Horsham District Council

DELEGATED APPLICATIONS - ASSESSMENT SHEET

OFFICER CHECKLIST	
WEEK ONE (Date Valid)	**28th April 2025**
Check Neighbours	11/05/2025
Check Consultations (including newts) / Press List	11/05/2025
Check Description, Plans and Supporting Documents	11/05/2025
Print and Display Site Notice (if required)	N/A
WEEK TWO (+7)	**5th May 2025**
Visit Site or request site visit photos (in accordance with Site Visit Guidance Note)	N/A
Draft HRA / AA if necessary. If the water statement is insufficient discuss with TL / PPO whether to discuss / accept amendments to the strategy.	N/A
Instruct Legal if s106 required (with prior TL / PPO agreement)	N/A
WEEK THREE (+14)	**12th May 2025**
If amendments are likely to be needed discuss with TL / PPO (N.B. Only minor amendments will be accepted in accordance with the Amendment Guidance). When requesting amendments give clear deadline (i.e. start of week 5).	N/A
WEEK FOUR (+21)	**19th May 2025**
If no amendments required, contact agent / applicant with update on progress.	N/A
Confirm whether delegated or committee decision (re: parish and neighbour representations)	**Delegated**
WEEK FIVE (+28)	**26th May 2025**
14-day re-consultation letters to be sent on any amended plans	N/A
Prepare draft report	**16/06/2025**
WEEK SIX (+35)	**2nd June 2025**
Check 35-day Cllr call-in for Committee	**N/A**
If decision based on original plans, report to be drafted and submitted for sign off	**16/06/2025**
WEEK SEVEN (+42)	**9th June 2025**
If decision based on amended plans, report to be drafted and submitted for sign off	N/A
Reason for EOT	N/A

APPLICATION NO./ADDRESS:

DC/25/0565
37 The Spinney, Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 2AP

DESCRIPTION:

Erection of a single storey rear extension.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY:

None.

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 31 - Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity
Policy 32 - Strategic Policy: The Quality of New Development
Policy 33 - Development Principles
Policy 34 - Cultural and Heritage Assets
Policy 40 - Sustainable Transport
Policy 41 - Parking

Pulborough Neighbourhood Plan:
Pulborough Parish have produced a neighbourhood plan which have been subject to successful Examination but cannot proceed to Referendum because of the legal requirements in relation to Water Neutrality and the Habitat Regulations.

Horsham District Local Plan (2023-40) (Regulation 19):
Policy 9: Water Neutrality
Policy 17: Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity
Policy 19: Development Quality
Policy 20: Development Principles
Policy 21: Heritage Assets and Managing Change within the Historic Environment
Policy 24: Sustainable Transport
Policy 25: Parking
Policy 45: Replacement Dwellings and House Extensions in the Countryside
Policy 46: Ancillary Accommodation

Pulborough Design Statement:
Supplementary Planning Document May 2013

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.

Parish Comments:

No objection.

Southern Water:

No objection.

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 supplied by the agent. These details were considered sufficient to allow the application to be properly considered and determined.

Character and Appearance

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 15 of the Pulborough Neighbourhood Plan states that all housing and other buildings must be well-designed, sustainable and take appropriate account of climate change. 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 and landscape.

Pulborough-wide Design Principals from the Design Statement states that:
A.1: Small scale development should respond to nearby historic settlement pattern and form.
A.2: The density and height of any development must be sensitive to its surroundings as well as adjacent buildings.

37 The Spinney is a mid-terrace dwelling within the built-up boundary of Pulborough. The site falls within Character Area 2 within Pulborough Design Statement, under ‘South Pots Common’. The design statement does not detail any material restrictions.

The rear extension is intended to provide a larger kitchen and dining area, with a sky light and large bi-fold doors. The materials proposed are brick, to match that of the existing on the northeast flank on the boundary wall. Cedral click cement board vertical cladding in metal green is proposed to the south east and south west elevations. While recognised that this material would only be visible from within the site, there are concerns that the colour and appearance would detract from and poorly relate to the host dwelling. As such, it is considered reasonably and necessary to impose a condition requiring the submission of materials, with the anticipation that a more appropriate material will be proposed.

The proposal would be a clearly subservient addition and is considered to be of a design, form and scale which is appropriate to the character and appearance of the existing dwelling, and which 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 noted that the site benefits from an existing extension to a matching depth as that proposed, albeit that this is missing the corner closest to the neighbouring property. The introduction of a full depth 6m extension would be similar in scale and form to the existing, where the addition is not considered to result in any further material harm to the neighbouring properties through overshadowing, overbearing impact, or loss of privacy. It is considered that the siting and layout of the proposed extension and the resulting relationship with adjoining 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:** Notwithstanding the details submitted, no development above ground floor slab level of any part of the development hereby permitted shall take place until a schedule of materials and finishes and colours to be used for external walls, windows and roofs of the approved building(s) has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing and all materials used in the construction of the development hereby permitted shall conform to those approved.

Reason: As this matter is fundamental to enable the Local Planning Authority to control the development in detail in the interests of amenity by endeavouring to achieve a building of visual quality in accordance with Policy 33 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/25/0565
(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
Block plan	Block Plan	NONE	28.04.2025
Location plan	Location Plan	NONE	04.04.2025
Floor plan	Existing Ground Floor Plan	1	23.04.2025
Elevation plan	Existing Elevations	2	23.04.2025
Floor plan	Proposed Ground Floor Layout	3	23.04.2025
Elevation plan	Proposed Elevations	4	23.04.2025
Elevation plan	Existing and Proposed Northeast Elevations	5	08.05.2025

DELEGATED

Case Officer sign/initial Meg Bayliss Date: 16/06/2025

Authorising Officer sign/initial Tamara Dale Date: 20/06/2025