Horsham District Council

DELEGATED APPLICATIONS - ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO./ADDRESS:
DC/25/0786
Old Park , Park Lane, Maplehurst, West Sussex, RH13 6LL

DESCRIPTION:
Erection of a rear timber garden room (Householder)

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY:

DC/25/0787	Erection of a rear timber garden room (Listed Building Consent)	Under Consideration

RELEVANT PLANNING POLICIES
The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

Horsham District Planning Framework (2015):
Policy 25 - Strategic Policy: The Natural Environment and Landscape Character
Policy 26 - Strategic Policy: Countryside Protection
Policy 28 - Replacement Dwellings and House Extensions in the Countryside
Policy 32 - Strategic Policy: The Quality of New Development
Policy 33 - Development Principles
Policy 34 - Cultural and Heritage Assets

Nuthurst Parish Nighbourhood Plan 2015 - 2031
Policy 10 – Housing Design

Nuthurst Parish Design Statement

Horsham District Local Plan (2023-40) (Regulation 19):
Policy 9: Water Neutrality
Policy 19: Development Quality
Policy 20: Development Principles
Policy 21: Heritage Assets and Managing Change within the Historic Environment
Policy 25: Parking
Policy 45: Replacement Dwellings and House Extensions in the Countryside

REPRESENTATIONS AND CONSULTATIONS RESPONSES
Where consultation responses have been summarised, it should be noted that Officers have had consideration of the full comments received, which are available to view on the public file at www.horsham.gov.uk.

Consultations:
Natural England: Standing Advice:-

It cannot be concluded that existing abstraction within the Sussex North Water Supply Zone is not having an adverse effect on the integrity of the Arun Valley SAC/SPA/Ramsar sites. Developments within Sussex North must therefore must not add to this impact and one way of achieving this is to

demonstrate water neutrality. The definition of water neutrality is the use of water in the supply area before the development is the same or lower after the development is in place.

To achieve this Natural England is working in partnership with all the relevant authorities to secure water neutrality collectively through a water neutrality strategy. Whilst the strategy is evolving, Natural England advises that decisions on planning applications should await its completion. However, if there are applications which a planning authority deems critical to proceed in the absence of the strategy, then Natural England advises that any application needs to demonstrate water neutrality.

Conservation Officer: No objection.

Southern Water: No objections.

Parish Comments:
None received

Representations:
None received

HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITY:
The application has been considered having regard to Article 1 of the First Protocol of the Human Rights Act 1998, which sets out a person's rights to the peaceful enjoyment of property and Article 8 of the same Act, which sets out their rights in respect to private and family life and for the home. Officers consider that the proposal would not be contrary to the provisions of the above Articles.

The application has also been considered in accordance with Horsham District Council's public sector equality duty, which seeks to prevent unlawful discrimination, to promote equality of opportunity and to foster good relations between people in a diverse community, in accordance with Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. In this case, the proposal is not anticipated to have any potential impact from an equality perspective.

PLANNING ASSESSMENT:
The application has been assessed on the basis of the submitted details, together with the planning history of the site and adjoining properties, available images and photographs taken during site visit. These details were considered sufficient to allow the application to be properly considered and determined.

Character and Appearance

Policy 28 of the HDPF relates to house extensions and outbuildings in the countryside, stating that extensions should not be disproportionate to the size of the existing dwelling, and should be in keeping with the scale and character of the existing dwelling. The policy also states that the cumulative impact of existing extensions will be taken into account.

Policies 32 and 33 of the HDPF seek to ensure that development promotes a high standard and quality of design in order to enhance and protect locally distinctive characters. The policies also seek to ensure that the scale, massing and appearance of development relates sympathetically with the built surroundings, landscape, open spaces and routes within and adjoining the site, including any impact on the skyline and important views.

Policy 10 of the Nuthurst Parish Nighbourhood Plan states that the scale, density, massing, height, landscape design, layout and materials of all development proposals, including alterations to existing buildings, will be required to reflect the architectural and historic character and scale of the surrounding buildings.

Paragraph 212 of the NPPF (2024) states that "when considering the impact of proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's

conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be)." Paragraph 213 continues to state that "any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (from its alterations or destruction, or for of development within its setting), should require clear and convincing justification."

Policy 34 of the HDPF seeks to ensure that proposals preserve, and ensure clear legibility of, locally distinctive vernacular building forms and their settings, features, fabric and materials. Moreover, proposed development are required to secure the viable and sustainable future of heritage assets through continued preservation by uses that are consistent with the significance of the heritage asset.

The proposed extension would be sited between two rear wings of the listed building, which has been previously extended. The proposed design approach would create a lightweight appearance which would allow a continued appreciation of the principle listed building and ensure no harm to its special interest. It is considered that further details of the extension are needed, to ensure subservient timber elements and appropriate colouration, and these are secured through a recommended condition.

The development is considered to be a subservient addition and of a design, form and scale which is appropriate to the character and appearance of the existing dwelling. The proposal would not harm the character or appearance of the wider area. It is therefore considered that the visual impact of the proposal is acceptable and would accord with the above policies.

Impact on Neighbouring Amenity

Policy 33 of the HDPF states that permission will be granted for development that does not cause unacceptable harm to the amenity of the occupiers/users of nearby properties and land.

It is considered that the siting and layout of the proposed extension and the resulting relationship with adjacent properties would be sufficient to prevent any unacceptable harm to neighbouring amenity.

Water Neutrality

There is no clear or compelling evidence to suggest the nature and scale of the proposed development would result in a more intensive occupation of the dwelling necessitating an increased consumption of water that would result in a significant impact on the Arun Valley SAC, SPA and Ramsar sites, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. The grant of planning permission would not therefore adversely affect the integrity of these sites or otherwise conflict with policy 31 of the HDPF, NPPF paragraph 180 and the Council's obligations under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

Biodiversity Net Gain

In accordance with the Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Exemptions) Regulations 2024, all householder applications are current exempt from the statutory requirement to demonstrate a 10% net gain in biodiversity.

Conclusion

The proposal is considered to comply with relevant local and national planning policies and is therefore recommended for approval.

Recommendation: Application Permitted

Conditions:

2 **Standard Time Condition**: The development hereby permitted shall begin before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

3 **Pre-Commencement (Slab Level) Condition**: No development above ground floor slab level shall take place until the following details have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The works must not be executed other than in complete accordance with these approved details:

a) Drawings to a scale not smaller than 1:5 fully describing:

i) new/and/or/replacement windows, external doors, rooflights and roof lanterns. These drawings must show:
- materials
- decorative/protective finish and colour
- cross section of frame, transom, mullions, glazing bars, etc
- formation of openings including reveals, heads, sills, arches, lintels, dormer construction, etc
- method of opening
- method of glazing

ii) Joinery

iii) Roof details including sections through:
- eaves
- verges
- verges and bargeboards
- flat roof perimeters
- parapets

c) Samples or specifications of external materials and surface finishes.

Reason: As this matter is fundamental to ensure that the significance of the designated heritage asset, and the character, appearance and integrity of the building, is not prejudiced, thereby preserving the special architectural or historic interest which it possesses, and to comply with Policy 34 of the Horsham District Planning Framework (2015).

POSITIVE AND PROACTIVE STATEMENT

Statement pursuant to Article 35 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015. The Local Planning Authority has acted positively and proactively in determining this application by assessing the proposal against all material considerations, including planning policies and any representations that may have been received, in order to be able to, where possible, grant permission.

Plans list for: DC/25/0786

(The approved plans will form Condition 1 on the Decision Notice of all Permitted applications)

Schedule of plans/documents **approved**:

Plan Type	Description	Drawing Number	Received Date
Design & Access Statement	and Heritage	NONE	12.05.2025
Location plan		13115/04	12.05.2025
Block plan		13115/03	12.05.2025

Elevation & Floor plan		13115/01	12.05.2025
Elevation & Floor plan		13115/02	12.05.2025
Details plan	Frames	13115/05	12.05.2025
Details plan	Roof	13115/06	12.05.2025
Details plan	Lantern	13115/07	12.05.2025

DELEGATED

Case Officer sign/initial Halima Chowdhury Date: 25.06.2025

Authorising Officer sign/initial Guy Everest Date: 07.07.2025