Horsham District Council

DELEGATED APPLICATIONS - ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO./ADDRESS:
DC/25/0961
142 Brighton Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 6EY

DESCRIPTION:
Creation of dropped kerb.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY:

DC/19/0977	Erection of a single storey side extension and insertion of circular window to front gable.	Application 13.08.2019	Permitted on
DC/25/0249	Conversion of roof space, with side and rear dormer and front rooflights (Lawful Development Certificate - Proposed).	Application 16.04.2025	Permitted on
DC/25/0251	Erection of a single storey side extension, replacement roof to existing conservatory and replacement tiles.	Application 13.05.2025	Permitted on

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 41 - Parking

Horsham Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Plan (HBBNP) 2019 - 2036
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.

West Sussex County Council – Highways: No objection

Neighbourhood Council Comments:
No objection, however, Forest Neighbourhood Council made the following comments:

- Traffic overrun protection offered by kerbs, would be lost with dropping kerbs on this busy bit of road. The drop kerb comes from paving over a front garden to create parking (understood) which could add to flood risk when front gardens get paved over.

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 HB3 and HB4 of the HBBNP cover the design and character of development within Horsham which is supported by the neighbourhood councils of Forest, Denne and Trafalgar. It advocates for high quality design and construction that integrates with its surroundings whilst minimising impact on natural environments. It should reflect the character and architectural forms of the area in order to protect against inappropriate design.

The application seeks planning permission for the creation of dropped kerb. There are a number of comparable arrangements to adjoining properties and on this basis there is no objection of the dropped kerb and associated parking within the front curtilage of the building, with the resulting design appropriate to the character and appearance of the wider area.

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 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 193 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.

NOTE TO APPLICANT
Any new vehicular access onto publicly maintained highway is subject to a license obtainable from WSCC Highways Authority. No works can be commenced on the highway prior to the license being obtained. The applicant is advised that in addition to obtaining planning permission that they must also obtain formal approval from the highway authority to carry out the site access works on the public highway. The granting of planning permission does not guarantee that a vehicle crossover licence shall be granted because the highway license process considers wider factors than are considered by the Highway Authority at planning stage.

The applicant is encouraged to ensure that their access proposals align with the WSC guidance. WSCC Vehicular Cross Over: Application Criteria guidance, which can be found at the following link:-

https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/20290/vco_guidance_notes.pdf

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/25/0961
Schedule of plans/documents **approved**:

Plan Type	Description	Drawing Number	Received Date
Location & Block plan		WPD0725/A/20 REV A	10.06.2025

DELEGATED

Case Officer sign/initial Marie Riggs Date: 29.07.2025

Authorising Officer sign/initial RHERMITAGE Date: 05.08.2025