Horsham District Council

DELEGATED APPLICATIONS - ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO./ADDRESS:

DC/25/0506
19 St Leonards Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 6EH

DESCRIPTION:

Erection of a front porch.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY:

DC/23/1322	Erection of part two-storey / part single-storey rear extensions.	Application Permitted on 31.08.2023
DC/25/0507	Variation of condition 1 of previously approved application reference DC/23/1322 (Erection of part two storey / part single storey rear extensions) as the side windows have changed from horizontal to vertical and the velux to rear has changed to larger glass panels.	Pending Consideration

RELEVANT PLANNING POLICIES

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

Horsham District Planning Framework (2015):
Policy 32 - Strategic Policy: The Quality of New Development
Policy 33 - Development Principles
Policy 40 - Sustainable Transport
Policy 41 - Parking

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 46: Ancillary Accommodation

Horsham Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Plan
Policy HB3: Character of Development
Policy HB4: Design of Development

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:

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 site is to the north side of St Leonards Road within the built-up boundary area of Horsham. 19 St Leonards is a semi-detached two-storey dwelling, composed of facing brickwork with cream render to the front and side, and a plain clay tile pitched roof. Planning permission was granted in August 2023 to erect a part two-storey / part single-storey rear extension to provide extended rear kitchen and utility room at ground floor level, and to enable creation of an additional (3rd) rear bedroom at first floor. At the rear of the site is a flat-roofed double garage permitted in 2000, accessed via a car park area to the rear of the site which is a carpark for the Bennetts Field Recreation Ground located north of the carpark. Dwellings along this side of St Leonards Road include extensions of varying sizes and form to the rear and front of the properties.

Planning permission is sought to erect a front porch. The front elevation of the dwelling is stepped and the proposed porch would be part infill, brick built with render finish, set back from the main front elevation nearest the front boundary and would measure approx. 1.9m width, 1.6m depth, eaves height 2.8m, dual pitched roof with concrete interlocking tiles to max height of approx. 3.5m. No side openings, with door and window to the front elevation.

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.

The proposed front porch 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 considered that the siting and layout of the proposed front porch 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 **Regulatory Condition**: The materials to be used in the development hereby permitted shall strictly accord with those indicated on the application form and approved plans.

Reason: In the interests of visual 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/25/0506
(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
Elevation plan	Proposed Elevations	DE1046/P/05 REV P1	27.03.2025
Floor plan	Proposed Floor Plans	DE1046/P/04 REV P1	27.03.2025
Location & Block plan	Site Location & Block Plan	DE1046/P/01 REV P1	27.03.2025
Floor plan	Existing Floor Plans	DE1046/P/02 REV P1	27.03.2025
Elevation plan	Existing Elevations	DE1046/P/03 REV P1	27.03.2025

DELEGATED

Case Officer sign/initial Steve Astles Date: 15.05.2025

Authorising Officer sign/initial Tamara Dale Date: 21.05.2025