Horsham District Council

DELEGATED APPLICATIONS - ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO./ADDRESS:
DC/24/1262
8 Dutchells Copse, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 5PD

DESCRIPTION:
Erection of first floor side extension.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY:

NH/221/01	Porch and conversion of part of garage for ancillary accommodation Site: 8 Dutchells Copse Horsham	Application Permitted on 14.01.2002

RELEVANT PLANNING POLICIES
The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

Horsham District Planning Framework (2015):
Policy 31- Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity
Policy 32- Strategic Policy: The Quality of New Development
Policy 33- Development Principles

Planning Advice Notes:
Facilitating Appropriate Development
Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure

REPRESENTATIONS AND CONSULTATIONS RESPONSES

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

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

Policy 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.

The proposal is for the erection of first floor side extension at 8 Dutchells Copse, Horsham, RH12 5PD. The proposed extension would sit above the current garage and ground floor ancillary accommodation. Part of the garage was converted into ancillary accommodation from previous planning application NH/221/01.

The site is located in the Built Up Area of Horsham. The appearances of surrounding dwellings consist of a variety of colours and architectural styles, with the host dwelling consisting of tiles hanging and red brickwork. Matching materials and finishes would be used for the proposed first floor side extension, and two rooflights are also proposed to be installed with one on each side of the roof of the proposed extension. This is considered acceptable owing to the matching materials and finishes in the proposal to the current dwelling which would respect the local character and built form of the existing dwelling.

The proposed first floor side extension would also be lower than the ridge of the roof in the main dwelling, therefore displaying an acceptable level of subservience. The scale of the proposed addition is considered modest and would not cause any unacceptable impacts to the local character and surrounding built environment.

The proposal 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(2) 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.

There is an existing relationship of mutual overlooking amongst adjacent properties- the proposed extension would not exacerbate the existing arrangement. 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 by way of overshadowing or overbearing.

The proposal is therefore considered to accord with Policy 33(2).

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 186 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 materials to be used in the development hereby permitted shall strictly accord with those indicated on the application form and approved plans.

Reason: To enable the Local Planning Authority to control the development in detail in the interests of visual amenity and in accordance with Policy 33 of the Horsham District Planning Framework.

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/24/1262
Schedule of plans/documents **approved**:

Plan Type	Description	Drawing Number	Received Date
Floor plan	Existing and Proposed First	135/2024/2ra	20.08.2024
Elevation plan	Existing	135/2024/2	20.08.2024
Elevation plan	Proposed	135/2024/4rb	20.08.2024

Location & Site plan		135/2024/1	20.08.2024

DELEGATED

Case Officer sign/initial Joshua Lee Date: 14/10/2024

Authorising Officer sign/initial RHERMITAGE Date: 15.10.2024