed to the named assembly point. The designated exits are sign-posted.

Arrangements are in place for the safe evacuation of disabled people.

## Development Management Committee - Wednesday, 1st June, 2016

## at 2.00 pm in the Brunswick Room - Guildhall, Bath

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

#### 1. EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chairman will ask the Committee Administrator to draw attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out under Note 7

- 2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN (IF DESIRED)
- 3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS
- 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting declarations of interest are received from Members in any of the agenda items under consideration at the meeting. Members are asked to indicate:

- (a) The agenda item number <u>and site</u> in which they have an interest to declare.
- (b) The nature of their interest.
- (c) Whether their interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest <u>or</u> an other interest, (as defined in Part 2, A and B of the Code of Conduct and Rules for Registration of Interests)

Any Member who needs to clarify any matters relating to the declaration of interests is recommended to seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer before the meeting to expedite dealing with the item during the meeting.

- 5. TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN
- 6. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS
  - (1) At the time of publication, no items had been submitted.

(2) To note that, regarding planning applications to be considered, members of the public who have given the requisite notice to the Committee Administrator will be able to make a statement to the Committee immediately before their respective applications are considered. There will be a time limit of 3 minutes for each proposal, ie 3 minutes for the Parish and Town Councils, 3 minutes for the objectors to the proposal and 3 minutes for the applicant, agent and supporters. This allows a maximum of 9 minutes per proposal.

7. ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTED MEMBERS

To deal with any petitions or questions from Councillors and where appropriate Co-

opted Members

- 8. MINUTES: 4 MAY 2016 (PAGES 9 34)
- 9. MAIN PLANS LIST APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION ETC FOR DETERMINATION BY THE COMMITTEE (PAGES 35 74)
- 10. NEW PLANNING APPEALS LODGED, DECISIONS RECEIVED AND DATES OF FORTHCOMING HEARINGS/INQUIRIES (PAGES 75 - 80)

To note the report

The Committee Administrator for this meeting is Marie Todd who can be contacted on 01225 394414.

Delegated List Web Link: <u>http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/planning-and-building-</u> control/view-and-comment-planning-applications/delegated-report

## **Development Control Committee**

(\*NB This is a brief supplementary guidance note not intended to replace or otherwise in any way contradict the Constitution or the Code of Conduct for Members and Co-Opted Members adopted by the Council on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2012 to which full reference should be made as appropriate).

#### 1. <u>Declarations of Interest (Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interest)</u>

These are to take place when the agenda item relating to declarations of interest is reached. It is best for Officers' advice (which can only be informal) to be sought and given prior to or outside the Meeting. In all cases, the final decision is that of the individual Member.

## 2. Local Planning Code of Conduct

This document, as approved by Full Council and previously noted by the Committee, supplements the above. Should any Member wish to state/declare that further to the provisions of the Code (although not a personal or prejudicial interest) they will not vote on any particular issue(s), they should do so after (1) above.

#### 3. <u>Site Visits</u>

Under the Council's own Local Code, such visits should only take place when the expected benefit is substantial eg where difficult to visualize from a plan or from written or oral submissions or the proposal is <u>particularly</u> contentious. The reasons for a site visit should be given and recorded. The *attached note* sets out the procedure.

## 4. Voting & Chair's Casting Vote

By law, the Chair has a second or "casting" vote. It is recognised and confirmed by Convention within the Authority that the Chair's casting vote will not normally be exercised. A positive decision on all agenda items is, however, highly desirable in the planning context, although exercise of the Chair's casting vote to achieve this remains at the Chair's discretion.

Chairs and Members of the Committee should be mindful of the fact that the Authority has a statutory duty to determine planning applications. A tied vote leaves a planning decision undecided. This leaves the Authority at risk of appeal against non-determination and/or leaving the matter in abeyance with no clearly recorded decision on a matter of public concern/interest.

The consequences of this could include (in an appeal against "non-determination" case) the need for a report to be brought back before the Committee for an indication of what decision the Committee would have come to if it had been empowered to determine the application.

## 5. Protocol for Decision-Making

When making decisions, the Committee must ensure that it has regard only to relevant considerations and disregards those that are not material. The Committee must ensure that it bears in mind the following legal duties when making its decisions:

Equalities considerations Risk Management considerations Crime and Disorder considerations Sustainability considerations Natural Environment considerations Planning Act 2008 considerations Human Rights Act 1998 considerations Children Act 2004 considerations Public Health & Inequalities considerations

Whilst it is the responsibility of the report author and the Council's Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer to assess the applicability of the legal requirements, decision makers should ensure that they are satisfied that the information presented to them is consistent with and takes due regard of them.

## 6. Officer Advice

Officers will advise the meeting as a whole (either of their own initiative or when called upon to do so) where appropriate to clarify issues of fact, law or policy. It is accepted practice that all comments will be addressed through the Chair and any subsequent Member queries addressed likewise.

## 7. Decisions Contrary to Policy and Officer Advice

There is a power (not a duty) for Officers to refer any such decision to a subsequent meeting of the Committee. This renders a decision of no effect until it is reconsidered by the Committee at a subsequent meeting when it can make such decision as it sees fit.

## 8. Officer Contact/Advice

If Members have any conduct or legal queries prior to the meeting, then they can contact the following Legal Officers for guidance/assistance as appropriate (bearing in mind that informal officer advice is best sought or given prior to or outside the meeting) namely:-

- 1. Simon Barnes, Principal Solicitor and Deputy Monitoring Officer Tel. No. 01225 39 5176
- 2. Simon Elias, Senior Legal Adviser Tel. No. 01225 39 5178

General Member queries relating to the agenda (including public speaking arrangements for example) should continue to be addressed to Marie Todd Democratic Services Officer Tel No. 01225 39 4414

Planning and Environmental Law Manager, Development Manager, Democratic Services Manager, Monitoring Officer to the Council

## Site Visit Procedure

- (1) Any Member of the Development Control or local Member(s) may request at a meeting the deferral of any application (reported to Committee) for the purpose of holding a site visit.
- (2) The attendance at the site inspection is confined to Members of the Development Control Committee and the relevant affected local Member(s).
- (3) The purpose of the site visit is to view the proposal and enhance Members' knowledge of the site and its surroundings. Members will be professionally advised by Officers on site but no debate shall take place.
- (4) There are no formal votes or recommendations made.
- (5) There is no allowance for representation from the applicants or third parties on the site.
- (6) The application is reported back for decision at the next meeting of the Development Control Committee.
- (7) In relation to applications of a controversial nature, a site visit could take place before the application comes to Committee, if Officers feel this is necessary.

## **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

## Minutes of the Meeting held

Wednesday, 4th May, 2016, 2.00 pm

Councillor Rob Appleyard -	Bath & North East Somerset Council
Councillor Jasper Martin Becker-	Bath & North East Somerset Council
Councillor Paul Crossley -	Bath & North East Somerset Council
Councillor Matthew Davies -	Bath & North East Somerset Council
Councillor Sally Davis -	Bath & North East Somerset Council
Councillor Eleanor Jackson -	Bath & North East Somerset Council
Councillor Les Kew -	Bath & North East Somerset Council
Councillor Bryan Organ -	Bath & North East Somerset Council
Councillor Caroline Roberts -	Bath & North East Somerset Council
Councillor David Veale -	Bath & North East Somerset Council

## 143 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Democratic Services Officer read out the procedure.

## 135 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN (IF DESIRED)

**RESOLVED** that a Vice-Chair was not required on this occasion.

## 136 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

There were none.

## 137 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Veale declared a non-pecuniary interest in application number 2 of agenda item 9 because he was a resident and parish councillor of Clutton. He would withdraw from the meeting when the application was considered.

Councillor Roberts declared a non-pecuniary interest in item number 4 of agenda item 9 as she knew the applicant. She would withdraw from the meeting when the application was considered.

## 138 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There was none.

## 139 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS

The Democratic Services Officer informed the meeting that there were a number of people wishing to make statements on planning applications and that they would be able to do so when reaching their respective items

## 140 ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTED MEMBERS

There were none.

#### 141 **MINUTES: 6TH APRIL 2016**

These were approved as a correct record, subject to one amendment:

page 11, final paragraph, third line: "but not yet listed by heritage" to be amended to "but not yet listed as heritage".

#### 142 SITE VISIT LIST - APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION ETC FOR DETERMINATION BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee considered

- The report of the Group Manager Development Management on various planning applications
- Oral statements by members of the public etc. on the applications at Parcel 8545, Upper Bristol Road, Clutton, 103 Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down, and Little Dene, Greyfield Road, High Littleton, the Speakers List being attached as *Appendix 2* to these Minutes.

**RESOLVED** that, in accordance with their delegated powers, the applications be determined as set out in the Decisions List attached as *Appendix 3* to these Minutes.

#### Item No: 01

Application No: 15/03485/FUL

Site Location: Kingswood Preparatory School, College Road, Lansdown, Bath - erection of new school building to accommodate prep school accommodation, new pre-prep and nursery, and multi-use games area and associated infrastructure and landscaping.

The Chair announced that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda. The Group Manager – Development Manager explained that this was because further evidence had been received the previous week which might impact on the report and the recommendation. Officers would need time to consider this further information. The application would be brought to a future meeting of the Committee.

Item No: 02 Application No: 15/05068/FUL Site Location: Parcel 8545, Upper Bristol Road, Clutton, Bristol, Bath And North East - erection of single storey farmshop and cafe.

Councillor Veale left the meeting in accordance with his declaration of interest.

The Case Officer reported on this application and her recommendation to refuse. She drew Members' attention to the removal from the revised report of the reference to loss of agricultural land. The application, however, was contrary to policy ET8.

The registered speakers made statements for and against the application.

Members asked questions for clarification to which the Case Officer responded. The Case Officer clarified that the site was agricultural land.

Councillor Jackson moved the Officer's recommendation to refuse the application. She felt that the building was too large and in the wrong place and there was no direct relationship between the building and either of the two farms, other than that their produce might be sold from the proposed shop. The motion to refuse was seconded by Councillor Kew who said that while he was sympathetic to the aim of improving amenity for residents, the detail of what was proposed had to be considered. He believed that it would inappropriate development in the countryside because of the size and character of the building.

Councillor Crossley said that the proposal complied with the Clutton Neighbourhood Plan, which had been produced after considerable effort and local involvement. It therefore complied with the Core Strategy. He thought the proposal was quite an imaginative one. He did not think that there would be significant impact on the openness of the Green Belt, as the site was open, with fields all round. What was proposed was not a large rank of shops, but just a couple of isolated shops. The proposal would add to the amenity of local residents. He would therefore vote against the motion to refuse.

Councillor Appleyard agreed with Councillor Crossley. In his view it was the views of the local community that should tip the balance. He would therefore also vote against the motion to refuse.

Councillor Kew pointed out that the site was situated adjacent to the A37, which was a very dangerous road on which there had been five fatal accidents in the past five years. There was no shortage of meeting places in the village: there was the church, the church hall and pub, for example.

The Group Manager – Development Management advised the Committee on the weight to be attached to the various relevant plans and policies. In the view of officers there was no confusion between them. The Neighbourhood Plan was a relatively new high-level policy, but policies S9 and ET.8 and ET.9 gave detailed guidance on the location and size of shops. Officers felt that the scale and location of the proposed building was not appropriate and that the potential level of the activity at the site could also be inappropriate in a rural setting.

The motion was put and it was **RESOLVED** to refuse the application by 6 votes in favour and 3 against.

Item No: 03 Application No: 16/00686/FUL Site Location: 103 Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down - change of use from 3 bed dwelling (use class C3) to 4 bed house of multiple occupation (HMO) (use class C4) The Case Officer reported on the application and her recommendation to permit.

The registered speakers made statements for and against the application.

Members asked questions for clarification to which the Case Officer responded.

Councillor Jackson moved to permit the application, with an additional condition to keep the garage in use for car parking. She said that the site was a corner plot with quite a lot of ground around it.

Councillor Kew said that he was happy to second the motion to permit.

Councillor Crossley said that the World Heritage status of Bath was an overwhelming reason to refuse the application. He was also concerned about a potential fall in Council Tax receipts as more and more houses were subdivided into multiple units occupied by students.

Councillor Jackson responded that there were no historic buildings in the area where the application site was located.

Councillor Appleyard said that he agreed with Councillor Crossley and would vote against the motion.

The motion was put, and it was **RESOLVED** to permit the application with 7 votes in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention.

#### Item No: 04 Application No; 16/00078/FUL 285 Kelston Road, Newbridge, Bath - erection of single storey dwelling house on land formerly used as nursery (Resubmission)

Councillor Roberts withdrew from the meeting in accordance with her declaration of interest.

The Case Officer reported on the application and her recommendation to refuse.

Members asked questions for clarification to which the Case Officer responded.

Councillor Jackson said that she was sure the site was brownfield, as there was concrete and rubble in the middle of it. The land had previously been occupied by a permanent structure. The Group Manager – Development Manager responded that it was the view of officers that it was a greenfield site. The definition of previouslydeveloped land is land that is or was occupied by a permanent structure, but excludes land occupied by agricultural buildings and also excludes land previously occupied by permanent buildings where the remains of those buildings blend or merge into the landscape. His understanding was that a nursery building occupied the site and a nursery building is an agricultural building, so even if the building remained, it could not be considered a previously-developed site.

Councillor Organ moved the Officer's recommendation to refuse. He said he would

be prepared to refuse solely on the basis of the building's design, which he described as "appalling". Just across the road was a pleasant building, which was the original access to the previous house, which enhances the Green Belt.

The motion to refuse was seconded by Councillor Becker.

Councillor Crossley felt that the proposed development was infill and that the site was brownfield. The site was surrounded by trees, so the proposal would not detract from the openness of the Green Belt. He would therefore vote against the motion to refuse.

Councillor Kew said that he thought this was an ideal site for infill, but he was unable to accept the current design.

The Group Manager – Development said that in one sense this might be thought to be a previously-developed site, but in terms of national planning policy it was not. He advised Members to note that the site was in the Green Belt, so new-built housing was not permissible on the site. It was also outside the housing boundary.

The motion was put, and the application was refused by 5 votes in favour and 4 against.

Item No: 05 Application No: 16/00061/FUL Site Location: Little Dene, Greyfield Road, High Littleton - erection of first floor extension of bungalow with attic accommodation and erection of a front porch (amended description)

The Case Officer reported on the application and her recommendation to permit.

The registered speakers spoke for and against the application.

Members asked questions for clarification to which the Case Officer responded.

Councillor Organ moved the officer's recommendation to permit. He said that features of the design to which the Parish Council and Members had previously objected had been rectified. The dormer windows had been removed, the height of the garage had been reduced and the overall height of the building had not been greatly increased.

Councillor Appleyard seconded the motion to permit.

Councillor Crossley said this was a small bungalow. He did not think that the extra height would have a significant impact on the neighbours.

The motion was put, and it was **RESOLVED** to permit the application by 8 votes in favour, 1 vote against with 1 abstention.

## 144 MAIN PLANS LIST - APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION ETC FOR DETERMINATION BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee considered

- The report of the Group Manager Development Management on various planning applications
- An update by the Group Manager Development Management, attached as *Appendix 1* to these Minutes.

**RESOLVED** that, in accordance with their delegated powers, the applications be determined as set out in the Decisions List attached as *Appendix 4* to these Minutes.

#### Item No: 01 16/01108/FUL Site Location: Sunday Cottage, access road to Paglinch Farm, Shoscombe external alterations to existing conservatory, filling door opening (North elevation), insertion of roof lights and alterations to garden studio

The Case Officer reported on the application and her recommendation to permit.

Members asked questions for clarification to which the Case Officer responded.

Councillor Crossley moved the Officer's recommendation to permit. Councillor Kew seconded this.

The motion was put and it was **RESOLVED** to permit the application by 10 votes for and 0 against.

## ltem: 02

#### 16/01112/LBA

Site Location: Sunday Cottage, access road to Paglinch Farm, Shoscombe, Bath - external alterations to the existing conservatory, filling existing door opening with recessed rubble stone (north elevation), widening of kitchen door and insertion of roof lights at Sunday Cottage. Minor alterations to approved windows and doors at the Garden Studio

The Case Officer reported on the application and her recommendation to grant Listed Building Consent.

Members asked questions for clarification to which the Case Officer responded.

Councillor Crossley moved the Officer's recommendation to permit. Councillor Kew seconded this.

The motion was put and it was **RESOLVED** to permit the application by 10 votes for

and 0 against.

## 144 **TREE PRESERVATION ORDER**

The Case Officer reported on the making of the provisional Tree Preservation Order and her recommendation to the Committee to confirm it.

The registered speaker made a statement in support of the Order.

Members asked questions for clarification to which the Case Officer responded.

It was moved by Councillor Crossley and seconded by Councillor Kew to confirm the Order. The motion was put to the vote, and it was **RESOLVED** with 9 votes in favour and 1 against to confirm the Tree Preservation Order entitled Bath and North East Somerset Council (Bondene, 25 Highmead Gardens, Bishop Sutton No.4) Tree Preservation Order 2016 without modification.

## 145 NEW PLANNING APPEALS LODGED, DECISIONS RECEIVED AND DATES OF FORTHCOMING HEARINGS/INQUIRIES

Councillor Crossley was pleased to note that the Council had won nearly every appeal, and in some cases had been awarded costs. Councillor Jackson said that the results were excellent, and reflected well on the judgement of officers.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

#### 146 QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT JAN-MAR 2016

The Group Manager – Development Management summarised the report.

Councillor Organ congratulated Development Management for being finalists in RTPI National Awards for the second year running and for being shortlisted for the South West RTPI awards for the Octagon scheme.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

The meeting ended at 4.08 pm

Chair

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services

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## **BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL**

## **Development Management Committee**

## Date 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016

## OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED SINCE THE PREPARATION OF THE MAIN AGENDA

## ITEMS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

#### <u>ITEM</u>

## Item No. 02 Application: No. 16/01112/LBA Address: Sunday Cottage

The listed building report 16/01112/LBA refers to Section 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, but the property is not in a conservation area. This reference has been included in error.

## Tree Preservation Order: Bath and North East Somerset Council ( Bondene, 25 Highmead Gardens, Bishop Sutton No.4) Tree Preservation Order 2016

Further representations have been received from 6 local residents in support of the confirmation of the Tree Preservation Order. A summary of the reasons for supporting the Tree Preservation Order are listed below;

- 1. The trees are considered to provide a visual amenity for Bishop Sutton residents.
- 2. The trees provide a significant landmark and contribute towards the local landscape and character.
- 3. The trees contribute towards the health and well being of local residents who enjoy their visual contribution and the wildlife which they support. The trees are considered to provide a foraging route for bats from Chew Valley Lake to Burledge Hill.
- 4. A decline in established trees within the village has been observed and concerns have been raised that the trees may be removed if the Tree Preservation Order is not made permanent and that this could facilitate a subsequent planning application.
- 5. The loss of the trees was one of the reasons provided by Sutton Stowey Parish Council for not supporting the withdrawn planning application.

Two households also wished for their responses, as provided, to be made available to Committee and these have been included as an appendix to this report.

## Appendix

#### Tree Preservation Order: Bath and North East Somerset Council ( Bondene, 25 Highmead Gardens, Bishop Sutton No.4) Tree Preservation Order 2016

Comments from Mr King:

My property overlooks the rear garden of 25 Highmead Gardens and since the return of the owner from France, I have noted that he has acquired a chain saw and tree shredder and has spent days removing many tree saplings and bushes within the property boundary. I feel sure that unless the order is made permanent, the included trees within the order will either be removed or butchered, with the intent of ensuring that no further protection order can be applied for in the future.

They represent a true amenity to the people of Bishop Sutton, a real bonus to wildlife in the Chew Valley and deserve to be preserved for villagers in the future.

Letter from Mr and Mrs Keel:

As requested, I am writing to notify BANES of my comments regards to the three mature trees (2 Beech, 1 Acer) at Bondene 25 Highmead Gardens, Bishop Sutton following the recent 6 month temporary Tree Preservation Order placed on these three mature trees by BANES. Due to a planning application recently submitted by the occupant, a Mr.Burke at Bondene, 25 Highmead Gardens and then withdrawn, these three trees would have been felled. I believe these very healthy mature trees have a high amenity value to the surrounding area within the village and are a major landmark to the surrounding properties also providing enjoyment to the local villagers. I have also found evidence that these trees offer an important contribution to the environment, creating a varied, interesting and attractive landscape to the

surrounding properties and the village community walking up Church lane also. The area where the trees exist is a well known flood risk and removal of these trees would create an even higher risk of flooding.

In our opinion the three trees help to define the character of the surrounding properties including our property (No.26) which is directly next door, creating an ambience and a sense of place in Church lane and also within Highmead Gardens. These three trees provide wildlife habitat and contribute to the general health and well being of people living close by.

We have witnessed the following wildlife living in the area of these trees over recent years

Bats – during the summer months are very active here on an evening

- Badgers – during the winter months, they also visit our garden to feed during the winter

- Numerous species of wild birds
- Hedgehogs and slow worms

These three trees due to their high visibility provide an area of screening to all the local surrounding housing also. As stated, they are important to nature conservation in the immediate area and removal would threaten this due to their high visibility and also impacting on future climate change.

For these reasons, the Tree Preservation Order that has been temporarily imposed to protect the three selected trees, if removed, is likely to have a significant impact on the local environment and its enjoyment by the public and villagers.

I sincerely hope this TPO becomes permanent due to the reasons I have detailed in this letter? Please note I also have aerial video footage I have recently taken supporting my reasoning within this letter.

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## BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL

# MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ETC WISHING TO MAKE A STATEMENT AT THE MEETING OF THE DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY $4^{\rm TH}$ MAY 2016

A. SITE VISIT LIST			
ITEM NO.	SITE NAME	SPEAKER	FOR/AGAINST
2.	2. Parcel 8545, Clutton	Rosemary Naish	Chair, Clutton PC
		David Morrison	Against
		Andrew Robinson	For
		Cllr Karen Warrington	Ward Councillor
3.	103 Hawthorn Grove,	David Stubbs	Against
	Bath	Tom Rocke	For
5.	Little Dene, High	Robert Hale	Against
	Littleton	Christopher Dance	For
	C. TR	EE PRESERVATION ORDER	
		David Dickerson	For

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## BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 4th May 2016 SITE VISIT DECISIONS

Item No:	001		
Application No:	15/03485/FUL		
Site Location:	Kingswood Preparatory School, College Road, Lansdown, Bath		
Ward: Lansdown	Parish: N/A LB Grade: IISTAR		
Application Type:	Full Application		
Proposal: Constraints:	Erection of new school building to accommodate prep school accommodation, new pre-prep and nursery, and multi use games area and associated infrastructure and landscaping. Agric Land Class 3b,4,5, Article 4, Conservation Area, Forest of Avon,		
Constraints.	Greenbelt, Hotspring Protection, MOD Safeguarded Areas, SSSI - Impact Risk Zones, World Heritage Site,		
Applicant:	Kingswood School		
Expiry Date:	6th May 2016		
Case Officer:	Suzanne D'Arcy		

## Withdrawn from Agenda

Item No:	002		
Application No:	15/05068/FUL		
Site Location:	Parcel 8545, Upper Bristol Road, Clutton, Bristol		
Ward: Clutton	Parish: Clutton LB Grade: N/A		
Application Type:	Full Application		
Proposal:	Erection of single storey farmshop and cafe.		
Constraints:	Airport Safeguarding Zones, Airport Safeguarding Zones, Agric Land Class 1,2,3a, Coal - Standing Advice Area, Forest of Avon, Greenbelt, Sites used as playing fields, Public Right of Way, Road Safeguarding Schemes, Site Of Special Scientific Interest (SI),		
Applicant:	Mr Andrew Tucker		
Expiry Date:	10th March 2016		
Case Officer:	Rachel Tadman		

**DECISION** REFUSE

1 The proposed development, by reason of the provision of a new building, its size and relationship with existing buildings along the Upper Bristol Road and its location within an agricultural field on open farmland separated from the limits of the main settlement by the Upper Bristol Road/A37 is not considered to represent an appropriately located small scale local shop and would have an adverse impact on the viability of the existing shops within Clutton village itself. The development is contrary to Policy S.9 and ET.8 of the Bath & North East Somerset Local Plan including minerals & waste policies adopted 2007.

2 The proposed development, by reason of the proposed change of use of the agricultural field to retail, the size and design of the building, provision of the car park and service areas and the presence of significant views of the site from the adjacent Green Belt, public viewpoints and adjacent public footpath, would lead to a significant and unacceptable detrimental impact on the existing rural landscape character and appearance of the site itself, as well as the street scene of Upper Bristol Road and would have a significant harmful impact on views of the site from the adjacent Green Belt as well as public viewpoints. This is contrary to Policies GB.2, D.4, NE.1 of the Bath & North East Somerset Local Plan including minerals & waste policies adopted 2007.

## PLANS LIST:

## PLANS LIST:

This decision relates to drawing nos 3928 (08)010 Rev C, 3928 (08)011 Rev C, 3928 (08)020 Rev D, 3928 (08)021 Rev B, 3928 (08)022 Rev B, 3928 (08)030 Rev C, 3928 (08)001

## Decision Making Statement:

In determining this application the Local Planning Authority considers it has complied with the aims of paragraphs 186 and 187 of the National Planning Policy Framework. Notwithstanding the advice offered by the Local Planning Authority the submitted application was unacceptable for the stated reasons and the applicant was advised that the application was to be recommended for refusal. Despite this the applicant chose not to withdraw the application and having regard to the need to avoid unnecessary delay the Local Planning Authority moved forward and issued its decision.

Item No:	003	
Application No:	16/00686/FUL	
Site Location: Somerset	103 Hawthorn Grove, Combe Down, Bath, Bath And North East	
Ward: Combe Dow	n Parish: N/A LB Grade: N/A	
Application Type:	Full Application	
Proposal:	Change of use from 3 bed dwelling (use class C3) to 4 bed house of multiple occupation (HMO) (use class C4)	

Constraints:	Affordable Housing, Agric Land Class 3b,4,5, Article 4, Forest of Avon, Hotspring Protection, MOD Safeguarded Areas, SSSI - Impact Risk Zones, Water Source Areas, World Heritage Site,
Applicant:	Mr Jehad Masoud
Expiry Date:	11th April 2016
Case Officer:	Corey Smith

## **DECISION** PERMIT

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

Reason: As required by Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) and to avoid the accumulation of unimplemented planning permissions.

2 The existing parking areas and garage shall be kept clear of obstruction and shall not be used other than for the parking of vehicles in connection with the development hereby permitted.

Reason: In order to retain an appropriate level of parking on-site.

3 Prior to the occupation of the development hereby permitted the proposed parking area for three cars shall be laid out within the site in accordance with plans that shall be submitted to and approved by the local planning authority.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

4 The development/works hereby permitted shall only be implemented in accordance with the plans as set out in the plans list below.

Reason: To define the terms and extent of the permission.

## PLANS LIST:

This decision relates to the drawings entitled 'Floor Plans' and 'Site Location Plan' received on the 15th February 2016, and the 'Proposed Floor Plans' received on the 18th February 2016.

In determining this application the Local Planning Authority considers it has complied with the aims of paragraphs 186 and 187 of the National Planning Framework. For the reasons given, and expanded upon in a related case officer's report, a positive view of the submitted/revised proposals was taken and consent was granted.

Item No:	004	
Application No:	16/00078/FUL	
Site Location:	285 Kelston Road, Newbridge, Bath, Bath And North East Somerset	
Ward: Newbridge	Parish: N/A LB Grade: N/A	
Application Type:	Full Application	
Proposal:	Erection of single storey dwelling house on land formerly used as nursery (Resubmission)	
Constraints:	Agric Land Class 1,2,3a, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Article 4, British Waterways Major and EIA, Greenbelt, Hotspring Protection, MOD Safeguarded Areas, SSSI - Impact Risk Zones, World Heritage Site,	
Applicant:	Mr David Paradise	
Expiry Date:	4th March 2016	
Case Officer:	Alice Barnes	

## DECISION REFUSE

1 The proposed development is located within the Green Belt and outside of the built up area of Bath where the principle of development is not accepted. The development will introduce a new built form into an open green space which occupies a hillside position within the open countryside. The development will conflict with the purposes of including land within the green belt and is harmful to the openness of the surrounding green belt. The development will encroach onto the open green hillside which is characteristic of Baths World Heritage Site. No very special circumstances exist to outweigh the harm cause by the development. It is therefore contrary to polices HG.10 and GB.2 of the Bath & North East Somerset Local Plan including minerals and waste policies - adopted October 2007 Policy B1, B4 and CP8 of the Core Strategy and paragraphs 80 and 89 of the National Planning Policy Framework adopted March 2012

2 The proposed dwelling by reasons of its siting, scale and design will result in harm to the rural character of the surrounding Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The development is therefore contrary to polices D.2, D.4 and NE.2 of the Bath & North East Somerset Local Plan including minerals and waste policies - adopted October 2007and policy B4 of the Core Strategy

## PLANS LIST:

Site location plan Land ownership Topographical survey Block plan Proposed elevations Proposed layout plan

In determining this application the Local Planning Authority considers it has complied with the aims of paragraphs 186 and 187 of the National Planning Policy Framework. The

Local Planning Authority acknowledges the approach outlined in paragraphs 188-192 in favour of front loading and operates a pre-application advice service. Notwithstanding active encouragement for pre-application dialogue the applicant did not seek to enter into correspondence with the Local Planning Authority. The proposal was considered unacceptable for the reasons given and the applicant was advised that the application was to be recommended for refusal. Despite this the applicant choose not to withdraw the application, and having regard to the need to avoid unnecessary delay the Local Planning Authority moved forward and issued its decision.

Item No:	005		
Application No:	16/00061/FUL		
Site Location:	Little Dene, Greyfield Road, High Littleton, Bristol		
Ward: High Littleton	n Parish: High Littleton LB Grade: N/A		
Application Type:	: Full Application		
Proposal:	Erection of first floor extension to bungalow with attic accommodation and erection of a front porch (amended description)		
Constraints:	Airport Safeguarding Zones, Coal - Standing Advice Area, Forest of Avon, Housing Development Boundary, SSSI - Impact Risk Zones, Tree Preservation Order,		
Applicant:	Mr & Mrs King		
Expiry Date:	6th May 2016		
Case Officer:	Kate Whitfield		

## **DECISION** PERMIT

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

Reason: As required by Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) and to avoid the accumulation of unimplemented planning permissions.

2 No development shall take place until a Detailed Arboricultural Method Statement with Tree Protection Plan following the recommendations contained within BS 5837:2012 has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and details within the approved document implemented as appropriate. The final method statement shall incorporate a provisional programme of works; supervision and monitoring details by an Arboricultural Consultant and provision of site visit records and certificates of completion to the local planning authority. The statement should also include the control of potentially harmful operations such as the storage, handling and mixing of materials on site, burning, location of site office and movement of people and machinery.

Reason: To ensure that the protected trees are not adversely affected by the development.

3 No development or other operations shall take place except in complete accordance with the approved Arboricultural Method Statement. A signed certificate of compliance shall be provided by the appointed arboriculturalist to the local planning authority on completion of the works.

Reason: To ensure that the approved method statement is complied with for the duration of the development.

4 Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (or any order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification) no enlargement of the dwelling house consisting of an addition or alteration to its roof shall be carried out unless a further planning permission has been granted by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: Any further roof extensions require detailed consideration by the Local Planning Authority to safeguard the amenities of the surrounding area.

5 The windows within the eastern and western side elevations of the extension hereby approved shall be shall be permanently fixed except for a top opening light and glazed with obscure glass, and shall thereafter be retained. No further windows or other openings shall be formed in that elevation.

Reason: To preserve the amenity and privacy of neighbouring properties.

6 The development/works hereby permitted shall only be implemented in accordance with the plans as set out in the plans list below.

Reason: To define the terms and extent of the permission.

## PLANS LIST:

This decision relates to the following plans:

Location Plan, drawing number E378-L-01 dated 7 January 2016 Existing Plans & Elevations, drawing number E378-PL-100 dated 7 January 2016 Proposed Plans, drawing number E378-PL-101 A dated 1 March 2016 Proposed Elevations & Section, drawing number E378-PL-102 A dated 1 March 2016 Proposed Site Block Plan, drawing number E378-PL-105 A dated 1 March 2016

## ADVICE NOTE:

Where a request is made to a Local Planning Authority for written confirmation of compliance with a condition or conditions attached to a planning permission or where a request to discharge conditions is submitted a fee shall be paid to that authority. Details of the fee can be found on the "what happens after permission" pages of the Council's Website. Please send your requests to the Registration Team, Planning Services, Lewis House, Manvers Street, Bath, BA1 1JG. Requests can be made using the 1APP standard form which is available from the Planning Portal at www.planningportal.gov.uk.

In determining this application the Local Planning Authority considers it has complied with the aims of paragraphs 186 and 187 of the National Planning Framework. For the reasons

given, and expanded upon in a related case officer's report, a positive view of the submitted/revised proposals was taken and consent was granted.

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## BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 4th May 2016 DECISIONS

Item No:	01		
Application No:	16/01108/FUL		
Site Location:	Sunday Cottage, Access Road To Paglinch Farm, Shoscombe, Bath		
Ward: Bathavon So	buth Parish: Shoscombe LB Grade: N/A		
Application Type:	Full Application		
Proposal:	External alterations to existing conservatory, filling door opening (North elevation), insertion of roof lights and alterations to garden studio.		
Constraints:	Affordable Housing, Agric Land Class 1,2,3a, Coal - Standing Advice Area, Forest of Avon, Listed Building, SSSI - Impact Risk Zones,		
Applicant:	Mr John Davey		
Expiry Date:	29th April 2016		
Case Officer:	Sasha Berezina		

## **DECISION** PERMIT

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

Reason: As required by Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) and to avoid the accumulation of unimplemented planning permissions.

2 The development/works hereby permitted shall only be implemented in accordance with the plans as set out in the plans list below.

Reason: To define the terms and extent of the permission.

## PLANS LIST:

OS Extrac	ct 04 Mar 2016	SITE LOCATION PLAN
Drawing	04 Mar 2016	BLOCK PLAN
Drawing	04 Mar 2016	ELEVATIONS AS EXISTING
Drawing	04 Mar 2016	ELEVATIONS AS PROPOSED
Drawing	04 Mar 2016	FLOOR PLANS EXISTING AND PROPOSED
Drawing	04 Mar 2016	JOINERY

In determining this application the Local Planning Authority considers it has complied with the aims of paragraphs 186 and 187 of the National Planning Framework. For the reasons

given, and expanded upon in a related case officer's report, a positive view of the submitted/revised proposals was taken and consent was granted.

Item No:	02		
Application No:	16/01112/LBA		
Site Location:	Sunday Cottage, Access Road To Paglinch Farm, Shoscombe, Bath		
Ward: Bathavon So	buth Parish: Shoscombe LB Grade: N/A		
Application Type:	Listed Building Consent (Alts/exts)		
Proposal:	External alterations to the existing conservatory, filling existing door opening with recessed rubble stone (north elevation), widening of kitchen door and insertion of roof lights at Sunday Cottage. Minor alterations to approved windows and doors at the Garden Studio.		
Constraints:	Affordable Housing, Agric Land Class 1,2,3a, Coal - Standing Advice Area, Listed Building, SSSI - Impact Risk Zones,		
Applicant:	Mr John Davey		
Expiry Date:	29th April 2016		
Case Officer:	Sasha Berezina		

#### **DECISION** CONSENT

1 The works hereby approved shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this consent

Reason: To comply with Section 18 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (as amended).

2 The development/works hereby permitted shall only be implemented in accordance with the plans as set out in the plans list below.

Reason: To define the terms and extent of the permission.

## PLANS LIST:

OS Extrac	t 04 Mar 2016	SITE LOCATION PLAN
Drawing	04 Mar 2016	BLOCK PLAN
Drawing	04 Mar 2016	ELEVATIONS AS EXISTING
Drawing	04 Mar 2016	ELEVATIONS AS PROPOSED
Drawing	04 Mar 2016	FLOOR PLANS EXISTING AND PROPOSED
Drawing	04 Mar 2016	JOINERY

In determining this application the Local Planning Authority considers it has complied with the aims of paragraphs 186 and 187 of the National Planning Framework. For the reasons given, and expanded upon in a related case officer's report, a positive view of the submitted/revised proposals was taken and consent was granted.

**Title:** Tree Preservation Order: Bath and North East Somerset Council (Bondene, 25 Highmead Gardens, Bishop Sutton No.4) Tree Preservation Order 2016

Ward: Stowey Sutton

**DECISION** Confirm without Modification

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AGENDA ITEM

NUMBER

# **Bath & North East Somerset Council**

MEETING: Development Management Committee

MEETING 1st June 2016 DATE:

RESPONSIBLEMark Reynolds – Group Manager (DevelopmentOFFICER:Management) (Telephone: 01225 477079)

#### TITLE: APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

WARDS: ALL

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

## AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM

#### BACKGROUND PAPERS

List of background papers relating to this report of the Group Manager, Development Management about applications/proposals for Planning Permission etc. The papers are available for inspection online at <a href="http://planning.bathnes.gov.uk/PublicAccess/">http://planning.bathnes.gov.uk/PublicAccess/</a>.

- [1] Application forms, letters or other consultation documents, certificates, notices, correspondence and all drawings submitted by and/or on behalf of applicants, Government Departments, agencies or Bath and North East Somerset Council in connection with each application/proposal referred to in this Report.
- [2] Department work sheets relating to each application/proposal as above.
- [3] Responses on the application/proposals as above and any subsequent relevant correspondence from:
  - (i) Sections and officers of the Council, including:

Building Control Environmental Services Transport Development Planning Policy, Environment and Projects, Urban Design (Sustainability)

- (ii) The Environment Agency
- (iii) Wessex Water
- (iv) Bristol Water
- v) Health and Safety Executive
- (ví) British Gas
- (vii) Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (English Heritage)
- (viii) The Garden History Society
- (ix) Royal Fine Arts Commission
- (x) Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- (xi) Nature Conservancy Council
- xii) Natural England
- (xiii) National and local amenity societies
- (xiv) Other interested organisations
- (xv) Neighbours, residents and other interested persons
- (xvi) Any other document or correspondence specifically identified with an application/proposal
- [4] The relevant provisions of Acts of Parliament, Statutory Instruments or Government Circulars, or documents produced by the Council or another statutory body such as the Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan (including waste and minerals policies) adopted October 2007

#### The following notes are for information only:-

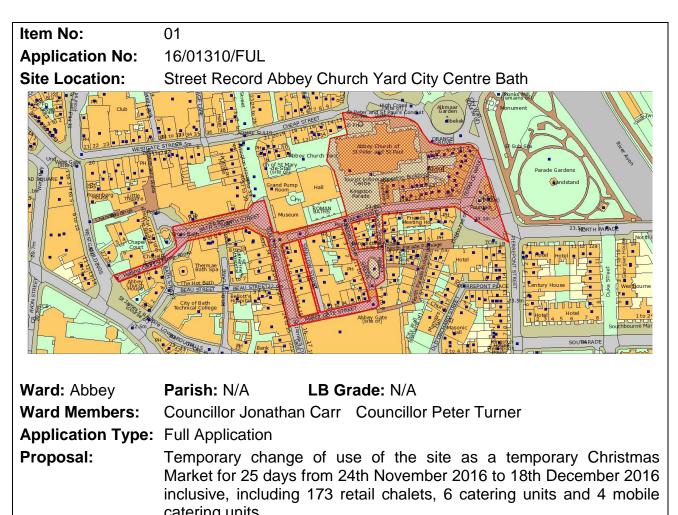
[1] "Background Papers" are defined in the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 do not include those disclosing "Exempt" or "Confidential Information" within the meaning of that Act. There may be, therefore, other papers relevant to an application which will be relied on in preparing the report to the Committee or a related report, but which legally are not required to be open to public inspection.

- [2] The papers identified or referred to in this List of Background Papers will only include letters, plans and other documents relating to applications/proposals referred to in the report if they have been relied on to a material extent in producing the report.
- [3] Although not necessary for meeting the requirements of the above Act, other letters and documents of the above kinds received after the preparation of this report and reported to and taken into account by the Committee will also be available for inspection.
- [4] Copies of documents/plans etc. can be supplied for a reasonable fee if the copyright on the particular item is not thereby infringed or if the copyright is owned by Bath and North East Somerset Council or any other local authority.

#### **INDEX**

ITEM NO.	APPLICATION NO. & TARGET DATE:	APPLICANTS NAME/SITE ADDRESS and PROPOSAL	WARD:	OFFICER:	REC:
01	16/01310/FUL 17 June 2016	Bath Tourism Plus Street Record, Abbey Church Yard, City Centre, Bath, Temporary change of use of the site as a temporary Christmas Market for 25 days from 24th November 2016 to 18th December 2016 inclusive, including 173 retail chalets, 6 catering units and 4 mobile catering units.	Abbey	Tessa Hampden	PERMIT
02	16/00898/FUL 21 April 2016	Mr & Mrs Paul Wyatt Somersby Orchard, The Gug, High Littleton, Bristol, Bath And North East Somerset Erection of a new dwelling following demolition of an existing dwelling within residential curtilage.	Clutton	Tessa Hampden	REFUSE
03	15/04971/FUL 3 June 2016	Dormie Holdings Ltd C/o Brimble Lea & Partners Parcel 3515, Charmydown Lane, Swainswick, Bath, Construction of new and replacement track to serve dwellings, farms and farmland along the upper section of Charmydown Lane, Upper Swainswick, Bath BA1 8AB	Bathavon North	Alice Barnes	PERMIT
04	16/01359/FUL 17 May 2016	Ms Amy Dyer 153 Newbridge Hill, Newbridge, Bath, BA1 3PX, Provision of additional 9 parking spaces at the rear of 153/155 Newbridge Hill (Resubmission of 15/01226/FUL)	Newbridge	Martin Almond	REFUSE
05	16/00991/FUL 5 May 2016	Mr Peter King Land Opposite Rowan House, High Street, Freshford, Bath, Creation of new access opening and construction of parking area for two cars.	Bathavon South	Kate Whitfield	REFUSE

## REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER, DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT ON APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT



	catering units.
Constraints:	Affordable Housing, Agric Land Class 3b,4,5, Scheduled Ancient Monument SAM, Scheduled Ancient Monument SAM, Air Quality Management Area, Article 4, Bath Core Office Area, Centres and Retailing, Conservation Area, Cycle Route, Forest of Avon, Hotspring Protection, Listed Building, LLFA - Flood Risk Management, MOD Safeguarded Areas, Prime Shop Front, Public Right of Way, SSSI - Impact Risk Zones, Water Source Areas, World Heritage Site,
Applicant:	Bath Tourism Plus
Expiry Date:	17th June 2016
Case Officer:	Tessa Hampden

## REPORT

Reason for calling this application to committee

This application has been called to committee by Cllr Anketell-Jones and Cllr Patterson. Their comments are detailed within the representation section of this report.

Site description and proposal

The application site relates to an area of Bath City Centre, primarily to streets around the Abbey, incorporating a number of roads including Abbey Churchyard, Kingston Parade, Church Street, Abbey Street, Abbeygate Street, Abbey Green, York Street and Bath Street. The whole site is set within the City of Bath Conservation Area and the designated World Heritage Site. The majority of the buildings in the area are listed buildings including the Grade I listed Abbey, the Pump Rooms and the Roman Baths. The site is also within the Town Centre shopping area.

The application seeks planning permission for the temporary change of use of the site as a Christmas Market for 25 days from 24th November 2016 to 18th December 2016 inclusive, including 173 retail chalets, 6 catering units and 4 mobile catering units. There is an extant planning permission for the Christmas market to be in place for 2016 for 18 days. This application seeks permission for an additional week alongside the original 18 days. The additional days will be at the latter end of the period, meaning the Christmas Market finishes closer to Christmas.

The description on the application form cites dates for the 2016 period and the application has been advertised on this basis, but the supporting statements refer to 2016, 2017 and 2018. The agent has confirmed that the application should be considered for the 2016 year only in line with the application form. It is confirmed therefore that the application has be considered on the basis of the change of use for one year only.

#### Relevant planning history

DC - 14/02325/FUL - PERMIT - 19 August 2014 - Temporary change of use of the site as a temporary Christmas Market for 18 days from mid-November to mid-December in 2014, 2015 and 2016 including 172 retail chalets, 6 catering units and 4 mobile catering units.

DC - 13/02331/FUL - PERMIT - 10 September 2013 - Temporary change of use of the site as a temporary Christmas Market for 18 days from mid-November to mid-December in 2013, 2014 and 2015 including 155 retail chalets, 6 catering units and 4 mobile catering units

DC - 12/02827/FUL - PERMIT - 21 August 2012 - Use of site for temporary Christmas market for 18 days for three year permission for the following dates: 22 November to 09 December 2012; mid-November to mid-December 2013 and 2014 with 139no. fixed retail stalls, 6no fixed catering stalls and 3no mobile catering stalls (Kingston Parade, Church Street, Abbey Street, Abbey Gates Street, Abbey Green, York Street, Swallow Street and Bath Street)

DC - 11/01034/FUL - PERMIT - 18 April 2011 - Use of site for temporary Christmas market for 18 days for three year permission for the following dates: 24 November to 11 December 2011; 29 November to 16 December 2012; 28 November to 15 December 2013 with 129no fixed retail stalls, 6no fixed catering stalls and 2no mobile catering stalls (Kingston Parade, Church Street, Abbey Street, Abbey Gates Street, Abbey Green and York Street)

DC - 09/02794/FUL - PERMIT - 19 October 2009 - Use of site for temporary Christmas Market from 25th November 2010 to 12th December 2010 with 131 no. fixed retail stalls 6

no. fixed catering stalls and 2 no. mobile catering stalls (Abbey Churchyard, Kingston Parade, Church Street, Abbey Street, Abbeygate Street, Abbey Green and York Street)

## SUMMARY OF CONSULTATIONS/REPRESENTATIONS

Highway Development Officer - no objection

Historic England - no comments

Cllr Anketell Jones - requests that this application is heard at Committee if officers are minded to approve. Consultations indicate the market has a negative effect on the viability and vitality of some sectors of Bath retail.

Cllr Patterson - requests that this application is heard at Committee. Comments due to the high impact on significant groups in Bath and the degree of sensitivity of the issue. Further concerns relating to publication of third party comments and lack of clarity with regards to the consultation period

Bath Preservation Trust - support the application

- More visitors to museums
- visitors spread out over a longer period
- benefits to other retail traders

Federation of Bath Residents Association - Object to the development. The reasons can be summarised as follows:

- 3 year permission does not present the opportunity to test the impact

- 3 years may impact upon parking viability during the Bath Quays development

- benefits of the scheme must be weighed against the considerable pain and inconvenience to residents, business and retailers

- Markets creates noise, pollution, traffic congestion, disturbance and general disruption to so many residents

- Wider views of Bath residents have not been sought

- Impact during construction and dismantling stage.

- Lack of supporting information in the application including traffic issues and impact upon local businesses

- Impact of increased traffic and lack of parking
- Impact of other vehicles/deliveries reaching existing businesses
- Pollution increased levels due to increased traffic
- Economic issues BANES meeting the cost of traffic management
- Loss of free space for Bath residents to use

Marlborough Lane and Buildings Residents Association - object to the application. The reasons can be summarised as follows:

- impact upon local residents
- traffic/parking disruption
- impact of construction activity

Macaulay Buildings And Prospect Road Residents Association - object

Ainslie's Belvedere & Caroline Place Residents' Association - objects to the development. The reasons can be summarised as follows:

- Community engagement not representative of a city as a whole

- This market in general and the proposed extension in particular affects the whole of Bath, not just those who live and work in the footprint area for the proposed 25 days, but also during the setting up and taking down period,

- Lack of consultation

- The city would be just as vibrant and as busy as ever if the proposed extension period is not approved

- The city itself would earn surprisingly little from this market extension

Vineyards Residential Association - object. The reasons can be summarised as follows:

- Large part of the city centre becomes crowded and nigh impassable for residents going about their daily business.

- Huge amounts of extra traffic.

- The severe daily parking problems for residents in the Central Zone are exacerbated when the Christmas Market is running

- Air pollution suffered by residents

Lansdown Crescent Association - object. The reasons can be summarised as follows:

- 3 year period does not provide opportunity to test the proposal

- Dates run too close to Christmas

- It will extend its associated extra congestion, pollution and parking difficulties by nearly 50%

Camden Residents Association object to the development for the following reason

- Issues relating to the Council/Bath Tourism Plus funding - decision should be transparent

- Impact will be felt during market phase and setting up/down
- Increase car journeys and lack of parking capacity
- Lack of information in relation to traffic management
- Impact upon air quality
- Lack of evidence in relation to economic impact

- Costs to Council in assisting traffic management

- If permitted, one year should be granted to assess impact

Beech Avenue Residents Association - object. The reasons can be summarised as follows:

- Congestion
- Impact upon other retailers
- Increased pollution
- Lack of parking capacity
- Economic benefits not reflected ins services for local residents

Bath Bid Company support the application but request that the congestion to the central core is reduced and visitors are encouraged to explore the wider city. Independent shops should have the opportunity to buy a chalet

Bath independent Guest House Association - supporters the application. The reasons can be summarised as follows:

- Increase in trade during a period typically associated with vacancies
- Extension will result in the market being less crowded

37 supporting comments have been received and can be summarised as follows;

- Aids in helping Bath promoting tourism
- Additional days will help in diluting concentration of visitors
- Positive impact upon hospitality industry during quiet period
- Significant economic benefits to the city
- Increase dates would increase revenue for local traders
- Will help market compete with other cities with run for a longer period of time
- Market aids in funding Bath Tourism throughout the year
- Layout should be reviewed
- Increases vibrancy of the city
- Event well organised

7 objection comments (not including those from the specific groups detailed above) and 2 general comments have been received which can be summarised as follows:

- Impact upon pedestrian flow in particular those with mobility difficulties
- General noise and disruption for local residents
- Increased congestion
- Impact of development will be worsened if Avon Street in closed
- Illegal parking of coaches which causes disruption
- Impact of rubbish storage
- Odour issues
- Lack of facilities to support the market

## POLICIES/LEGISLATION

The Core Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset was formally adopted by the Council on 10th July 2014. The Core Strategy now forms part of the statutory Development Plan and will be given full weight in the determination of planning applications. The Council's Development Plan now comprises:

- Core Strategy
- Saved Policies in the B&NES Local Plan (2007)\*
- Joint Waste Core Strategy

The following policies should be considered:

- CP6 Environmental Quality
- DW1 District Wide Spatial Strategy
- B1 Bath Spatial Strategy
- B2 Central Area Strategic Policy

B4 World Heritage Site and its setting

Saved policies from the Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan - 2007

D.2: General design and public realm considerations

D.4: Townscape considerations

BH.2: Listed buildings and their settings

BH.6: Development within or affecting the Conservation Area

T.20: Loss and provision of off-street parking and servicing

T.24: General development control and access policy

t the Council's Cabinet meeting on 2nd December 2015 the draft Placemaking Plan was approved for consultation purposes and also approved for Development Management purposes. However, currently the Plan has limited weight in the determination of planning applications.

Policy DW1 District-wide spatial Strategy Policy CP6 Environmental Quality Policy D.1 General Urban Design Principles Policy D.2 Local Character & Distinctiveness Policy D.3 Urban Fabric Policy D.4 Streets and Spaces Policy D.5 Building Design Policy D.6 Amenity Policy H1 Historic Environment Policy PCS2 Noise and vibration Policy B1: Bath Spatial Strategy Policy B4 The World Heritage Site and its setting Policy BD1: Bath Design Policy Policy B2 Central Area Strategic Policy Policy CP12 Centres and Retailing Policy CR3 Primary Shopping Areas and Primary Shopping Frontages ST7 Transport requirements for managing development

National Planning Policy Framework - March 2012 National Planning Practice Guidance

There is a duty placed on the Council under Section 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act to pay special attention to the preservation or enhancement of the character of the surrounding conservation area.

There is a duty placed on the Council under Section 66 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 'In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting' to 'have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.'

## OFFICER ASSESSMENT

Principle of development

The Christmas Market has been granted planning permission to operate since 2009 with an extant planning permission in place which permits the market to run over the festive period in 2016. This application increases the length of time that the market would be in situ by a further seven days from eighteen days to twenty five days. It is recognised that the size of the market has grown significantly since it first began operating and the impact of this has been considered as part of previous planning applications. Prior to 2009, the market was in place for fourteen days and therefore did not require planning permission from the Local Planning Authority.

The development overall will provide a large number of retail and food units, albeit temporary. The stalls for the period that they will be in place are considered to be appropriate for this city centre location, complementing the existing retail function of the centre and would be well integrated into the existing pattern of the centre. This is considered to be in line with the aims of saved Policy S 2 of the Local Plan. In terms of the temporary food stall/catering units, although they sit alongside the protected retail frontage, they do not result in the loss of any A1 units. The addition of these extra catering units for a temporary period are not considered to have a detrimental impact upon the vitality and viability of the city centre. They will increase the spend within the city and promote competition between traders. In this regards this part of the development is therefore considered to comply with the relevant parts of saved polices S5 and S6 of the Local Plan.

Overall therefore, there is no objection to the development in principle. The extension of the Christmas Market for an additional week is not considered to impact upon this conclusion.

## Character and appearance

The chalets/stalls are of an appropriate design, given their temporary nature and function as a market. They will not be fixed to the listed buildings, but will be set in close proximity to them. Whilst the market chalets do temporarily alter the character of the space which forms the setting of the listed buildings the views to these listed buildings such as the Abbey and the Pump Rooms are not considered to be unduly compromised.

It is not considered that for the period as applied for under this application that there will be a detrimental impact on the setting of the listed buildings, the character and appearance of the City of Bath Conservation Area or the designated World Heritage Site.

There is a duty under Section 66 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Here it is considered that, as this is a temporary use, the overall setting of these building is to be preserved.

There is a duty under Section 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to pay special attention to the preservation or enhancement of the character of the surrounding conservation area. Here it is considered that as this is a

temporary use, the overall character and appearance of the Conservation Area is preserved.

## Residential amenity

A paramount consideration with this application is any potential impact on the amenities of the neighbouring occupiers. The supporting information illustrates that the applicants have given this due thought in the process of submitting this planning application. The applicant has within the submission submitted a copy of the stallholder bond rules. This outlines that the conditions attached to the licence are adhered to and there is a consistence approach to managing the market. With this in place, it is considered that the disruption should be minimised and the residential amenity of the surrounding occupiers safeguarded.

Servicing and opening times of the market will be controlled throughout the period sought (including set up and break down periods), waste collection and recycling will take place daily by a dedicated team and market stalls are to be located so that no access is restricted to either commercial or residential properties. The opening times for the market will vary throughout the duration of the event, but will start no earlier than 10am and finish no later than 8.30pm Monday to Saturday and 6pm on Sundays. Deliveries to the site will operate between 8.00am and 9.30am.

The site is a city centre location and certain levels of noise and activity would be expected. Whilst the market will result in an intensified use of the site, it is considered that given the operational hours which will be controlled by condition, the impacts on the residential amenity will not be significant.

A number of resident associations have written to the Local Planning Authority objecting to this development. A key concern relates to the significant inconvenience for these residents during the time of the Christmas Market. Whilst it is recognised that the increased number of visitors to the centre does have detrimental impacts in terms of the ease of using the city, it is not considered that the development conflicts with policy D2 which is in place to secure the residential amenity of surrounding occupiers. This specifically states that proposed development will not cause harm to the amenities of existing or proposed occupiers of, or visitors to, residential or other sensitive premises by reason of loss of light, or increased overlooking, noise, smell, traffic, or any other disturbance. It is not considered that the Market directly impacts upon individual residential properties.

The increase in length of the market being in place is not considered to significantly increase the potential for noise and disruption to a level that would result in the refusal of this planning application.

## Air Quality

A number of third parties have raised concerns with the impact of the development on air quality. This matter has been discussed with the relevant environmental protection officer of the Council who has confirmed that given the relative limited scale of the development, the temporary nature of the proposals and any small increase in air pollution, the application would not warrant the need for full surveys and no objection is raised.

## Highway safety

While there is an increase in the duration of the event, this will not result in an increase in road closures as they sit within those roads

closed during earlier markets. The development has previously been found to be acceptable on highway safety grounds and a similar conclusion can be reached on this application.

Whilst it is recognised that the development results in increased vehicular movements to the city for the period of time the market is operating, and an increased level of congestion, the National Planning Policy Framework explains that development should only be prevented or refused on transport grounds where the residual cumulative impacts of development are severe. This is not considered to be the case in this instance.

There is therefore no highway objection to the proposals.

#### Economic issues

The supporting Planning Statement outlines a number of economic benefits generated from the scheme. This explains that Bath Tourism Plus is a not for profit organisation and any monies generated as income from the market is reinvested through multiple marking initiatives back into the local economy to encourage visitors to the city throughout the year.

A survey undertaken on behalf of Bath Tourism Plus illustrates a number of economic benefits, for example in 2015

- For those attending the Christmas Market as their main reason for visiting the city, the associated spend was £24.4 million

- The money spent within the Christmas Market was approximately £6.5million, with approximately £17.9 million spent in the rest of the city

A number of supporting comments have been submitted by local businesses, including local restaurants and hoteliers highlighting the benefits of this development to their businesses. However, on the reverse side, comments have been made by other third parties, in relation to the negative impact upon local businesses, with it being expressed that the market draws customers away from their own businesses. No tangible evidence has been submitted to illustrate how trading figures for other businesses may be impacted, but it is recognised that this may be a concern for business in areas outside of the area of the Christmas Market. However, whilst planning policy seeks to protect local shopping centres by preserving the retail uses, it is not the role of the planning system to control the protection of one business over another. The National Planning Policy Framework indicates that Local Planning Authorities should promote competitive town centres that provide customer choice and a diverse retail offer and which reflect the individuality of town centres. The proposals are in keeping with this objective.

Other issues/conclusions

The comments of the third parties have been duly considered. It is noted that the market does cause a level of nuisance due to the increased number of visitors to the city, and there is the potential for an impact upon a section of traders within the city. However the development is considered to bring significant economic benefits to the city and that is given weight in the planning balance. The National Planning Policy Framework highlights that significant weight should be given to the need to support economic growth.

For the period of twenty five days, any harm caused by the development is considered to be outweighed by the benefits bought about by the scheme. The proposal is considered to comply with relevant national and local planning policies, and these reasons this application is recommended for approval.

The permission would allow the market to operate for one year for 25 days, and this temporary permission would provide the opportunity to test the impact of the development.

## RECOMMENDATION

PERMIT

## CONDITIONS

1 The use hereby permitted shall only operate between the following dates

2016: Market held for 25 days from 24th November 2016 to 18th December 2016 inclusive (not to commence the set up before the 14th November 2016 and to be removed by 22nd December 2016)

Reason: In the interests of the appearance of the site and the surrounding parts of the Conservation Area and the World Heritage Site, and in order to safeguard the amenities of nearby occupiers and the vitality and viability of the city centre.

2 The use hereby approved shall not be carried out outside the hours of 10:00 to 20:30 Mondays to Saturdays and 10:00 to 18:00 on Sundays, the servicing of the Market shall not be carried out outside the hours of 08:00 and 21:00 and the assembling and dismantling of the chalets/stalls shall not be carried out outside the hours of 8:00 to 20:00.

Reason: To safeguard the amenities of nearby occupiers

3 The development/works hereby permitted shall only be implemented in accordance with the plans as set out in the plans list below.

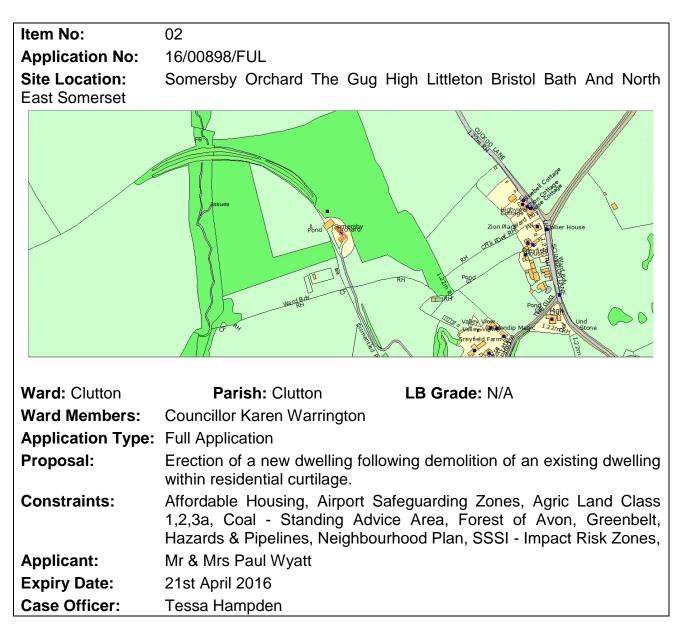
Reason: To define the terms and extent of the permission.

## PLANS LIST:

05 Apr 2016 SITE PLAN

In determining this application the Local Planning Authority considers it has complied with the aims of paragraphs 186 and 187 of the National Planning Framework. For the reasons

given, and expanded upon in a related case officer's report, a positive view of the submitted/revised proposals was taken and consent was granted.



# REPORT

REASON FOR CONSIDERATION BY COMMITTEE: This application was requested to be considered by Committee by ClIr Kew and is supported by Clutton Parish Council for the reasons set out in the Representation section below. The Chair of Committee has agreed to this request stating: I have looked at the comments from both the Parish Council & Ward ClIr who both feel the proposal would be a planning gain in relation to the area & effect on the Green Belt, there are no Third Party objections. The Officer has carefully considered the application in line with policy & I note recognises the benefits of the

dwelling but the Green Belt issue remains. As this is the controversial part of the application I recommend the decision be taken by the DMC.

Site description and proposal

The application relates to a detached dwelling known as Somersby Orchard, located off the Gug, High Littleton. The site is within the parish of Clutton. The dwelling was built in around 1984 as an agricultural workers dwelling to support the associated agricultural holding. The agricultural occupancy condition attached to this dwelling was however removed in 2011. Although this has been removed, the current owners have a farm smallholding including two significant apple orchards adjacent to the dwelling extending to approximately 11 acres. The site falls within the designated Green Belt.

The application seeks planning permission for the erection of a new dwelling following demolition of the existing dwelling.

Planning history

WC 5965/D - Erection of an agricultural dwelling and new farm building on plot No. 9113, land in Cuckoo Lane, High Littleton, Nr Bristol - PERMIT

DC - 11/02772/REM - PERMIT - 21 September 2011 - Removal of condition 2 of application WC 5965/D (Erection of an agricultural dwelling and new farm buildings at plot No. 9113, land in Cukoo Lane, High Littleton, Nr. Bristol) in relation to agricultural occupancy (resubmission).

DC - 15/00795/AGRN - Not permitted development- 18 March 2015 - Erection of open fronted agricultural store

## SUMMARY OF CONSULTATIONS/REPRESENTATIONS

Ecologist - no objection subject to condition

Drainage and Flooding - no objections subject to a condition

Cllr Kew - request that this is heard at Committee if recommendation to be refused. This is a planning gain In that this development will be environmentally far superior to the building currently on this site. The increase in size is minimal and would not affect the openness of the Green Belt.

Clutton Parish Council - support this application. The existing house is of very poor standard in terms of its construction and appears incapable of being modernised cost-effectively and it is proposed that it will be built on the same footprint as the existing dwelling and using existing foundations. The proposed new house would be built of traditional materials but to the highest energy and environmental standards. It would be stone-faced - a vast improvement on the block and render, painted to resemble brick, of the current structure.

The applicant has demonstrated that they have considered the Neighbourhood plan policies and complied where possible

# POLICIES/LEGISLATION

POLICY CONTEXT:

The Core Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset was formally adopted by the Council on 10th July 2014. The Core Strategy now forms part of the statutory Development Plan and will be given full weight in the determination of planning applications. The Council's Development Plan now comprises:

- Bath & North East Somerset Core Strategy (July 2014
- Saved Policies from the Bath & North East Somerset Local Plan (2007)
- Joint Waste Core Strategy
- Clutton Neighbourhood Plan

The following policies of the Core Strategy are relevant to the determination of this application:

Policy SD1 - Sustainable Development Policy CP2 - Sustainable Construction Policy CP5 Flood Risk Management Policy CP6 - Environmental Quality Policy CP8 - Green Belt

The following saved policies of the Bath and North East Local Plan, including minerals and waste policies, adopted October 2007 are also relevant to the determination of this application.

Policy D.2: General design and public realm considerations Policy D.4: Townscape considerations Policy GB2: Visual amenities of Green Belt Policy HG. 14 - Replacement Dwellings Policy NE10: Nationally important species and habitats Policy T.24: General development control and access policy Policy T.26: On-site parking provision

The Clutton Neighbourhood Development Plan has been 'made' by B&NES and is now a part of the Council's development plan which is in accordance with section 38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The following policies are relevant to the determination of this application:

Policy CNP4: Future infrastructure provision for fibre optic services Policy CNP5: Sustainability by Design Policy CNP15: Landscape and Ecology Policy CNP 19: Traffic impacts of residential developments Policy CNP20: Car parking provision

At the Council's Cabinet meeting on 2nd December 2015 the draft Placemaking Plan was approved for consultation purposes and also approved for Development Management purposes. However, currently the Plan has limited weight in the determination of planning applications. The following polices are relevant:-

Policy SD1 - Presumption in favour of sustainable development

Policy CP2 - Sustainable construction

Policy CP3 - Renewable energy

Policy SU1 - Sustainable drainage

Policy D1, D2, D3, D4, D5, D6 - Design and amenity

Policy GB3 Extensions and alterations buildings in the Green Belt

Policy D10 - Public realm

Policy NE12 - Landscape and landscape character

Policy NE3 - Sites, species and habitats

Policy GB1 - Visual amenities of the Green Belt

Policy ST7 - Transport requirements for managing development

Supplementary Planning Document - Existing Dwellings in the Green Belt (adopted October 2008)

National Planning Policy Framework

National Planning Practice Guidance

## OFFICER ASSESSMENT

Principle of development

The site is located within the Green Belt and when assessing the application, it is therefore necessary to determine;

i) whether or not the proposal is inappropriate development for the purposes of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the Development Plan policy;

ii) the effect of the proposal on the openness and the visual amenities of the Green Belt; and

iii) if the development is inappropriate, whether the harm by reason of inappropriateness, and any other harm, is clearly outweighed by other considerations, so as to amount to the very special circumstances necessary to justify the development.

Local plan policy HG14 is a saved policy within the Core Strategy and follows the advice within the NPPF. The NPPF requires that a Local Planning Authority should regard the construction of new buildings as inappropriate in the Green Belt unless they fall into specified categories of exemption, one of these being;

'The replacement of a building, provided the new building is in the same use and not materially larger than the one it replaces'

It therefore needs to be assessed whether or not the proposed dwelling is materially larger than that to which it is to replace. There is no statutory definition of materially larger, but the adopted Green Belt Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) provides some additional clarification on this issue. The explanatory text within the SPD states that any replacement dwelling would not normally be of a greater volume than the dwelling that it will replace. It is noted that the SPD also states that in assessing whether a replacement building is 'materially larger', regard will be had to bulk, including height and footprint alongside volume increase. It is generally regarded that the intention is that the new building should be similar in size to that which it replaces. In this instance the height, footprint and volume of the replacement dwelling exceeds that of the existing dwelling.

The submission states that it is logical to take the existing volume as the existing dwelling and garage, plus any permitted development that could be carried out. However, whilst the permitted development can be considered to be a material consideration, the policy specifically refers to the existing dwelling, and it would not be rational to including development that does not and has not existed.

Excluding the permitted development rights the replacement dwelling would be 605m3 larger than that which it is to replace (around 60 percent). Given the volume increase, alongside the height increase and the proposed increase in footprint, it is concluded that the replacement dwelling would be 'materially larger' than the existing dwelling.

The single storey element of the existing dwelling visually breaks up the mass of the building, limiting its overall impact upon the openness of the Green Belt. The proposed dwelling, being fully two storey is not broken up in the same way and results in a dwelling that has a materially greater impact upon the openness of the Green Belt. The overall visual bulk is significantly greater than that of the existing dwelling. The development is therefore also considered to result in harm to the openness of the Green Belt. It is recognised that the development is set a significant distance from neighbouring occupiers within a well screened site but this does not overcome the harm identified above. As such, the development as proposed is considered to represent inappropriate development in the Green Belt.

It is therefore necessary to consider whether 'very special circumstances' exist to justify the development and outweigh the harm by reason of the inappropriateness. The submission cites that the building could be extended under permitted development rights by 451m3. However, no details to confirm that this is a realistic fall-back position have been supplied. Permitted development rights are available for a large number of properties and on its own would not constitute very special circumstances.

The adopted SPD explains that priority will be given to the reuse of existing buildings, and where a replacement is proposed justification should be provided to support this proposal. The submission includes information in relation to the inefficiencies of the existing building, and it has been explained that the construction would not meet current standards. This, in part has been explained for the increase in volume. It is also explained that the building extends beyond the existing footprint to allow for the existing footings to be utilised which is makes this project more viable. Looking at the proposed and existing footprint, it is the officer's view that this increase is also in part to accommodate additional living space.

Given the level of increased volume, the justification proposed is not considered to represent very special circumstances to allow a departure from the relevant Green Belt policy. It is noted that an increase in volume is to be expected, due to the need to build over existing foundations, and the need to provide a better constructed and insulated dwelling, and the requirements for an integral garage. However, the increase in volume, and visual bulk, appears to have gone beyond what would be expected to meet these requirements. The development is therefore considered to be inappropriate development in the Green Belt and unacceptable in principle.

#### Character and appearance

Notwithstanding the concerns raised in terms of the Green Belt, there are no objections to the overall design of the dwelling. This is considered to be appropriate in this context and sits comfortably within its large plot. Further, there are no objections to the loss of the existing dwelling which is considered to be of little architectural merit. The development is considered to preserve the visual amenities of the area.

#### Highway Development

No issues have arisen as a result of the development proposed in relation to highway safety.

#### Residential amenity

The development is in an isolated location and as such would not have a detrimental impact upon any neighbouring occupiers.

#### Ecology

An ecological report has been submitted which confirms that subject to mitigation and enhancement measures, there scheme will be ecologically acceptable.

#### Other issues/conclusion

The development dwelling is considered to be materially larger than that which it is to replace. The development is considered to represent inappropriate development in the Green Belt and no very special circumstances are considered to exist which justifies this development. No other issues have arisen as a result of this proposal, but for the reasons as outlined above, this application is recommended for refusal.

## RECOMMENDATION

REFUSE

## REASON(S) FOR REFUSAL

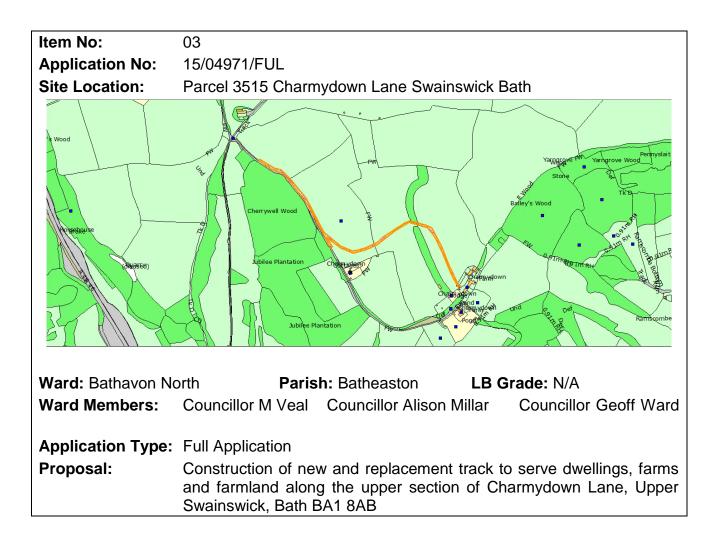
1 The proposed dwelling would be materially larger then the existing house at the site, and would have a greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt then the existing house. No special circumstances exist to justify this development. The proposal is therefore considered to represent inappropriate development in the Green Belt and is contrary to policy HG14 of the Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan adopted 2007 and policy CP8 of the Core Strategy 2014

## PLANS LIST:

24 Feb 2016	0575.003	EXISTING PLANS AND ELEVATIONS
24 Feb 2016	0575.004	PROPOSED PLANS AND ELEVATIONS
24 Feb 2016	0575.001	SITE LOCATION PLAN
24 Feb 2016	0575.002	BLOCK PLAN

In determining this application the Local Planning Authority considers it has complied with the aims of paragraphs 186 and 187 of the National Planning Framework. Notwithstanding informal advice offered by the Local Planning Authority the submitted application was unacceptable for the stated reasons and the applicant was advised that the application was to be recommended for refusal. Despite this the applicant chose not to withdraw the application and having regard to the need to avoid unnecessary delay the Local Planning Authority moved forward and issued its decision. In considering whether to prepare a further application the applicant's attention is drawn to the original discussion/negotiation.

You are advised that as of 6 April 2015, the Bath & North East Somerset Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule comes into effect. Whilst the above application has been refused by the Local Planning Authority please note that CIL applies to all planning permissions granted on or after this date. Thus any successful appeal against this decision may become subject to CIL. Full details are available on the Council's website www.bathnes.gov.uk/cil



Constraints:	Agric Land Class 1,2,3a, Agric Land Class 3b,4,5, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Greenbelt, MOD Safeguarded Areas, Public Right of Way, Sites of Nature Conservation Interest, SSSI - Impact Risk Zones, Water Source Areas,
Applicant: Expiry Date:	Dormie Holdings Ltd C/o Brimble Lea & Partners 3rd June 2016
Case Officer:	Alice Barnes

# REPORT

Parcel 3515 is located within the Green Belt and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The existing site is an area of open land which the applicant has confirmed is classed as being agriculture. The site whilst occupying a hillside position is a relatively flat site so does not appear to be visually prominent within the surrounding landscape.

This is an application for the construction of new and replacement track to serve dwellings, farms and farmland along the upper section of Charmydown Lane.

The existing site forms a plateau of open green farmland with some stone boundary walls and vegetation. The proposed track is intended to provide access to Charmydown farm which has recently been redeveloped. Currently there is a narrow access lane which provides access to both Charmydown farm and Charmydown farmhouse. It is intended that the proposed track would allow for farm vehicles access to Charmydown farm avoiding the existing narrow road which is in need of repair.

The proposed track is a single track constructed using consolidated hardcore with a grassed strip down the centre.

Relevant History

DC - 02/00963/FUL - PERMIT - 2 October 2002 - Conversion of barn and cottages to two dwellings and garage, plus formation of access and passing bays as amended by drawings received 27.6.02

DC - 96/02681/FUL - PER - 2 December 1996 - Demolition of existing garage/workshop construction of outbuilding (revised scheme)

DC - 99/02629/FUL - PER - 21 July 1999 - Alterations to existing garage and garden store room.

DC - 14/03209/FUL - PERMIT - 8 September 2014 - Proposed enclosure of colonnade porch

DC - 08/04768/FUL - PERMIT - 15 December 2010 - Conversion and enlargement of barns to create new dwelling and garage, and refurbishment and alteration of cottages to create new dwelling with associated soft and hard landscaping, following demolition of existing modern barns, stables and double storey lean-to

DC - 12/05579/FUL - PERMIT - 10 September 2013 - Conversion of Charmydown Barn to a 5no. bed dwelling, alteration and reinstatement of Charmydown Lodge to a 3no. bed

dwelling, retention of new detached garage block, minor works to the walls of the former pigsties and associated soft and hard landscaping following demolition of modern barns, stables and lean-to (revisions to permitted scheme 08/04768/FUL and 08/04769/LBA).

DC - 14/02769/AGRN - AP - 15 July 2014 - Provision of new access track

## SUMMARY OF CONSULTATIONS/REPRESENTATIONS

Arboricultural: All drawings currently available indicate that the track will be excavated to a depth of 100mm to accommodate the 50mm of gravel/ crushed aggregate and 50mm of paving grids. Most tree roots are within the top 600mm of soil and are often more shallow in areas of compaction.

No indication has been provided that the excavation is to be avoided as it extends through the existing tree belt. I have no objection to the proposal if excavations are avoided within the rooting areas of the trees. Conditions should be attached.

Archaeology: The applicant's archaeological consultant has now presented a more detailed mitigation strategy and accompanying written scheme of investigation. No objection subject to condition.

St Catherine's parish meeting: Object in principle to the construction of a new private road to Charmydown Farm Barn. The parish council support the part of the application that proposes a section of new road between Cherrywell and Charmydown Cottages, replacing a section of Charmydown Lane subject to obvious and intractable subsidence.

The existing section of Charmydown Lane between Cherry Well and Charmydown Cottages is in Batheaston Parish, and is suffering obvious and intractable subsidence. The proposed replacement new road will be positioned just back from the escarpment, following the field boundary, and will provide a long-term solution with minimal landscape impact.

The existing road between Charmydown Cottages and Charmydown Farm Barn is serviceable and not subject to subsidence. However, the proposal is to create a new additional road looping across three agricultural fields. Of these 3 fields field 2 and field 3 are in St Catherine Parish and both fields are rich in archaeology. The ecology appraisal is poor.

The proposed route cuts across a walled field system dating from around 300 years ago. This overlies a well preserved late pre-historic field system, dating from 2-3,000 years ago, with considerable above and below ground archaeological features and remains.

The proposed route requires the removal of 5m of stone wall between fields 1 and 2. This particular stretch of high wall is the finest example of old boundary wall remaining on Charmydown. 50m to the north-west of this point there is an existing gateway, which, if used, would prevent the loss of 5m of the old wall.

The application papers state that the section of new road between Charmydown Cottages and Charmydown Farm Barn is required for heavy vehicles and farm traffic. However, the construction of the proposed road consists of two 1m strips of loose hardcore sunk to 150mm. This is sufficient to carry light domestic vehicles only. Further, there is no evidence of agricultural activity at Charmydown Farm Barn. Batheaston Parish council: Support

Councillor Martin Veal: Object, in line with St Catherine's Parish Council

Councillor Geoff Ward: This is an extremely sensitive area given its rather special rural setting and as been highlighted it's archaeology. I note particularly the report by our Archaeological Officer which I think you should have regard to and should be one of the key grounds on which the road scheme should be refused. I have some sympathy for the subsidence challenge of the existing road. Clearly residents' access to properties must be maintained.

Ecology: Following the receipt of the ecology assessment no objection is raised. The ecological assessment has been updated to include details specific to the proposed replacement track. Mitigation proposals have also been updated and additional detail of proposed mitigation is provided. Full details and implementation can be secured by condition.

Highways: Highways are satisfied with the further information submitted specifying that the proposed section of track will not obstruct PROW21/9. Drawing no. 1743 A1 L3 shows that the proposed track will run parallel with the PROW with no crossing points proposed.

Representations: Three representations have been received in support of the application for the following reasons;

There are potholes within the existing road.

The existing road is in poor condition and dwellings are reliant on it for access.

The photographs submitted do not show the extent of the poor condition of the track.

The existing road is inches from a steep drop.

The road is a problem for deliveries and refuse collection.

Two representations have been received objecting to the application for the following reasons;

There is no need for a new lane to access the barns site.

The road would cut through farmland which is in the AONB setting a precedent for further development.

Where is the ecology report?

The site has important roman artefacts.

The application notices have been removed.

The road will provide personalised access to the barns site.

Why is it necessary to build a road to service one house?

Repairing the existing road would provide access to two houses and minimise damage to the AONB.

Concern is raised that the repairs will not extend to the whole road including the last stretch of existing road despite the photographs being used in the application, to evidence the poor state of repair.

## POLICIES/LEGISLATION

The Core Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset was formally adopted by the Council on 10th July 2014. The Core Strategy now forms part of the statutory Development Plan

and will be given full weight in the determination of planning applications. The Council's Development Plan now comprises:

Core Strategy Saved Policies in the B&NES Local Plan (2007) Joint Waste Core Strategy

The following policies of the Core Strategy are relevant to the determination of this application:

CP6 - Environmental Quality CP8 - Green Belt

The following saved policies of the Bath and North East Local Plan, including minerals and waste policies, adopted October 2007 are also relevant to the determination of this application.

D.2: General design and public realm considerations
D.4: Townscape considerations
GB.2: Visual Amenities of the Green Belt
Ne.2: Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty
T.26: On-site parking and servicing provision

National Policy The National Planning Policy Framework adopted March 2012 National Planning Practice Guidance 2014

At the Council's Cabinet meeting on 2nd December 2015 the draft Placemaking Plan was approved for consultation purposes and also approved for Development Management purposes. However, currently the Plan has limited weight in the determination of planning applications.

D.2 - Local character and distinctiveness

- D.3 Urban Fabric
- D.5 Building design

D.6 - Amenity

Ne.2 - Conserving and enhancing the landscape and landscape character

ST.7 - Transport requirements for managing development

## OFFICER ASSESSMENT

This is an application for the construction of new and replacement track along the upper section of Charmydown Lane. The proposed track would provide access to Charmydown Farm and allow for farm vehicles to access the existing farm land. The existing access lane is in need of repair and occupies a hillside position. Vehicles are advised to drive at 5mph and it is likely that this road would be difficult to navigate in inclement weather. The existing track would remain to provide access to Charmydown farmhouse which is a residential dwelling. It is envisaged that directing farm vehicles to the new access would avoid further damage to the existing road.

Principle

The application site located within the green belt within a relatively flat area of land. The applicant has stated that the existing land is classed as being agricultural land and the provision of the new track would be used to access the dwelling at Charmydown Farm and allow for the movement of agricultural vehicles. Paragraph 90 of the NPPF allows for engineering operations within the green belt.

Paragraph 80 of the NPPF states that the green belt serves five purposes which are as follows

-to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas

-to prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another.

-to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment

-to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and

-to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land

The application site is located to the north east of Bath. Bath is partly characterised by its surrounding green hills which contribute positively to its setting. The site whilst visible from the surrounding fields does not form part of the historic setting of the city of Bath. Being located to the north east of the city the site is not visible from within the city itself. The development will not harm the setting of the nearby historic city.

The list above also includes preventing towns from merging into one another, assist in urban regeneration and stop the unrestricted sprawl of built up areas. The development will not impact on an existing built up area and is not considered to conflict with the five purposes of including land within the green belt.

Impact on openness and landscape

The proposed development will result in a single track road. The track would be made up of two sections of hardcore with grass within the centre of the track.

The upper section of the track will be adjacent to the existing track leading up to Charmydown Cottages. This section of the track will not encroach into the existing landscape and will not harm the openness of the surrounding green belt.

The second section of the track will cross the existing open fields. The proposed track will introduce a hard surface to the existing open field. In long range views the track will not be readily visible and the design of the track, being single with grass along the centre, is such that the visible impact is minimised. The proposed design will allow for the track to appear as a farm track rather than a new road or driveway. As the site is relatively flat the proposed track would not encroach into views of the landscape and the existing fields will be left intact. The development is therefore not considered to harm the openness of the surrounding green belt or the appearance of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The applicant has stated that they would use the track for agriculture. The applicant has provided a photographic survey of the site and this has been confirmed by a site visit. Currently the existing access track is in need of repair. The track follows the edge of the hillside and as such there is a steep drop to one side of the track. The track includes signs advising vehicles to drive at 5mph.

The track will provide access to the dwelling of Charmydown Farm. The existing access will continue to serve Charmydown Farmhouse and will continue to be used. However the provision of the track will result in removing the need for agricultural vehicles to use the existing access track and will reduce the vehicular use of the existing track.

In conclusion the principle of the development is accepted and the proposed track will not harm the openness of the green belt. The development will remove vehicles from the existing track which is of a substandard condition.

#### Highways

The highways officer raised concern that the proposed track would be located close to an existing public right of way. The public right of way runs adjacent to the north to south section of the site. The applicant has confirmed that the right of way will not be affected and the highways officer has raised no objection. The propose track is a single track surfaced with hardcore. Therefore it is likely that vehicle speeds would be low with a low number of vehicle movements.

#### Public rights of way

Currently there are two public rights of way within the site. At the western end of the site the public right of way runs along the existing road. At the eastern end where the track will be constructed the public right of way would run adjacent to the proposed track but then runs north as the proposed track turns west. The submitted plans show that the proposed track will not cross the right of way.

The parish council have raised concern that the proposed track will conflict with the existing public rights of way. The public rights of way officer has commented that the works must not affect the alignment of the existing rights of way. Therefore a construction management plan should be required by condition to ensure that the construction of the track does not encroach onto the right of way. The public rights of way officer has advised that the current alignment of the right of way should not be affected by the works including the provision of any new gates or styles. The applicant is not proposing any new gates and the proposed works will not affect the existing styles within the site. As the new access will run parallel to the right of way at its eastern end, to ensure that any further works do not affect the public right of way a condition should added to remove rights to erect any new fences or gates within the proposed track.

## Ecology

The applicant has submitted an ecological assessment which includes mitigation proposals. The ecologist has advised that this is considered to be acceptable subject to the implementation of the mitigation proposals being secured by condition.

#### Archaeology

The route of the proposed new access road passes through a highly significant archaeological landscape, which includes a Neolithic or Bronze Age megalithic monument, an Iron Age field system (earthworks) and an enclosure. The applicant has

submitted an archaeological assessment. The council's archaeologist has raised no objection to the application subject to a condition requiring the implementation of a watching brief during construction of the track.

## Arboriculture

The proposed track will run between two existing groups of trees within a field boundary. The arboricultural officer has raised no objection to the application subject to the submission of a tree protection plans which should be required by condition. The proposed excavation must avoid any route protection areas.

## Amenity

The proposed track will largely be located away from any nearby dwellings. In any event being a single track serving an agricultural use would not result in a significant increase in traffic to the surrounding site.

## Other matters

The parish council have raised concern that the development will cross an existing historic field system and will result in the partial removal of an existing boundary wall. As stated above the proposed track is not considered to result in harm to the existing landscape plateau and therefore will not result in substantial visual harm to the existing field layout. The existing wall will remain largely intact and the provision of the new track will not result in substantial harm to the existing wall. The parish council have suggested that the proposed track could use an existing gate opening. This would result in the track taking a longer route across the field which would compromise the appearance of the site.

## RECOMMENDATION

PERMIT

# CONDITIONS

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

Reason: As required by Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) and to avoid the accumulation of unimplemented planning permissions.

2 No development shall take place until full details of a Wildlife Protection, Management and Enhancement Scheme in accordance with the recommendations and proposals described in the approved ecological assessment by Tyler Grange dated 2nd March2016 have been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. These details shall include:

(i) Full details of all proposed ecological mitigation, compensation, enhancement and protection measures, including fenced exclusion zones if applicable, new habitat creation and other ecological features to provide ecological benefit, with all measures and locations being shown on a plan

(ii) Full details and specifications for planting and seeding, to include species compositions, numbers, sizes and positions of planting, with measures also incorporated into soft landscape design and shown on all relevant plans and drawings

(iii) A list of wildlife conservation management aims and objectives to include species specific objectives where applicable for example creation of tussocky grassland habitat to benefit barn owl, and proposed management operations to achieve the aims and objectives

All works within the scheme shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise approved in writing by the local planning authority. The works shall be carried out prior to the occupation of any part of the development.

Reason: To avoid harm to wildlife and to mitigate for ecological impacts

3 No development shall take place until an annotated tree protection plan following the recommendations contained within BS 5837:2012 identifying measures (fencing and/or ground protection measures) to protect the trees within the woodland belt has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and details within the approved document implemented as appropriate. The plan shall include proposed tree protection measures during site preparation (including clearance), during construction and landscaping operations ensuring that no-dig construction methods are used within the rooting areas of the trees where the new track is constructed through the woodland belt.

Reason: To ensure that no excavation, tipping, storing of materials or any other activity takes place which would adversely affect the trees to be retained.

4 All ground works shall be monitored in accordance with the Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (Archaeology and Planning Solutions, February 2015) submitted with this application, providing a controlled watching brief with provision for the detailed excavation and recording of any significant deposits or features encountered.

Reason: The site is within an area of significant archaeological interest and the Council wish to protect and record any archaeological remains disturbed by the development.

5 Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (or any order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification) no fences, gates or any other means of enclosure shall be constructed within the track unless a further planning permission has been granted.

Reason: To safeguard the nearby public right of way and the openness of the surrounding green belt.

6 Prior to the commencement of the development, a Construction Management Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and shall include details of deliveries (including storage arrangements and timings) hours of operation, contractor parking and traffic management. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the details approved.

Reason: Details are required prior to the commencement of the development to ensure the safe operation of the highway and to ensure that the construction of the development does not cause disruption to the highway. To ensure that the development does not occur during anti-social hours in the interests of residential amenity. To ensure that the proposed development does not block or disrupt the existing public right of way.

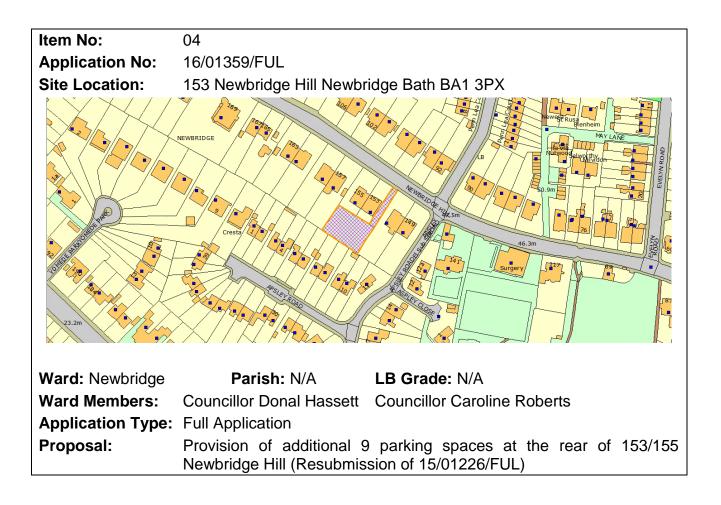
7 The development/works hereby permitted shall only be implemented in accordance with the plans as set out in the plans list below.

Reason: To define the terms and extent of the permission.

# PLANS LIST:

Site location plan 1743 SL 01 a Detailed site plan 1743 A1 L3 Proposed farm track 1743 A3 L4 Proposed plans 1743 A1 L1 rev E Proposed plans 1743 A1 L2 rev E

In determining this application the Local Planning Authority considers it has complied with the aims of paragraphs 186 and 187 of the National Planning Policy Framework. For the reasons given, and expanded upon in a related case officer's report, a positive view of the revised proposals was taken and consent was granted.



Constraints:	Affordable Housing, Agric Land Class 1,2,3a, Article 4, Conservation Area, Forest of Avon, Hotspring Protection, MOD Safeguarded Areas, SSSI - Impact Risk Zones, World Heritage Site,
Applicant:	Ms Amy Dyer
Expiry Date:	17th May 2016
Case Officer:	Martin Almond

## REPORT

This application has been referred to the Development Management Committee due to the support of Cllr Donal Hassett which is contrary to the Officer recommendation. These comments are summarised within the Representation Section of this report.

Planning permission is sought for the provision of an additional nine car parking spaces to the rear of 153 and 155 Newbridge Hill. The proposal also intends to re-develop approximately a third of the site to a communal garden area. The site already provides parking space for three vehicles granted permission in 1988 and therefore the site will provided a total of twelve parking spaces as well as a parking and turning area. The application site is located within the City of Bath Conservation Area and is within the World Heritage Site. The site has been subject to a number of unsuccessful planning applications for a detached dwelling over recent years.

Relevant planning history:

13445-2 - construction of vehicular access and provision of 3 hardstanding spaces - approved 15.06.88

DC - 08/03352/FUL - RF - 10 November 2008 - Erection of new three bedroom bungalow on existing vacant plot of no 153A

DC - 11/03393/FUL - RF - 24 November 2011 - Erection of new single family dwelling on land at the rear of 153/155 Newbridge Hill - appeal dismissed.

DC - 13/05531/FUL - RF - 13 March 2014 - Erection of new dwelling on land at the rear of 153/155 Newbridge Hill (resubmission) - appeal dismissed.

DC - 15/01226/FUL - PERMIT - 11 August 2015 - Provision of additional 5 parking spaces at the rear of 153/155 Newbridge Hill

DC - 16/00394/FUL - WD - 9 March 2016 - Construction of additional 9 parking spaces at the rear of 155/153 Newbridge Hill

## SUMMARY OF CONSULTATIONS/REPRESENTATIONS

Cllr Donal Hassett: A previous application for more spaces was supported by Ward Councillors and Highways, the area has a parking problem due to the RUH, more offstreet parking would be provided, the application proposes a communal garden and the parking area would use grass paving and the proposal has local support.

Highways: No objection subject to condition.

9 letters of objection and 1 support petition (19 signatures) received during the consultation period summarised as follows:

- The proposal will have an adverse impact upon the conservation area and character of the area.

- The proposal will increase noise, light pollution and traffic disturbing residents.

- Creating a new pattern of development would upset the balance between buildings and green spaces.

- The proposal could set a precedent for further development and car park developments.

- The applicant may use the spaces for commercial purposes.

- A local resident's only parking area cannot be controlled.

- The proposal does not contribute towards sustainable development by promoting car use and erodes a green corridor.

- The lack of development of the previously approved scheme does not demonstrate that the need for additional parking is urgent.

- There are concerns about drainage and surface water run-off.

- The land should be used for a garden not parking.
- A car park will not enhance the area.
- This application further reduces the garden area to be provided.
- The applicant keeps on submitting applications for the land.
- This application is a step towards the erection of a building on the site.
- The proposal will increase the number of vehicles using the driveway.
- The proposal will not make a significant difference to the local parking situation.
- The petition only has four signatures of residents of adjacent properties.
- Off-street parking is essential for boiler repairs and services
- Off-street parking is helpful for visiting patients

# POLICIES/LEGISLATION

There is a duty placed on the Council under Section 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act to pay special attention to the preservation or enhancement of the character of the surrounding conservation area.

Section 12 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment' of the National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's high-level policies concerning heritage and sustainable development. (The Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide published jointly by CLG, dcms, and English Heritage provides more detailed advice with regard to alterations to listed buildings, development in conservation areas and world heritage sites.) The National Planning Policy Framework can be awarded significant weight.

The Core Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset was formally adopted by the Council on 10th July 2014. The Core Strategy now forms part of the statutory Development Plan and will be given full weight in the determination of planning applications. The Council's Development Plan now comprises:

- Core Strategy
- Saved Policies in the B&NES Local Plan (2007)\*
- Joint Waste Core Strategy

The following Core Strategy policies should be considered:

CP6 - Environmental Quality DW1 - District-wide spatial Strategy B1 - Bath Spatial Strategy B4 - The World Heritage Site and its Setting

\*The B&NES Local Plan policies that are replaced by policies in the Core Strategy are outlined in Appendix 1 of the Core Strategy. Those B&NES Local Plan policies that are not replaced and remain saved are listed in Appendix 2 of the Core Strategy.

Saved Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan including minerals and waste policies - adopted October 2007:

D.2 General design and public realm considerations

D.4 Townscape considerations

BH.6 Development within/affecting Conservation Areas

NE.5 Forest of Avon

NE.13A Bath Hot Springs

- T.1 Overarching access policy
- T.20 Loss and provision of off-street parking and servicing

T.24 General development control and access policy

T.26 On-site parking and service provision

At the Council's Cabinet meeting on 2nd December 2015 the draft Placemaking Plan was approved for consultation purposes and also approved for Development Management purposes. However, currently the Plan has limited weight in the determination of planning applications. The following polices are relevant to this application:

D1 General urban design principles D2 Local character and distinctiveness D3 Urban fabric D6 Amenity HE1 Safeguarding heritage assets PCS8 Bath Hot Springs ST7 Transports, access and development management

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in March 2012 and is a material consideration. Due consideration has been given to the provisions of the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG).

## OFFICER ASSESSMENT

The land subject of this application has been separated from 153 and 155 Newbridge Hill for a number of years with a small area of the granted planning permission in 1988 to provide parking space for three vehicles. Planning permission has been refused and dismissed at appeal twice in the past four years for the erection of a detached dwelling. More recently, application 15/01226/FUL (which remains an extant permission) was approved by Development Management Committee contrary to officer recommendation to provide an additional five parking spaces (eight in total).

CHARACTER OF SURROUNDING AREA

The application site and surrounding area is characterised by large semi-detached properties either split into flats or retained as single dwellings with large rear gardens and the character of the land between Apsley Road to the rear of the properties and Newbridge Hill remains largely undeveloped and open.

Whilst the application site has not formed the gardens of 153/155 Newbridge Hill for a significant period of time, visually the open space relates closely to these dwellings. Whilst the site is untidy through lack of maintenance to the grassed area this is not readily visible from public vantage points and the site remains undeveloped except for the driveway and the existing small parking area for 3 vehicles. This current arrangement allows for the majority of the area to remain open and undeveloped with the existing parking located to the front of the application site adjacent to the existing boundary. The use proposed would be more intensive than the present arrangement and more intensive than could be expected to maintain the existing character of the area. Given that the use of the spaces may not be solely for residential purposes (where the number of vehicle movements per day would be low) and could be used for visiting carers and tradesmen it is likely that the number of vehicle movements per day will increase above current levels and increase above the expected levels following the last planning approval.

The proposal consists of an increased area of hardstanding with a landscaped area and a re-instated garden which would introduce activity in the form of vehicle movements over and above what would be expected in such a residential area and as such would detract from the existing character of the area. The additional hard-surfacing required for the additional spaces will further intrude into the undeveloped green space. Parking for the residential properties on Newbridge Hill is provided either through on-road parking and a number of properties also benefit from driveways. The driveways are limited to the side of the properties and do not extend beyond the rear of the property which further preserves the existing character of the area. The small parking area that already exists has already detracted from the openness and character of the area and the further extension of the parking area would result in harm as the parking area would extend to cover almost two thirds of the land.

The re-instated garden would be provided for the residents of the three flats owned by the applicant's father at 155 Newbridge Hill. No direct access from 155 Newbridge Hill into the new garden area is proposed which will mean that in order for residents to use the re-instated garden they would have to exit the property via the front of the property, walk along Newbridge Hill then down the access drive, across the car parking area and then into the garden area which makes the use of the garden impractical.

## CONSERVATION AREA

The Planning Inspector's decision from application 13/05531/FUL states that "In the vicinity of the appeal site, the character and appearance of the conservation area is largely distinguished by the substantial buildings, the reasonably rigid nature and pattern of development and the adaptation of local buildings and their forms to the topography of the land". In addition, the Inspector identified that "although not visible from many vantage points, this area of land, and the pattern of development which has created it, contributes to the character and appearance of the conservation area".

The increase in the approved area of parking is considered to further erode the character and appearance of the area and does not preserve or enhance the conservation area; in addition, the reduced size of the proposed communal garden does not respect the traditional proportions of gardens and plots displayed within this part of the conservation area.

It is considered that taking into account the Inspector's comments as well as the provisions of saved policy BH.6 of the local plan the formation of an enlarged parking area would introduce a new pattern and form of development in the locality which would not preserve or enhance the conservation area. Whilst the harm caused to the Conservation Area's significance as a heritage asset would be less than substantial in terms of paragraph 134 of the Framework, no significant public benefits arise from the proposal to justify the application being granted.

## PROVISION OF OFF-STREET PARKING

Policy T.20 of the Local Plan states that "additional or enhanced parking facilities will only be permitted if the need for any additional parking spaces has been demonstrated and that such provision will not create further reliance on private car use". This is furthered by the provisions of paragraph 30 of the NPPF which states "encouragement should be given to solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and reduce congestion. In preparing Local Plans, local planning authorities should therefore support a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport".

Application 15/01226/FUL permitted an additional five spaces (eight in total) and no significant justification has been provided to identify that there is a need to instead provide an additional nine off-street car parking spaces (twelve in total) in this location. The applicant's father owns three out of four flats within 155 Newbridge Hill (adjoining the site) and the existing parking area already offers one car parking space per flat which in this sustainable location is considered to be acceptable.

The proposal seeks to provide an additional four spaces to the eight already permitted for the parking of vehicles in a location which is already highly sustainable. The site is within walking distance of bus stops on Newbridge Hill and offers good access into Bath city centre by walking or cycling and is also close to local amenities. The proposal will create further reliance on private car use.

## RESIDENTIAL AMENITY

The parking area and access drive is separated from 153 Newbridge Hill by a 1.8m close boarded timber fence. Whilst some disturbance to the residents of the garden flat of 153 Newbridge Hill will already exist from the three parking spaces it is anticipated that the increase in the number of vehicles using the site for parking from three to twelve will lead to an unacceptable increase in disturbance to the current and future occupiers of 153 Newbridge Hill in particular the garden flat.

## HIGHWAY SAFETY

The Council's Highway's team have raised no objection to the proposal subject to condition. The recent works to create the bus stop have improved visibility for cars exiting the site.

## CONCLUSION

Whilst it is noted that the reinstatement of the formal garden area and increased landscaping of the site would positively contribute to the area it is considered that this does not outweigh the harm to the character and appearance of the surrounding area or conservation area and does not contribute to the principles of sustainable development by encouraging the use of private motor vehicles. The increase in the number of parking spaces now proposed is considered harmful and for the reasons above the application is recommended for refusal.

## RECOMMENDATION

REFUSE

# REASON(S) FOR REFUSAL

1 The proposed development due to its intended use, location and size would result in development which does not respect the existing character and appearance of the locality and as such is contrary to the provision of saved policies D.2 and D.4 of the Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan (including minerals and waste) adopted October 2007.

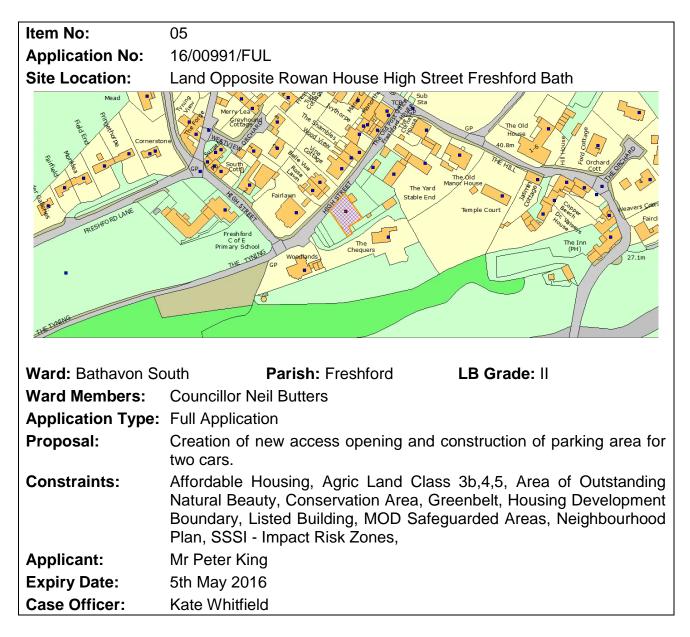
2 The proposal development by virtue of its size, scale and siting in this backland location would detract from the open and regular pattern of the existing built environment which would harm the character and appearance of the City of Bath Conservation Area. The development is therefore contrary to saved policy BH.6 of the Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan (including minerals and waste) adopted October 2007.

3 The increase in the number of parking spaces will result in an increased number of vehicle movements which will result in increased disturbance to the existing residential properties and as such the proposal is contrary to saved policy D.2 of the Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan (including minerals and waste) adopted October 2007.

# PLANS LIST:

This decision relates to drawings 1102 P62, 1102 P63, 1102 P64, 1102 P65 and 1102 P61 dated as received 22nd March 2016.

In determining this application the Local Planning Authority considers it has complied with the aims of paragraphs 186 and 187 of the National Planning Framework. The Local Planning Authority acknowledges the approach outlined in paragraphs 188-192 in favour of front loading and operates a pre-application advice service. The applicant did not seek to enter into correspondence with the Local Planning Authority. The proposal was considered unacceptable for the reasons given and the applicant was advised that the application was to be recommended for refusal. Despite this the applicant chose not to withdraw the application, and having regard to the need to avoid unnecessary delay the Local Planning Authority moved forward and issued its decision.



# REPORT

The Parish Council has expressed support for this application based on material planning grounds. This is contrary to the Officer's recommendation of refusal and therefore it has been agreed that the application should be determined by the Planning Committee.

The application site is an area of garden land on the south eastern side of the 'High Street' in the village of Freshford. The area is under the same ownership as a Grade II Listed residential property, 'Rowan House', located on the opposite side of road. The site lies within the designated Conservation Area for Freshford and the entire village lies within the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Bristol / Bath Greenbelt.

Planning permission is sought to convert around a 7 by 9 metre section of the garden area to a parking bay. This will require the complete removal of a 7 metre length of stone

boundary wall and the lowering of around 2.5 metre wide sections of the wall on either side of the new access. The parking area is to be surfaced in a permeable material.

Relevant Planning History:

DC - 98/02520/OUT - REF - 9 July 1998 - Erection of single storey dwelling and garage

#### SUMMARY OF CONSULTATIONS/REPRESENTATIONS

Freshford Parish Council:

This proposal seeks approval to the utilisation of part of a vegetable garden, on the opposite side of the road to the main dwelling, Rowan House, as an off street parking space for two vehicles, with associated boundary wall works.

Freshford High Street is narrow, with little or no space for parking on the road outside houses. Vehicles sometimes park on the pavement causing safety and access problems. Several dwellings in the High Street own land used for gardens on the opposite side of the road to the main house, and provision for parking has been made in some cases.

In this proposal approximately one-sixth of the vegetable garden is to be converted into parking spaces for two vehicles. At present there is a stone wall boundary along the road about 1.5 m high. About 7.0 m of this wall will be demolished to provide access, and a further 4.0m of wall reduced in height, to enable drivers to see movements along the road in terms of access and safety. It is understood that the Highways Authority will be commenting on this aspect.

The Neighbourhood Plan Villages Design Statement provides guidance for building work. In this particular case the Conservation Report document of 2007 is also relevant, in that one of the main attributes of the village that it seeks to conserve is the presence of many fine stone walls along roads and in gardens. In this case the Council will expect boundary and other walls, together with other works, to be in materials and in a style in keeping with the immediate location, and in sympathy with the main dwellings in the High Street. The Application covers these points.

The Parish Council supported this Application, with the above comments, at its meeting on April 11 2016.

Bath and North East Somerset Council Highways Team:

The applicant is seeking permission to create a new access opening and construct a hardstanding area for parking on garden land opposite Rowan House (formerly Belle Vue), High Street, Freshford.

The site, which is 9m x 7m in area, currently forms part of a vegetable garden and is bound by a 1.5m high stone wall to the northwest. The applicant proposes to create a 7m wide opening in the wall with the height reduced to 600m on both sides to improve visibility. It is noted that there are a number of vehicular access onto High Street in close proximity to the site which serve residents of properties along the opposite side of the road. It is therefore unlikely an additional access will have a detrimental impact on the safety and operation of the public highway. It is also acknowledged that the provision of off-street parking to serve the occupants of Rowan House will help alleviate the current demand for on-street parking in Freshford. It is therefore recommended that no highway objection be raised subject to conditions being attached to any permission granted relating to the retention of the parking area and confirmation of the surfacing materials and means of surface water disposal.

No third party representations have been received.

#### POLICIES/LEGISLATION

The Core Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset was formally adopted by the Council on 10th July 2014. The Core Strategy now forms part of the statutory Development Plan and will be given full weight in the determination of planning applications. The Council's Development Plan now comprises:

- Bath and North East Somerset Core Strategy (July 2014);
- Saved policies from the Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan (2007)
- West of England Joint Waste Core Strategy (2011).

## RELEVANT CORE STRATEY POLICIES

The B&NES Local Plan policies that are replaced by policies in the Core Strategy are outlined in Appendix 1 of the Core Strategy. Those B&NES Local Plan policies that are not replaced and remain saved are listed in Appendix 2 of the Core Strategy

The following policies of the Core Strategy are relevant to the determination of this application:

CP6: Environmental Quality CP8: Greenbelt DW1: District Wide Spatial Strategy

RELEVANT LOCAL PLAN POLICIES

The following saved policies of the Bath and North East Local Plan, including minerals and waste policies, adopted October 2007 are also relevant to the determination of this application.

D.2: General Design and public realm considerations

D.4: Townscape considerations

BH.2 : Listed Buildings and their settings

BH.6: Development within or affecting Conservation Areas.

BH.7 : Demolition within Conservation Areas

GB.2 : Visual Amenities of the Green Belt

NE.2 : Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

T.26: On-site parking and servicing provision

RELEVANT PLACEMAKING PLAN POLICIES

At the Council's Cabinet meeting on 2nd December 2015 the draft Placemaking Plan was approved for consultation purposes and also approved for Development Management

purposes. The Plan has limited weight in the determination of planning applications, however, the following policies would be relevant :

D1 : General Urban Design Principles

D2 : Local Character and Distinctiveness

HE1 : Historic Environment

NE2 : Conserving and Enhancing the Landscape and Landscape Character

GB1 : Visual Amenities of the Green Belt

ST7 : Transport Requirements For Managing Development

National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) and the National Planning Practice Guidance (March 2014) can be awarded significant weight. The following sections of the NPPF are of particular relevance:

Section 7: Requiring good design

Section 9 : Protecting Green Belt land

Section 12 : Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment.

The adopted Freshford and Limpley Stoke Neighbourhood Development Plan 2014 to 2039 and the Freshford and Sharpstone Conservation Area Character Appraisal (March 2007) is also relevant in the determination of this planning application.

In addition, where development affects a listed building or its setting there is a duty placed on the Council under Section 66 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. There is also a duty under Section 72 of the same Act to pay special attention to the preservation or enhancement of the character of the surrounding Conservation Area.

## OFFICER ASSESSMENT

It is considered that this proposal, in particular the demolition of a section of boundary wall along the High Street, will have a detrimental impact on the character and appearance of the Freshford Conservation Area. It is therefore recommended for refusal.

The south eastern side of the High Street in Freshford is currently undeveloped, save for a few garage and shed structures, and provides large garden areas for properties on the opposite side of the High Street. It generally provides an attractive 'green boundary' to the southern side of the village, separating it from the countryside beyond.

The proposal is to convert a section of one of these garden areas to a hard surfaced parking bay, which will be accessed directly from the High Street. Due to their age many of the properties within Freshford do not benefit from off street parking and it is recognised that this is placing pressure on the limited availability of street parking within the village. The rationale behind the application is therefore acknowledged.

The proposed parking area will measure 9 by 7 metres and will take up a relatively small area of the large garden. However, of more significance is the extent of the boundary stone wall along the High Street which will need to be removed to allow safe access to and from the parking area.

Boundary rubble walls within the village are specifically highlighted as a feature of special interest in the Freshford and Sharpstone Conservation Area Character Appraisal. It states :

"Protection of the boundary walls is a high priority and they should not be neglected. Traditional repairs with lime mortar should be encouraged. The removal of boundary walls to provide access or parking should be resisted."

Accesses have been created onto parking areas at either end of the High Street, however, this new access would be established in a more central section and within a largely unbroken stretch of wall. It is acknowledged that there are benefits to the Applicant of an off road parking space, however, in this case it is not considered that these outweigh the loss of a significant section of the boundary wall and the detrimental visual impact this will have on the character of the area and the setting of Listed Buildings opposite the site.

In addition to the Conservation Area Appraisal, saved Local Plan policy BH.7 states that the total or substantial demolition of structures which make a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area should not be permitted, unless the proposed development would make a significantly greater contribution to the Conservation Area. It is not considered that this proposal will achieve this and therefore it is deemed to be contrary to this policy.

The Applicant has advised that it is the intention to surface the parking area with a permeable surface, similar in colour to Bath stone and the surfacing on a nearby public footpath in Freshford. However, no specific details are known at this stage and therefore a condition would be required to provide this information for prior approval, to ensure it meets the requirements of the Highways Officer and is suitable from a visual amenity perspective. A 3 metre section of new wall is also to be built along the side boundary of the parking area, replacing a dead hedge, however this is not considered to mitigate for the loss of the front boundary wall.

However, the application is recommended for refusal as it is considered that it fails to preserve or enhance the Freshford Conservation Area or the setting of adjacent Listed Buildings and is therefore contrary to saved Local Plan policies BH.2, BH.6 and BH.7. For the above reasons it is also considered that the Local Authority has fulfilled its duties under Sections 66 and 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to pay special attention to the preservation or enhancement of the setting of neighbouring Listed Buildings and the character of the surrounding Conservation Area.

## RECOMMENDATION

REFUSE

# REASON(S) FOR REFUSAL

1 It is considered that the proposed development would result in an unacceptable loss of a substantial part the boundary wall along the High Street in Freshford, detrimentally affecting the setting of the heritage assets and the character and appearance of the Freshford Conservation Area. The proposal therefore conflicts with the principles and policies set out in the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, Section 12: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment of National Planning Policy Framework and the policies BH.2, BH.6 and BH.7 of Bath and North East Somerset Local Plan (including minerals and wastes) adopted October 2007.

# PLANS LIST:

This decision relates to the following plans dated as received 10 March 2016 : Site Location Plan, Ref C Proposed Block Plan, Ref D Detail Plan, Ref E

In determining this application the Local Planning Authority considers it has complied with the aims of paragraphs 186 and 187 of the National Planning Framework. The submitted application was unacceptable for the stated reasons and it has not been possible to agree on an acceptable scheme to enable approval. The applicant was therefore advised that the application was to be recommended for refusal.

Bath & North East Somerset Council				
MEETING:	D	evelopment Control Committee	AGENDA	
MEETING DATE:	1'	<sup>st</sup> June 2016	ITEM NUMBER	
RESPONS OFFICER:		ark Reynolds, Group Manager, Development anagement (Telephone: 01225 477079)	L	
TITLE:		ANNING APPEALS, DECISIONS RECEIVED AND D COMING HEARINGS/INQUIRIES	ATES OF	
WARD:	ALL			
BACKGROUND PAPERS: None				
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM				

# APPEALS LODGED

marina facilities bu with day time accest cars will be designed and a tearoom and <b>Decision:</b> <b>Decision Date:</b>	13/04822/EFUL Broad Mead Broadmead Lane Keynsham Development of land off Broadmead Lane, Keynsham, for a marina 826 berths and designed to accommodate a variety of craft sizes; a ilding with 24-hour access to toilets, showers and laundry, together ss to a reception and chandlery; car parking for a maximum of 144 ed as a series of satellite car parks screened by suitable vegetation; office included within the facilities building. REFUSE 14 January 2016 Planning Committee 4 May 2016
App. Ref: Location: BS31 2HB Proposal: Decision: Decision Date: Decision Level: Appeal Lodged:	

App. Ref: Location: East Somerset Proposal: Decision: Decision Date: Decision Level: Appeal Lodged:	15/04929/FUL Down House Bathampton Lane Bathampton Bath Bath And North Erection of new two storey dwelling. REFUSE 5 February 2016 Delegated 4 May 2016
App. Ref: Location: East Somerset Proposal: residential accomm Decision: Decision Date: Decision Level: Appeal Lodged:	14/02670/FUL Yew Tree Inn Pilgrims Way Chew Stoke Bristol Bath And North Change of use from Public House (Class A4) with ancillary first floor nodation to dwellinghouse (Class C3). (Resubmission) REFUSE 19 October 2015 Delegated 6 May 2016
	15/04842/OUT Valley View Greyfield Road High Littleton Bristol Bath And North Erection of detached dormer bungalow and garage at rear of 'Valley off existing back lane. (Outline application with access, layout and ined and all other matters reserved) REFUSE 17 December 2015 Delegated 10 May 2016

## APPEALS DECIDED

14/04119/LBCLPU App. Ref: Location: Heathfield Mount Road Beacon Hill Bath Bath And North East Somerset Proposal: Rebuild a balustrade and its supporting terrace apron wall (Certificate of Lawfulness of Proposed works to a Listed Building) Decision: REFUSE Decision Date: 4 November 2014 Decision Level: Non-Planning applications 23 June 2015 Appeal Lodged:

Appeal Decision: Dismissed on 15.04.2016

Click <u>here</u> to view the Appeal Decision

App. Ref: 15/03599/FUL Location: 285 London Road East Batheaston Bath Bath And North East Somerset BA1 7RL Proposal: Conversion and single storey extension of existing garage to form one bed garden dwelling Decision: REFUSE Decision Date: 27 November 2015 Decision Level: Delegated 1 February 2016 Appeal Lodged:

Appeal Decision: Dismissed on 15.04.2016

Click <u>here</u> to view the Appeal Decision

App. Ref:	13/03547/OUT
Location:	Parcel 5922 Farrington Road Paulton Bristol Bath And North East
Somerset	
Proposal:	Erection of up to 47 dwellings with associated infrastructure.
Decision:	REFUSE
Decision Date:	22 January 2014
Decision Level:	Delegated
Appeal Lodged:	11 March 2014

Appeal Decision: Withdrawn on 19.04.2016

Click <u>here</u> to view the Appeal Decision.

App. Ref:	13/04880/OUT	
Location:	Parcel 6211 Boxbury Hill Paulton Bristol	
Proposal:	Outline planning application for a residential development of up to	
124 dwellings and associated infrastructure.		
Decision:	REFUSE	
Decision Date:	18 February 2014	
Decision Level:	Delegated	
Appeal Lodged:	15 April 2014	

# Appeal Decision: Withdrawn on 19.04.2016

Click <u>here</u> to view the Appeal Decision

App. Ref:	15/03852/FUL	
Location:	Vacant Shop 49 Southgate Street Bath BA1 1TG	
Proposal:	Change of use from Vacant Shop (Use class A1) to a Coffee Shop	
(Use class A1/A3) and use of highway for siting of 4 tables, 8 chairs.		
Decision:	REFUSE	
Decision Date:	9 November 2015	
Decision Level:	Delegated	
Appeal Lodged:	17 February 2016	

Appeal Decision: Allowed on 04.05.2016

Click <u>here</u> to view the Appeal Decision

App. Ref: Location: BS31 1NG	15/01513/FUL 22 Unity Road Keynsham Bristol Bath And North East Somerset
<b>Proposal:</b> Road.	Erection of 2no. one bedroom flats on adjacent plot at 22 Unity
Decision:	REFUSE
Decision Date:	29 September 2015
Decision Level:	Delegated
Appeal Lodged:	9 December 2015

Appeal Decision: Dismissed on 06.05.2016

Click <u>here</u> to view the Appeal Decision

App. Ref:	15/01607/LBA
Location: BA1 5NR	5 Lyndhurst Terrace Walcot Bath Bath And North East Somerset
Proposal: rooms.	Internal works to form an opening between the two ground floor
Decision:	REFUSE
Decision Date:	4 June 2015
Decision Level:	Delegated
Appeal Lodged:	4 December 2015

Appeal Decision: Dismissed on 06.05.2016

Click <u>here</u> to view the Appeal Decision

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