Horsham District Council

DELEGATED APPLICATIONS - ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO./ADDRESS:
DC/24/0746
87 Morris Drive, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 9ST

DESCRIPTION:
Installation of an Air Source Heat Pump at the edge of the driveway adjacent to a 1.8m high brick wall that back on to a pavement and road.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY
None relevant

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

Billingshurst Parish Neighbourhood Plan (BPNP) 2019 - 2031:
Policy BILL 2 – Housing Design and Character

Billingshurst Parish Design Statement

REPRESENTATIONS AND CONSULTATIONS RESPONSES

Consultations:
HDC Environmental Health: No objection.

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.

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
This application is for the Installation of an Air Source Heat Pump at the edge of the driveway adjacent to a 1.8m high brick wall that back on to a pavement and road at 87 Morris Drive, Billingshurst, West Sussex. 87 Morris Drive is a traditionally styled, two-story dwelling with hanging tile first floor elevations. The dwelling has a shared driveway and sits behind a garden wall, closing a majority of the views of the dwelling off from public. The dwelling is part of an estate that has a clear visual cohesiveness.

The application has been assessed on the basis of the submitted details, together with the planning history of the site, available images and photographs. 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 seeks 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 BILL 2 of BPNP advises that development should be of high quality that respects the character and rural feel of the parish. It should reflect the local scale and vernacular of the area and use materials that are in keeping to the character of the area.

The proposed development is for an Air Source Heat Pump at the edge of the driveway adjacent to a 1.8m high brick wall that back on to a pavement and road at 87 Morris Drive. The proposed heat pump is to sit behind the existing front garden wall and perpendicular to the garage door. The siting and height of the installation would not lead to an unduly prominent addition to the site or locality and there would be no adverse impact on the character or appearance of the site or wider surrounds. 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.

The application has been accompanied by additional information in relation to the noise impacts of the proposed unit, which this information based on MCS 020. The details indicate that the noise output of the unit would not lead to unacceptable harm to neighbouring properties and land. The presence of the unit in the location proposed would cause any further unacceptable impacts. It is therefore considered that the siting and layout of the proposed heat pump 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.

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 **Regulatory Condition**: The air source heat pump unit hereby permitted shall be installed in strict accordance with the approved details and shall be maintained as such thereafter.

Reason: To enable the Local Planning Authority to control the development in detail in the interests of neighbouring amenity and 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/24/0746
(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
Location plan			14.05.2024
Supporting Statement	Heat Pump - Size and Noise Data		14.05.2024

Supporting Statement	MCS020 NOISE ASSESSMENT		04.06.2024
Block plan			16.05.2024
Elevation plan			11.07.2024

DELEGATED

Case Officer sign/initial JBurrowes Date: 11/07/2024

Authorising Officer sign/initial Guy Everest Date: 12.07.2024