# Notice of Meeting

# Western Area **Planning Committee** Wednesday 11 November 2020 at 6.30pm



Scan here to access the public documents for this meeting

### This meeting will be held in a virtual format in accordance with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panels Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 ("the Regulations").

Please note: As resolved at the Council meeting held on 10 September 2020, public speaking rights are replaced with the ability to make written submissions. Written submissions are limited to no more than 500 words and must be submitted to the Planning Team by no later than midday on Monday 9 November 2020. Written submissions will be read aloud at the Planning Committee. Please e-mail your submission to planapps@westberks.gov.uk.

Those members of the public who have provided a written submission may attend the Planning Committee to answer any questions that Members of the Committee may ask in relation to their submission. Members of the public who have provided a written submission need to notify the Planning Team (planapps@westberks.gov.uk) by no later than 4.00pm on Tuesday 10 November 2020 if they wish to attend the remote Planning Committee to answer any questions from Members of the Committee.

The Council will be live streaming its meetings.

This meeting will be streamed live here: https://www.westberks.gov.uk/westernareaplanninglive

You can view all streamed Council meetings here: https://www.westberks.gov.uk/councilmeetingslive

### **Members Interests**

Note: If you consider you may have an interest in any Planning Application included on this agenda then please seek early advice from the appropriate officers.

### Further information for members of the public

Plans and photographs relating to the Planning Applications to be considered at the meeting can be viewed by clicking on the link on the front page of the relevant report.



# Agenda - Western Area Planning Committee to be held on Wednesday, 11 November 2020 (continued)

For further information about this Agenda, or to inspect any background documents referred to in Part I reports, please contact the Planning Team on (01635) 519148

Email: <a href="mailto:planapps@westberks.gov.uk">planapps@westberks.gov.uk</a>

Further information, Planning Applications and Minutes are also available on the Council's website at <u>www.westberks.gov.uk</u>

Any queries relating to the Committee should be directed to Jenny Legge on (01635) 503043 Email: jenny.legge@westberks.gov.uk

Date of despatch of Agenda: Tuesday, 3 November 2020



# Agenda - Western Area Planning Committee to be held on Wednesday, 11 November 2020 (continued)

- To: Councillors Adrian Abbs, Phil Barnett, Dennis Benneyworth, Jeff Cant, Hilary Cole, Carolyne Culver, Clive Hooker (Chairman), Tony Vickers (Vice-Chairman) and Howard Woollaston
- **Substitutes:** Councillors Jeff Beck, James Cole, David Marsh, Steve Masters, Andy Moore, Erik Pattenden, Garth Simpson and Martha Vickers

# Agenda

### Part I

#### 1. Apologies

To receive apologies for inability to attend the meeting (if any).

#### 2. Minutes

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on 14 October 2020.

#### 3. **Declarations of Interest**

To remind Members of the need to record the existence and nature of any personal, disclosable pecuniary or other registrable interests in items on the agenda, in accordance with the Members' <u>Code of Conduct</u>.

#### 4. Schedule of Planning Applications

(Note: The Chairman, with the consent of the Committee, reserves the right to alter the order of business on this agenda based on public interest and participation in individual applications).

(1)	Application No. and Parish: 20/01326/FUL, 11 - 13 Market Place, Newbury		35 - 44
	Proposal:	Change of use of the ground floor from betting shop (Sui Generis) use to adult gaming and amusement centre with bingo (Sui Generis). Installation of associated signage comprising 1no. externally illuminated fascia sign and 1no. externally illuminated projecting sign.	
	Location:	11 - 13 Market Place, Newbury RG14 5AA.	
	Applicant:	Cashino Gaming Ltd.	
	Recommendation:	To <b>DELEGATE</b> to the Head of Development & Planning to <b>GRANT PLANNING PERMISSION</b> subject to Conditions.	



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(2)	Application No. and Parish: 20/01327/ADV, 11 - 13 Market Place, Newbury		45 - 52
	Proposal:	Installation of associated signage comprising 1no. externally illuminated fascia sign and 1no. externally illuminated projecting sign.	
	Location:	11 - 13 Market Place, Newbury RG14 5AA.	
	Applicant:	Cashino Gaming Ltd.	
	Recommendation:	To <b>DELEGATE</b> to the Head of Development & Planning to <b>GRANT ADVERTISEMENT CONSENT</b> subject to Conditions.	
(3)	Application No. and Parish: 20/01620/FULD, Denford House, Denford 53 - 70 Park, Hungerford, Kintbury		
	Proposal:	Erection of 1 bedroom North Lodge to be occupied in connection with Denford Park Estate with ancillary parking, turning, landscaping and garden area. Alterations to existing access arrangements including replacement boundary wall and gates.	
	Location:	Denford House, Denford Park, Hungerford RG17 0PG.	<b>ISEMENT CONSENT ord House, Denford</b> 53 - 70         Lodge to be occupied         ork Estate with ancillary         and garden area.         arrangements         ary wall and gates.         a, Hungerford RG17         n Al Saudand.         f Development &
	Applicant:	HRH Prince Faisal Bin Salman Al Saudand.	
	Recommendation:	To <b>DELEGATE</b> to the Head of Development & Planning to <b>GRANT PLANNING PERMISSION</b> subject to Conditions.	
Items	s for Information		

5. **Appeal Decisions relating to Western Area Planning Committee** *Purpose: To inform Members of the results of recent appeal decisions relating to the Western Area Planning Committee.* 

There are no appeal decisions to be considered at this meeting.

#### **Background Papers**

- (a) The West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026.
- (b) The West Berkshire District Local Plan (Saved Policies September 2007), the Replacement Minerals Local Plan for Berkshire, the Waste Local Plan for Berkshire and relevant Supplementary Planning Guidance and Documents.
- (c) Any previous planning applications for the site, together with correspondence and report(s) on those applications.



# Agenda - Western Area Planning Committee to be held on Wednesday, 11 November 2020 (continued)

- (d) The case file for the current application comprising plans, application forms, correspondence and case officer's notes.
- (e) The Human Rights Act.

Sarah Clarke Service Director (Strategy and Governance)

If you require this information in a different format or translation, please contact Moira Fraser on telephone (01635) 519045.



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# Agenda Item 2.

### DRAFT

Note: These Minutes will remain DRAFT until approved at the next meeting of the Committee

## WESTERN AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2020

**Councillors Present**: Adrian Abbs, Phil Barnett, Dennis Benneyworth, Hilary Cole, Carolyne Culver, Clive Hooker (Chairman), Andy Moore (Substitute) (In place of Tony Vickers) and Howard Woollaston

**Also Present:** Sharon Armour (Solicitor), Paul Goddard (Team Leader - Highways Development Control), Jenny Legge (Principal Performance, Research and Consultation Officer), Lydia Mather (Senior Planning Officer), Matthew Shepherd (Planning Officer), Anna Smy (Team Manager - Environmental Quality) and Simon Till (Senior Planning Officer)

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting: Councillor Jeff Cant and Councillor Tony Vickers

### PART I

#### 25. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2020 were approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Councillor Carolyne Culver asked whether Conditions regarding the underpass had been omitted from the minutes for Items (4)1 and 2. Planning officers were asked to investigate and confirm at the next meeting.

#### 26. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Carolyne Culver declared an interest in Agenda Items (4)2, 3 and 4, but reported that, as her interest was a personal or an other registrable interest, but not a disclosable pecuniary interest, she determined to remain to take part in the debate and vote on the matter.

Councillor Phil Barnett declared an interest in Agenda Items (4)2 and 3, but reported that, as his interest was a personal or an other registrable interest, but not a disclosable pecuniary interest, he determined to remain to take part in the debate and vote on the matter.

Councillors Adrian Abbs and Howard Woollaston Barnett declared an interest in Agenda Items (4)4, but reported that, as their interest was a personal or an other registrable interest, but not a disclosable pecuniary interest, they determined to remain to take part in the debate and vote on the matter.

The Chairman informed the Committee that, due to the priority of the application and his concerns regarding the time available to discuss all four Items, he had decided to bring forward Item (4)4 to second in the running order. This decision was made under section 7.3.3 of the West Berkshire Council Constitution.

### 27. Schedule of Planning Applications

# (1) Application No. and Parish: 20/01083/FUL - Quill Cottage, Craven Road, Inkpen

- 1. The Committee considered a report (Agenda Item 4(1)) concerning Planning Application 20/01083/FUL in respect of Quill Cottage, Craven Road, Inkpen. The application sought permission for a replacement dwelling and was brought to Committee as a result of call-in by ward members.
- 2. Simon Till introduced the report to Members, which took account of all the relevant policy considerations and other material planning considerations. In conclusion the report detailed that the proposal was not acceptable in planning terms and officers recommended the Committee to refuse planning permission.

#### **Removal of Speaking Rights**

- 3. As resolved at the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 29 April 2020, public speaking rights were removed for virtual Council meetings. This right was replaced with the ability to make written submissions. This decision was made in accordance with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panels Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.
- 4. The above changes to speaking rights were subsequently amended at the Council meeting on 10 October 2020. It was agreed that parties making written submissions in relation to a planning application would be invited to attend the Remote Meeting of the Planning Committee to answer any questions that Members of the Committee might wish to ask in order to seek clarification on any part of their statement.
- 5. In accordance with the Extraordinary Council resolution, written submissions relating to this application were received from the applicants. The written submission was read out by the Clerk as follows:

#### Applicants Representation

Clearly the Planning Officer (PO) has spent a lot of time on this but none of it in consultation with us. Despite the Committee's recommendation there has been a refusal to engage. I've tried to concentrate below on responding to the main points.

#### Procedural Matters

The PO quotes two Appeal Cases in support of her argument but they are quite different to our application; one sites the proposed dwelling in an entirely different location to the existing and the other application proposes a property with a footprint 260% larger! We propose 10% larger

#### Appraisal – Principle of Development

Effectively what we're doing is adding a floor to a bungalow. The only difference is we're starting from scratch rather than using the old inefficient building.

Measurements and drawings have been supplied and for the most part adopted by the PO. Previously the figures were misleading to committee, giving the impression we wanted to build something far larger and grander than we do. This is not a 'substantial house'. I'd like to draw your attention to two drawings:

- Amended 062 A Pro Street Scene
- Amended 060 B Pro Elevations

Both drawings clearly show a comparison between existing and proposed dwelling as seen from the front. We propose an extra 10% on the footprint and less than 50% increase in height.

C7 has a presumption in favour of replacement dwelling but I agree it must be proportionate. We've gone to great lengths to make sure it is. No one can afford to build 'like for like' and as long as C7 is used to stop a modest increase in size then the Policy effectively stops replacement dwellings. All we're doing is adding a floor to a bungalow.

#### Appraisal - Character and Appearance

There seems to be much written by the PO regarding what might be seen of the house and from where. This is irrelevant because it's wholly dependent on what we do with the boundary hedges. Rather, the whole existing dwelling must be compared with the whole proposed dwelling. Whether this acts in our favour or not is a matter of opinion.

I take offence to the suggestion we would not build something of a high quality design. We have designed the house using the Village Design Statement on a road where no two houses are similar. I'm not sure how we find agreeable design features other than referring to the Village Design Statement, a document we have followed closely. When it comes to 'green credentials' we submitted a detailed Sustainability Statement with the application and this illustrates our wish to exceed current guidelines in making it environmentally friendly. The current dwelling is grossly inefficient.

The PO gives great weight to conserving and enhancing the landscape, I couldn't agree more. The proposal will be a vast improvement on what is currently there and we have local support.

#### Member Questions Relating to the Applicant's Written Submission

6. Members did not have any questions relating to the written submission.

#### Ward Member Representation

- 7. Councillor Claire Rowles in representing the Committee as Ward Member made the following points:
  - The applicant's measurements now matched those of the officer.
  - Policy C7 did not specifically refer to percentage increases, but they were a helpful guide when considering proportionality and impact.
  - The development represented a 10% increase in footprint, and 49% increase in height.
  - Although the Parish Council had objected, there were six supporters, including immediate neighbours, who considered it to be in keeping with the character of the area.
  - Appeal decisions cited in the officer's report were irrelevant. One referred to proximity to an existing agricultural barn, and the other to demolishing and replacing three units with one dwelling.
  - The officer had indicated that dormer windows were not part of the street scene, but Councillor Woollaston had previously noted six within half a mile of the site. The officer had indicated a large level of glazing on the front and rear elevations, but had subsequently confirmed the glazing at the front to be less prevalent than at the rear.
  - The applicant had followed their interpretation of the Inkpen Village Design Statement relating to appropriate materials. The officer considered the chosen materials alien to the street scene, yet there were five brick and flint properties within one mile of Quill Cottage. The applicant was happy to be flexible on materials and could have discussed this, if officers had engaged with them.

- The officer had included a statement that the property could be altered at a later stage to include a third floor with a maximum height of 1.6m without planning permission, but this was irrelevant and impractical.
- The proposed development would not be overly visible from the public right of way and Councillor Tony Vickers had agreed this at the last committee meeting.
- 8. Councillor James Cole in representing the Committee as Ward Member made the following points:
  - At the 22 July 2020 meeting of this committee, it was asked whether the parties had been able to discuss areas of conflict, or if they were in dispute. He had noted at that meeting how little discussion there had been between the applicant and the planning officer.
  - Members had only been able to discuss the application with the officer two days before it was due to be heard at Committee in September. They had been told that conversation was unnecessary and figures had been agreed. However, changes were required, but despite this, there had been no verbal engagement with the applicant in 10 months. He noted the planning officer was not present at this meeting.
  - At the July 2020 meeting, speaking as ward member, he had suggested that determination be deferred. As a Committee Member, he had subsequently been accused of pre-determination, but had been unable to determine the application because the figures did not stack up.
  - This was not an example of professional developers buying, doing up and selling on, or buying with intent to immediately enlarge. The applicant had been in the property for three years, and wanted to replace the existing inefficient bungalow, that had little architectural merit.
  - He considered the increase in volume to be proportionate, but the officer did not. He cited a recent application (Fishery Cottage 20/003204) where the following statement had been made: "...any replacement for a replacement dwelling that more than doubled the original dwelling, would normally be regarded as disproportionate, as it would be more dominant than the original". This suggested that 100% increase was acceptable. He considered it likely that the applicant would win if they went to appeal, since the proposal was compliant with local policy as interpreted by officers.

#### Member Questions of the Ward Members

- 9. Councillor Adrian Abbs asked the ward members if the officer's or applicant's calculations had been revised in order to reach agreement.
- 10. Councillor Rowles referred to page 67 of the report which showed the applicant's figures to be largely in line with the officer's, with the exception of the length and volume.
- 11. Councillor James Cole noted that the figures were quite different to those produced by the planning officers previously. Councillor Abbs repeated his question. Councillor Rowles confirmed that officer had revised her figures, to be more in line with the applicant's measurements.
- 12. Councillor Dennis Benneyworth confirmed that he had visited Quill Cottage and asked the ward members to elaborate about the proposed materials.

- 13. Councillor Rowles indicated that she had been informed by the applicant that there were five properties within one mile of Quill Cottage that were brick and flint, including: Graftons; The Old School House; West Court; Withers Farmhouse; and The Old Rickyard. She also noted that there were four other nearby properties built from new brick: Lower Greenhouse; Meadow Bank; Bitham Farmhouse; and Marchwood. However, she confirmed that she had not visited these properties personally.
- 14. Councillor Howard Woollaston noted that there was a discrepancy between the height quoted, with officers stating (2.5m), but the plan showing (1.8m). Councillor Rowles suggested that this should be a question for officers.

#### **Questions to Officers**

- 15. Councillor Abbs asked if the planning officer's figures had been revised to bring them in line with the applicant's.
- 16. Simon Till explained that the original elevations provided to officers had not been to scale. The measurements provided by the case officer in the previous report were based on what was visible, which led to some confusion. He noted that the basis of the officer's report, and the basis of the applicant's plans were different.
- 17. Councillor Andy Moore asked about the view from the footpath to the rear of the property. He noted that it was difficult to see the existing property, and asked how much more dominant the proposed property would be from that perspective.
- 18. Simon Till confirmed that there was considerable vegetation to the rear boundary, which in combination with the slope would substantially screen the property. He noted that the case officer had not raised concern about the view from the rear, but any loss of vegetation would result in more visual prominence, particularly from the side and front.
- 19. Councillor Moore asked whether maintenance of the screening could be conditioned. Simon Till responded that this was a matter for members to decide, but highlighted that a standard condition only required retention of planting for up to five years, and stated that case law showed long-term retention of landscaping to be unreasonable and difficult to enforce in most circumstances.
- 20. Councillor Moore asked what materials would be acceptable to officers. Simon Till explained that attempts had been made to engage in discussions with the applicants about alternative materials, however the applicants had declined to alter the choice of materials. While the applicants had indicated that alternative materials could be considered, none had been suggested. He noted that materials were proposed as part of the application and would be approved, if the application was approved, unless a condition was imposed to vary the materials, but he could not say what those materials might be.
- 21. Councillor Woollaston asked about the discrepancy in the height shown on the plan (1.8m) compared to that mentioned in the report (2.5m). Simon Till indicated that the percentage increase had been agreed with the applicant, He suggested that the 1.8m figure was correct. Councillor Woollaston pointed out that 1.8m did not equate to a 49% increase. Simon Till indicated that he was unable to measure the plans at that moment. Councillor Woollaston stated that 2.5m was very different to 1.8m and that if the plan was correct, then the increase was not 49%.
- 22. Councillor Benneyworth asked if the choice of materials was a subjective matter.
- 23. Simon Till indicated that the object of quality design was to apply objective criteria to things like choice of materials. This included whether the materials were

prevalent in the local vernacular and a dominant characteristic of the street scene. He suggested that the proposed materials were a rarity, rather than a welldistributed feature. He stated the officer's view was that the design, and large expanses of flint proposed, would be alien to the area.

- 24. Councillor Benneyworth highlighted the examples of flint in the area, which meant that the materials would not be unique. He also suggested that it would be in the applicant's interest to maintain screening on the property boundary.
- 25. Simon Till suggested that the applicant may not be the long-term owner of the property. He highlighted that there were other instances where large-scale felling of trees on property boundaries which had resulted in developments becoming visually intrusive. He suggested that while screening can help to soften visual impact, it should not be considered as something that would be maintained in perpetuity.

#### Debate

- 26. Councillor Clive Hooker noted that there may be errors on the drawings, but reminded Members that decisions were made on policies, including Policy C7. He highlighted the need to consider the proportionality, scale, bulk, mass and height of the proposal. He also indicated that Members should consider the design, including whether the proposed materials would be sympathetic in the street scene.
- 27. Councillor Abbs opened the debate. He indicated that he was minded to approve the application and noted that if the measurements were wrong, then the statement about the proposal being disproportionate was also wrong. However, he noted that just because it would be increased in volume by less than 100%, this did not mean that it should automatically be approved, as Councillor James Cole had indicated. He noted that there were still issues with the figures, despite the fact that determination had been deferred in order to clarify these. He suggested that the Council would lose at appeal if the application was delayed further. He proposed to go against the officer's recommendation and approve the application.
- 28. Councillor Woollaston indicated that the proposed increase in footprint was just 10% and considered the existing bungalow to be an eyesore. He noted that there was support for the proposal from local residents and only the parish council had objected. He indicated that he would also be voting against the officer recommendation.
- 29. Councillor Hilary Cole noted that although the local ward members were good advocates for the applicant, the development was contrary to planning policies C7, C19, C3 and CS14. She considered the proposed building to be too bulky with too much fenestration to the rear, which would affect the dark skies in the Inkpen area. She indicated that she rarely agreed with Inkpen Parish Council on planning issues, but considered that they were correct in this case. She suggested that unless the application were finely balanced, it was the role of the Committee to support and uphold the Council's planning policies, and urged Members to bear this in mind when voting.
- 30. Councillor Benneyworth suggested that this application was in the balance, pivoting around Policy C7 in terms of proportionality. In this instance, he felt that it was subjective and the result would be an improved property. He indicated that he was reluctantly minded to go against the officer's recommendation and approve the application.
- 31. Councillor Phil Barnett seconded Councillor Abbs' proposal.

- 32. Councillor Moore indicated that further dialogue was needed on materials, but indicated that he was also minded to support Councillor Abbs' proposal.
- 33. The Chairman invited Members of the Committee to vote on the proposal by Councillor Abbs and seconded by Councillor Barnett to go against officer's recommendation to refuse the application. At the vote, the motion was carried.
- 34. David Pearson indicated that he had discussed the matter at length with the Development Control Manager, who had decided that the matter should be referred up to District Planning Committee if Members were minded to approve it.

**RESOLVED that** the application be referred to District Planning Committee for determination.

# (2) Application No. and Parish: 20/01658/FUL - Old Station Business Park, Compton

(Councillor Phil Barnet declared a personal interest in Agenda Item(4)2 by virtue of the fact that he was often called onto site. As his interest was personal and not prejudicial or a disclosable pecuniary interest, he determined to remain to take part in the debate and vote on the matter.)

(Councillor Carolyne Culver reported that she had been lobbied on Agenda Items 4(2)).

- The Committee considered a report (Agenda Item 4(2)) concerning Planning Application 20/01658/FUL in respect of external works to include new external chemstores/storage/chiller containers positioned outside unit 4, 5, 6 and 7, 8, 9. New adjoining covered walkway/canopy between 4, 5, 6 and 7, 8, 9. Building alterations to include new extraction ductwork, fan and general fittings. New retaining wall to east (outside unit 6), Internal modifications to floor plans, replacement external doors to rear elevation to Unit 4, 5, 6.
- 2. Matthew Shepherd introduced the report to Members, which took account of all the relevant policy considerations and other material planning considerations. In conclusion the report detailed that the proposal was acceptable and a conditional approval was justifiable.
- 3. Officers recommended the Committee to delegate to the Head of Development and Planning to grant planning permission subject to the conditions listed in the main report and in the update report.
- 4. The Chairman invited the Highways Officer to comment. Paul Goddard noted the Highways Officers had originally raised an objection, as car parking had been an issue on the site for years, to the extent that vehicles parked along the access to the site. However, it was pointed out by the applicant that this was no longer an issue as the majority of employees were working from home, due to changes in working practices caused by Covid-19. He had therefore content to agree for a two year temporary consent for the units to be in situ in the parking spaces.

#### Removal of speaking rights

5. As resolved at the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 29 April 2020, public speaking rights had been removed for virtual Council meetings. This right had replaced with the ability to make written submissions. This decision had been made in accordance with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panels Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

- 6. The above changes to speaking rights were subsequently amended at the Council meeting on 10 October 2020. It was agreed that parties making written submissions in relation to a planning application would be invited to attend the Remote Meeting of the Planning Committee to answer any questions that Members of the Committee might wish to ask in order to seek clarification on any part of their statement.
- 7. In accordance with the Extraordinary Council resolution, written submissions relating to this application were received from Compton Parish Council (Mr Keith Simms), Mr Keith Simms, Mr David Vaughan and Mrs Helena Vaughan, objectors, Mr Jannis Kuepper and Ms Vanessa Eastwick Field, (Biosynth Carbonsynth), applicants, and Ms Jaymeni Patel (Jaymeni Patel Design), agent.
- 8. Written submissions were read out by the Clerk to the Committee as follows:

#### Compton Parish Council's Representation - Summarised

#### ACOUSTIC COMMENTARY

NPPF Para. 180 states:

...mitigate and reduce to minimum potential adverse impacts resulting from noise... – and avoid noise giving rise to significant adverse impacts on health.

- 1. The Applicant should demonstrate how this will be achieved.
- 2. The LPA should ensure that this will be achieved.

The report (11/12/19) provides predictions of likely noise from Units 10–12 only, based on manufacturers' data. The assessment (23/7/19) is based on site measurements.

(i) Recommended targets pre-assume that noise will not have any noticeable character. The calculations do not provide detailed analysis but do suggest energy concentration in the 125 Hz octave-band. This may be indicative of a noticeable tone, which would worsen the subjective reaction to a given overall level of sound. Any targets derived from the baseline noise survey should reference a Rating level, as defined in BS4142:2014.

(ii) Predictions are based on extract fans running at reduced air volumes. Calculations reduce the noise emissions associated with full operation, simply in proportion with the proposed air flow, day and night. This is potentially inaccurate. More detailed assessment should have been conducted based on actual fan curves.

(iii) It is questioned whether all plant would have been operating at maximum capacity during survey (ambient temperature was less than 15oC). Also, were items of plant locked to their night-time 'set-back' (thereby underestimating daytime emissions)?

(iv) After 04.30 levels are said to have been influenced by the dawn chorus. All higher frequency sounds have been excluded thereafter. This may have excluded some site noise from the assessment.

(v) The report highlights uncertainty in the extrapolated levels at the dwellings.

(vi) The extrapolated levels of the extract fans are higher than previously calculated.

(vii) It offers a cumulative level from 'all equipment', yet notes that all plant associated with Units 10 - 12 is excluded.

(viii) Impact Assessment confirms adverse impact during the day, and significant adverse impact at night. Specific consideration of low frequency noise confirms a low frequency adverse impact.

(ix) The proposed mitigation is imprecise, suggesting only trial and error approach to the attenuation of an unspecified number of the containers.

(x) The report confirms that equipment, excluding both the containers and the plant associated with Units 10 - 12, will generate close to a significant adverse impact at night. There is no information regarding which equipment requires attenuation, nor the degree of attenuation for each.

The site clearly emits noise which can cause adverse impact at residential neighbours. It is not possible to grant permission conditioned by a robust and detailed set of acoustic remediation. No such schedule of works is provided.

If the LPA grant permission, it is strongly recommended a condition be attached to ensure acceptable levels of noise. It is recommended the overall level of noise be set to a BS4142:2014 Rating level which is at least 5 below the daytime and night-time background noise levels confirmed by previous surveys. It is also recommended that low frequency noise internally (20 - 100Hz) does not exceed the ISO226 threshold curve for audibility.

#### Member Questions Relating to Compton Parish Council's Representation

9. Members did not have any questions relating to the written submission.

#### **Objector Representation - Summarised**

- In accordance with the Extraordinary Council resolution, as multiple parties had made written submissions, an officer has provided a summary of the issues raised. The full submissions were made available to the Members of the Committee, and have been published alongside the Agenda for this meeting.
- It is suggested these should be considered by committee as one item. There are documents on each application that refer to the other.
- The applications are retrospective in nature whereas permission should have been asked for first to avoid issues that have arisen.
- The Chiller units and AHU are in place, and whatever a noise impact survey says, they are having a detrimental impact on the local amenity causing loss of sleep, and a constant low level noise that grates when one is sat in our gardens enjoying our wonderful natural surroundings.
- A workable solution is possible in strict noise limits and operation times are put in place within a very short timescale if approval is given.
- These should be installed, enforced and monitored (possibly by a third party such as the Parish Council).
- Any approval requires strong conditions and fixed dates for removing the temporary items.
- These units were installed 2 years before the COVID19 pandemic hit, a fact missed off their supporting letter.
- Although it is commented upon within some of the correspondence that the noise issues have improved it is clarified by objectors that the noise nuisance has not gone away. It is not a loud noise but a low humming sound that is very intrusive
- The committee should be aware that Environmental Health Officer Tony McEvoy could hear the noise disturbance during a site visit on Friday 2nd October 2020
- Despite attempts by objectors it is still unclear when, and under what circumstance (such as weather conditions) the noise occurs or is most prominent. It was thought to be a result of warm calm days but the noise has occurred on colder days.

- It is postulated if the noise changes when deliveries occur or when certain products need to be chilled to a lower level.
- The noise survey does not seem to consider whether the cooling load at the time was a fair reflection of the loading that could be incurred
- The AHU on Unit 4/5/6 also seems to be a significant contributor but is not within the scope of this planning application.
- The quiet days and nights which we get in our rural setting have been most affected.
- It seems to me that the solution is to minimise the plant that is required on the site, both in terms of limiting it's on time and removing it if the function can be off site.
- The objector mentions that there is a possibility that the refrigerated units could be removed and these activates sourced elsewhere. TO which if possible should be condition that the containers are removed at this point.

#### Member Questions Relating to the Objector's Written Submission

- 10. Councillor Adrian Abbs questioned Mr Keith Simms regarding when the noise problem occurred or if there was a pattern. Mr Simms explained that it was difficult to pin-point the exact pattern. There was a constant noise from the site, however the level was dependent on wind direction and ambient temperature. The applicant had said that an air handling unit was particularly noise offending, as it had to be kept at a constant temperature. It seems to be hit and miss with the constant noise, but the applicant has put some timings in to reduce the operation during non-office hours, which has helped considerably. Unfortunately, there is a low hum which seems to affect two houses in particular and is actually causing a significant problem. The low frequency noise had been identified on the applicant's noise survey.
- 11. Councillor Phil Barnett asked for clarification as to which specific houses were most affected. Mr Simms replied that in the officer's presentation one photograph showed a row of five houses, two of these homes were heavily impacted by the low frequency noise. All residents in the area have to put up with the constant noise, but recognised that they lived in a rural community, and were used to noise from farm equipment, and were therefore tolerant of a certain level of noise. However, the constant operation was causing the issue.
- 12. The Parish Council commissioned a noise consultant to comment on the noise survey, which was the content of the Parish Council's submission. It was interesting that officers had now incorporated this into their conditions in the update sheet. He considered that the change in conditions had made a significant difference to his objection to this application. It purely was the noise that was the problem, as the visual impact had been addressed by tree planting. With a scheduled statement of works approved by Council residents would also like to see continued monitoring of the situation. In his submission he requested that the Committee consider requesting the applicant to install some monitoring equipment on site and have those results audited. The industry was very used to monitoring environmental factors, and he hoped that a condition could be added.
- 13. Councillor Clive Hooker apologised for the late inclusion of the conditions and thanked him for accepting the conditions, and being more tolerant and accepting of the application.
- 14. Councillor Culver asked Mr Simms to expand on how he and his neighbours had been affected personally, in terms of the ability to sleep. Mr Simms replied that two of his neighbours were having significant issues because of the low level noise keeping

them awake. Mr Jones in particular had had completely sleepless nights, which was causing him a significant health issue.

15. Councillor Hooker asked whether it would be fair to say that the new conditions would improve the situation. Mr Simms hoped that would be the case, however the site had been riddled since its inception with enforcement difficulties.

#### Applicant/Agent Representation - Summarised

- Jaymeni Patel Design are the acting agents on behalf of the applicant. The content of the application drawings present proposals to alter the existing industrial units in response to the client's brief.
- A significant aspect of the brief is driven by an immediate response to Covid-19 as critical suppliers to combat Covid-19. We have continued to work closely with the client's team to ensure every opportunity is taken to reduce the visual and noise impact on site.
- We have continued to work closely with officers to present, discuss and coordinate appropriate solutions including remedial works.
- It is of top priority the proposals ensure the safety of the staff and local community is maintained along with preserving the quality of the built environment.
- Biosynth Carbosynth is a world-leading expert in the field of enzyme substrates, carbohydrates, and nucleosides, and we support the global scientific community with our specialty products. We are a critical supplier to many international companies producing diagnostic tests and developing new therapies to combat COVID-19. We play an important role in providing key chemicals required to produce tools to tackle the coronavirus outbreak. We also support many pharma and diagnostic companies that are producing key products required to diagnose, control and treat many other diseases.
- Biosynth Carbosynth has grown over the last 15 years from a small local start up to a leading international chemical company. In Compton we employ roughly 100 highly qualified staff and we are proud to continue to attract and recruit local talent. To support the growth of our company the new building at Old Station Business Park expands our research and development capabilities to serve the scientific community.
- We are very aware of our rural location in Compton and the responsibility that comes with it. The board and senior management team takes this seriously and we focus strongly on only having a positive impact on the community. While building the new units, we took measures to minimize the visual as well as the noise impact on the neighbouring properties.
- The findings of a noise survey conducted prior to the construction were considered and noise mitigation strategies applied. We installed quiet air handling technology and timers, and the building and ductwork was painted in green to blend in.
- We were conscious of the need to improve the hedging along the western boundary and have planted 21 mature trees and 5 meters of hedging to reduce the visibility of the site from the neighbouring properties and improve the overall appearance of the site.
- We are in the process of generating more storage capacities off-site, for example the construction of our new warehouse in Slovakia is nearly finalized. In the meantime, we have taken noise mitigation measures addressing the raised concerns.

• Thank you very much for the opportunity to present this statement and to be a part of this committee meeting.

#### Member Questions Relating to the Applicant/Agent's Written Submission

- 16. Councillor Culver queried the justification for the new containers being due to Covid-19, when additional units had already been installed two years previously. Ms Vanessa Eastwick-Field explained that the earlier units had been temporarily brought on site prior to Covid-19, however two more units were needed to give staff the space to social distance.
- 17. Councillor Culver asked for clarification on the timescale for the completion of the warehouse in Slovakia. Mr Jannis Küpper advised that the hope was that the warehouse would be finalised towards the end of 2020.
- 18. Councillor Hooker asked when the new conditions had been added to the application. Ms Jaymeni Patel explained that the conditions were not added by the applicant. Their statement mentioned noise mitigation measures and this was in regard to discussions with the Planning Officers to mitigate the outcomes of the acoustic report. Discussions had been ongoing since the application had been submitted. Due to Covid-19, it had been difficult to meet the acoustician consultant on site, and it was only recently that they had received feedback. Prior to that the applicant had proposed some remedial works, and instigated some of the proposals on site, which are ongoing and subject to an assessment.
- 19. Councillor Dennis Benneyworth queried whether opening a warehouse in Slovakia would impact the need for capacity in Compton. Mr Küpper confirmed that the need for warehousing in Compton would be reduced. Councillor Benneyworth further queried whether this would therefore lessen the likelihood of noise and the impact on neighbours. Mr Küpper replied that it was his understanding that the noise from the site might be from the chilled containers, therefore if the relevant stock were to be stored in Slovakia, then the company would be happy to remove the containers from site and therefore the noise levels would be reduced.
- 20. Councillor Abbs checked his understanding regarding the movement of warehousing to Slovakia and asked for further clarification as to how the installation of switches could be installed on the chillers, which could not be switched off and on. Ms Eastwick-Field explained that they had worked with the noise survey consultant and had identified that the chillers were the cause of some of the background noise. The switches had been installed on the air handing units, which were turned down at the end of the working day, and not to the chillers. The warehousing in Slovakia would be chilled and would therefore allow for the reduction of the amount of cold storage kept at Compton. Since the air handling units had been switched off at night, residents had reacted positively to the reduction in the night-time noise level.
- 21. Councillor Abbs further queried, given the assumption that redundancies would not be required as the applicant had given assurances regarding in increasing and hiring staff, how the empty warehouse space would be used and whether noise levels would be affected.
- 22. Ms Eastwick-Field noted that the reduction in the businesses requirement for chilling produce would mean that the external chilling units would be no longer needed. It was relatively clear from the noise survey that the chillers had the worst impact on noise levels, so she felt confident that the noise level would be reduced.
- 23. Councillor Abbs posited that once the units had been removed, lots of extra car parking space would become available. Ms Eastwick-Field agreed that there would be some extra car parking spaces. Councillor Abbs asked if this would be sufficient to

not need the temporary condition. Ms Eastwick-Field answered that the requirement for parking had changed for the business as whole due, to flexible working brought about by Covid-19. The company had been looking at flexible working prior to Covid-19 and expected to require less parking because of the change in the working pattern being offered to staff. Councillor Abbs concluded that the extra units would not therefore be required. Ms Eastwick-Field responded that this wasn't the case.

24. Councillor Hilary Cole noted that some of the Members questions were conjecture and not relevant to the application.

#### Ward Member Representation

- 25. Councillor Culver in representing the Committee as Ward Member made the following points:
  - Councillor Culver had called-in this application. There had been concern from a number residents about the noise nuisance and consequently their ability to sleep. Residents near the site had been going away in the evenings to sleep elsewhere, for example Air B&Bs and friends' houses, as they had not been able to sleep properly in their own homes.
  - She noted that the disturbance was more of a problem recently, as more people were working from home due to a change in working patterns due to Covid-19, therefore people who may have previously been disturbed only during the evening, were also being disrupted during the day.
  - She pointed out one of the noise surveys was conducted between 3am and 7am, in the summer, and suggested that that was the coolest part of the day, and therefore not a representative time at which to conduct such a survey.
  - There were also inconsistencies in the experiences of residents and the consultants who had carried out the formal noise surveys about noise levels. Environmental Health Officers had spoken to Mr Vaughan and confirmed that they had heard noise at his rear hedge, however other reports concluded that there was no noise.
  - Councillor Culver drew the Committee's attention to the fact that there were some containers which had been on the site since 2009 and should been removed by 2011. The applicant had advised the Committee that the facility in Slovakia should be ready by the end of December 2020, therefore Councillor Culver queried that as several weeks would elapse before the proposed containers would arrive on site in Compton, how many weeks would the proposed additional containers be needed for.
  - She also pointed out that on page 141 of the Venta Acoustics study, it stated that: "...although the weather during the survey was not suitable to show the worst case scenario of a warm day of no wind...", therefore by their own admission they had not chosen an opportune moment to demonstrate the worst case scenario, therefore the Committee did not have that evidence.
  - There was a reference to a noise mitigation fence and it was her understanding that this was made of pallets. Residents were concerned that this was not of the correct construction. Should the application be approved, she urged that there should be a detailed Condition of what the fence should be constructed of, to ensure that it was effective.
  - She urged Members to ensure that the conditions were very detailed, for example on page 140 of the Venta document there were a number of mitigation measures

mentioned. She felt that the Committee would need to add further Conditions to the approval to and ensure they are detailed and comprehensive enough and written in such a way that Planning Enforcement and Environmental Health Officers would be able to determine whether the Conditions had definitely been met, rather than being non-specific and open to interpretation.

• Finally, she thanked the applicants for attending the meeting and recognised their efforts in the response to Covid-19. She hoped they understood that she represented the residents of her Ward. Also her understanding was that most of the staff at the site came from outside of the Ward, and therefore the Committee really did have to bear in mind the effect that the noise nuisance was having on the residents sleep. She did not believe that the residents were fabricating the level of disturbance to their sleep. She queried why anyone who pay for an Air B&B in order to get some sleep, when they had a house to sleep in and she asked Members to take this into account.

#### Member Questions of the Ward Member

- 26. Councillor Andy Moore asked whether Councillor Culver felt that the survey figures could be used for both sites, as she was quoting from a report regarding units 10-12 in the following application rather than units 3-5 and 6-9 on this application. Councillor Culver expressed the view that the applications for this site should have been considered as a whole, rather than in two applications. There are references to decibels in one of the applications that were not referred to in the other, but were applicable to both.
- 27. Councillor Hooker noted that the Committee had heard from Mr Simms that he was somewhat pleased that the additional conditions had been added and that it had slightly changed his opinion and he was more on the side of approving this application. He asked for Councillor Culver for her observations on the additional Conditions and whether they would reduce the nuisance level for residents. Councillor Culver recognised Mr Simms view and was also cognisant of the concerns of resident on Yew Tree Stables. If the Committee were minded to approve the application, the mitigation measures should be clear and detailed, so that they can be followed up by Environmental Health and Planning Enforcement.
- 28. Councillor Benneyworth queried whether that in addition to the updated conditions, she be inclined to include a sound proof fence. Councillor Culver agreed that she would.
- 29. Councillor Hilary Cole wondered if the Yew Tree Stables properties were there before the stables or not. Councillor Culver was unsure when the applicant had arrived, however she estimated that the stables had been there for approximately 20 years.

#### **Questions to Officers**

30. The Chairman informed the Committee that an Environmental Health Officer was available to answer Members questions. Councillor Hilary Cole felt that the applications hinged on the noise issue and the perceived noise nuisance. She asked for the Officers professional view to the noise and the proposed mitigation. Anna Smy answered that a colleague had commentated that they had heard noise and that there was audible noise from the site. She had visited the site and reviewed the overall Council response and had determined that there were mitigation methods in place, however she was not clear what may or may not have been put in place. The applicant had suggested that timers had been installed, however the she was not sure how effective the fencing was.

- 31. She had looked at the measures taken and looked at the available conditions that could be imposed and had been imposed on similar sites and equipment. She believed that condition BS4 140 should be added, as it was more appropriate for this site to have a comparable condition, taking the background noise into account, as it can be affected by the weather or travel flow, rather than an absolute level. The consultant had said they could reach a certain level of decibel by calculating to the residential properties and that would mean they would meet the World Health Organisations levels.
- 32. Mitigation measures, such as silencers would whelp with air-flow noise. Where there were multiple noise sources, there was an element of trial and error, however, each individual noise source would need its own mitigation measure needed to be put in place and Officers recognised that these would need to be enforceable.
- 33. Councillor Moore questioned whether a more sophisticated condition might be more reasonable with regards to car parking in that, rather than two years, the length of time needed for temporary alleviation might be reduced. Paul Goddard noted that he had no objection to making the timescale shorter and asked what length of time the Committee would like imposed, subject to agreement by the Planning Officers. Councillor Moore queried whether it could be conditioned in relation to government advice on working from home. Paul Goddard felt that would be difficult as the pandemic ebbed and flowed and asked for advice from his Legal and Planning colleagues.
- 34. David Pearson asked Members to bear in mind that one of the tests for a conditions was that it needed to be precise and enforceable. If Members were concerned, he suggested that they could shorten the temporary permission to 18 months.
- 35. Councillor Abbs directed the Committee to page 143 of the report at 1.30am in the morning there was a 80 decibel spike, which was clearly high. There was a lot of noise from 4am in the morning until 8pm at night, which was outside of normal office hours. He asked what her observations of the noise surveys were. Anna Smy explained that with unattended noise monitoring it was difficult to be sure what had caused the spikes in noise level.
- 36. Councillor Abbs asked whether in the officer's opinion this was an adequate survey to base a decision on. Anny Smy answered that given the activities on site, and the number of noise sources there were it would be difficult to accurately pin-point which equipment was causing the problems. However, as an overall collective noise there was adequate information to say that, where back ground levels were low, and when all the noise sources were running at the same time, the noise level was high and audible and could be mitigated. If sufficient mitigation measures were not put in place, then officers would be recommending refusal.
- 37. Councillor Hooker asked about the apparent late submission of the conditions. Matthew Shepherd recognised that some of the conditions had come in late and had been added to the Update Report. The Scheme of Works had already been included, however it had been amended by adding a maintenance clause. Three conditions on lighting, noise form plant machinery and container noise had been added. Officers were taking an approach to trying to be as strong on the conditions as possible. He clarified further that there was an element of being reactive to new submissions, and that was the purpose of the Update Report. He apologised for the lateness, but added that it would be wrong not to react to newly raised issues.
- 38. Councillor Hooker further queried whether the addition of these conditions would reduce the noise. Matthew Shepherd confirmed that the conditions gave security

regarding the background noise and on the Scheme of Works, so Officers would get an application to discharge the mitigation methods, for example if a pallet wall was felt to be inadequate it could be refused and the Officers could work with the applicant to reach a satisfactory conclusion.

#### Debate

- 39. Councillor Abbs opened the debate by noting that if the Committee were minded to approve he would want to see the silencer used as a mitigation measure, as he felt they would have a massive impact in the amount of sound that was reaching the residents. He was minded to approve, on the assumption that the Committee was careful with the attenuation measures.
- 40. Councillor Phil Barnett remarked that this was a company that was very much in the forefront of the response to Covid-19. He felt that the Committee should be supportive of a provider of employment in the local community. In regard to the insulation of the external equipment, from what he observed it looked like slatted timber rather than pallets if Members were aware of insulation along the A4 near Reading there was a considerable overlapping of timber and that actually was in place to cut down the noise of the motorway. He conjectured whether it should be conditioned that it should be lapped material rather than slatted. With regards to the car parking on site, he felt it was in the forefront of the applicant to elaborate how they are trying to operate a flexible working scheme. By staggering staff working hours the number of vehicles on site could be mitigated.

#### Proposal

- 41. Councillor Barnett proposed to accept Officer's recommendation and grant planning permission subject to the conditions listed in the main report and update report. This was seconded by Councillor Benneyworth.
- 42. In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Committee decided to conclude Item (4)2 by 10.30pm, and that Item (4)3 should be rescheduled.
- 43. The Chairman asked for confirmation on the additional conditions proposed. Matthew Shepherd noted that from the discussions, the proposed detailed Scheme of Works condition would be submitted based on the outline mitigations measures, submitted within the existing report. The impression he had garnered was that the proposed conditions within the Update Report adequately addressed the issues raised by Councillors, and that it would be the case of the applicants taking on board comments made by the Committee, and submitting a comprehensive scheme for officers to approve.
- 44. The Chairman asked whether for example the soundproof fencing and possible silencers would be taken into account in the conditions. Matthew Shepherd agreed that specific references could be included as mitigation methods, however he did not feel this was necessary as this would be the solutions that the applicant would propose in their detailed Scheme of Works. It may be that exhaust silencers would be their chosen method or they might use a different device.
- 45. The Chairman asked the Environmental Health officer if a condition setting a specific decibel level would be too stringent. Anna Smy had concerns that due to the potentially low background noise level, officers would be setting a level that was unachievable and would potentially cause an issue to the residents.
- 46. Dave Pearson acknowledged Matthew Shepherds view on the possibility of including more detail in the conditions, however, he had not heard anything specific from members that could be included in the conditions.

- 47. The Chairman invited Members of the Committee to vote on the proposal by Councillor Barnett, seconded by Councillor Benneyworth to grant planning permission. At the vote the motion was carried.
- 48. Councillor Culver was be in favour of adding a consistent condition across both sites setting a decibel limit. Matthew Shepherd commented that he would be led by Anna Smy and felt that it would be overly onerous and should be reactive to the background noise. Councillor Culver answered that on page 109 it stated in noise mitigation condition 5, that "...the plant noise emission should not exceed 36 decibels...". She posited that if officers were able to be that specific for one site, then surely they could be for both applications. The Chairman asked officers to address this Condition
- 49. Councillor Culver wished Officers to add a detailed condition for the construction of the noise mitigation fence specific. She further explained that her main concern was how long the containers could be kept on site. She would not support a condition which allowed the containers to be kept on site for two years, when the warehouse facility in Slovakia would be in place by the end of December 2020. Matthew Shepherd explained that the two years had been arrived upon in consultation with the applicant officers had no information to say that a shorter period would be appropriate, however the Committee could adjust the condition. The Chairman proposed that the two year period should remain in place. Councillor Culver proposed a period of six months. Dave Pearson felt that it would be unfair to create a situation where the applicant would have to reapply for permission after six months, he felt that a year would be the absolute minimum. The Committee agreed that a year would be reasonable.
- 50. Councillor Abbs asked officers to be specific in the conversation regarding fencing attenuation to relate to height, for example a generic statement making sure that the first floor windows of any properties were covered. The applicants had been very specific on what the power output was, therefore the Committee could easily say that silencers could be fitted to the extractor fans to take the decibel output down at source down to a specific level.
- 51. The Chairman asked Dave Pearson for his observations on the discussion. Dave Pearson noted that it was clear that the time period the containers could be kept on site could be reduced to one year. He would ask for full details of an acoustic fence taking into account the height of the fence. He was concerned about setting a precise decibel level as there were separate circumstances from one application to the other which should explain the different conditions. He was concerned that a level would be chosen would not be enforceable. The Chairman hoped that the mitigation measures would reduce the irritation of a noise to an acceptable level therefore he inclusion of a decibel level might not be relevant or that important. He felt it would be dangerous to pluck figures out of the air.
- 52. Councillor Culver quoted the figure on page 109, which officers felt was achievable. She felt it should be applicable to both applications.
- 53. Councillor Hilary Cole recognised Councillor Culvers point of view, however the Committee were not noise experts and it should be left to officers to come up with something that was reasonable for both the applicant and the residents.
- 54. Councillor Abbs understood Councillor Hilary Cole's point of view, however was supporting Councillor Culver.
- 55. The Chairman concluded the debate as he felt the Officers had enough information and had heard Members concerns and would be able to include the appropriate

conditions. Matthew Shepherd pointed out that in terms of the levels of noise the noise from plant and machinery within the update sheet states that it should not exceed at any time a level of five dba below the existing background noise. Therefore a limit had been set but the limit moved related to background noise.

56. The Chairman thanked the Members. He recognised it had been a lengthy debate, however it was owed to the applicant, residents and the Ward Member.

**RESOLVED that** the Head of Development and Planning be authorised to grant planning permission subject to the following conditions:

#### Conditions

1. Temporary Permission

The external storage containers hereby permitted and all their associated plant, equipment and materials shall be removed on no later than 1 year from the date of this decision. The land shall be restored to its former condition within 1 month of the date on which the external storage containers are removed.

<u>Reason</u>: Planning permission would not normally be granted for external storage containers on the area set aside for car parking spaces. This condition is imposed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (2019), Policies CS13 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026).

2. Approved plans

The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the approved plans and documents listed below:

P153 100 Rev E Location and proposed site plan

P153 101 Rev G Site Plan

P152 102 Rev A Proposed Landscaping Plan

P152 401 Rev C Proposed GA Elevations

P153 200 Rev C Existing and Proposed GA Plans

Venta Acoustics Noise Impact Assessment ref VA2752.200710.NIA dated 23 July 2020.

<u>Reason</u>: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interest of proper planning.

3. Landscaping Maintenance

Any of the 20 trees planted as outlined in plan P152 102 Rev A Proposed Landscaping Plan and Tree Officer consultation emails that die or become seriously damaged within three years of this permission shall be replaced in the next planting season by plants of the same size and species.

<u>Reason</u>: To ensure a satisfactory scheme of landscaping in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework, and policies ADPP1, CS14, CS18 and CS19 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026.

4. Scheme of Works (Acoustic Mitigation)

A detailed scheme of works shall be submitted based on the outline mitigation set out in the VENTA Acoustic Noise Impact Assessment in respect of reducing the noise impact emanating from the external storage units and cold containers in order to minimise the noise emitted by low frequency components and reduce the overall noise levels.

The scheme of works shall be submitted to and approved by the local planning authority within 2 months of the date of this permission. Once approved the works shall be carried out within 1 month of the date of approval of such details.

The equipment shall thereafter be retained, operated and maintained in its approved form and in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations for so long as the use hereby permitted remains on site.

<u>Reason</u>: To ensure that suitable mitigation is put in place to avoid disturbance to neighbouring dwellings in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and Policies OVS.5 and OVS.6 of the West Berkshire District Local Plan Saved Policies 2007 and CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026.

5. Timing Control Details

Details of a timing control system for the Air Handling Unit that will prevent that equipment from operating overnight shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme of works shall be submitted to and approved by the local authority within 2 months of the date of this permission. Once approved the works shall be carried out within 1 month of approval of the details.

<u>Reason</u>: To ensure that suitable mitigation is put in place to avoid disturbance to neighbouring dwellings in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and Policies OVS.5 and OVS.6 of the West Berkshire District Local Plan Saved Policies 2007 and CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026.

6. Painting of ducting

Notwithstanding the details submitted within the application details of what colour the air handling unit ducting will be painted shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority within a month of this permission. The ducting shall be painted in this colour within a month of approval of these details. After this it shall be maintained and retained in accordance with the colour.

<u>Reason</u>: To protect the amenity of adjacent rights of way users and nearby residents in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and policies ADPP1, ADPP5, CS14, CS18 and CS19 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026.

7. Parking in accordance with plans

Within a month of this permission the vehicle parking and/or turning spaces shall be surfaced, marked out and provided in accordance with the approved parking layout plan. The parking and/or turning spaces shall thereafter be kept available for parking (of private motor cars and/or light goods vehicles) at all times until the temporary permission has expired.

<u>Reason</u>: To ensure the development is provided with adequate parking facilities, in order to reduce the likelihood of roadside parking that would adversely affect road safety and the flow of traffic in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework, policy CS13 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026 and policy TRANS.1 of the West Berkshire District Local Plan Saved Policies 2007.

8. Ancillary to use of industrial building

The buildings and structures hereby approved shall be used solely for purposes ancillary and incidental to the main use of the site.

<u>Reason</u>: The buildings and structures are acceptable due to the specific nature of the business operating from the site and their separate use would not be acceptable on the site in the interests of amenity and ensuring a sustainable pattern of development

in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and policies ADPP1, ADPP5, CS10, CS14, CS18 and CS19 of the West Berkshire Local Plan 2006-2026.

9. External lighting (new)

No additional external lighting shall be installed on site without the prior approval in writing from the Local Planning Authority by way of a formal planning application made for that purpose.

<u>Reason</u>: To protect the amenities of adjoining land users and the character of the area in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and policies OVS.5 of the West Berkshire District Local Plan Saved Policies 2007 and CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026.

10. Noise from plant and machinery (Noise limit)

All plant, machinery and equipment installed or operated in connection with the carrying out of this permission shall be so enclosed and/or attenuated that noise from it should not exceed at any time a level of 5dB[A] below the existing background noise level and 10dB[A] if there is a particular tonal quality or is intermittent in nature when measured in accordance with BS4142:2014 at a point one metre external to the nearest residential or noise sensitive property.

<u>Reason</u>: In the interests of residential amenity and to avoid disturbance to neighbouring dwellings in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and Policies OVS.5 and OVS.6 of the West Berkshire District Local Plan Saved Policies 2007 and CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026.

11. Noise Containers measures

The external containers hereby approved shall be serviced annually to ensure that all fans and reciprocating equipment is correctly balanced and running smoothly and when not in use the container shall be switched off.

<u>Reason</u>: In the interests of residential amenity and to avoid disturbance to neighbouring dwellings in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and Policies OVS.5 and OVS.6 of the West Berkshire District Local Plan Saved Policies 2007 and CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026.

#### (3) Application No. and Parish: 20/01226/FUL - Land at Old Station Business Park, High Street, Compton

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Committee concluded that the remaining business could not be concluded by 10.30pm, and therefore decided to close the meeting at 10.12pm. The Chairman asked that this item be considered at the next Western Area Planning Meeting.

# (4) Application No. and Parish: 18/01657/COND1 - Land adjacent to Summerfield, The Ridge, Cold Ash

(Councillors Adrian Abbs, Carolyne Culver and Howard Woollaston declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 4(4) by virtue of the fact that they had been lobbied on the application. As their interests were personal and not prejudicial or a disclosable pecuniary interest, they determined to remain to take part in the debate and vote on the matter.)

 The Committee considered a report (Agenda Item 4(4)) concerning Planning Application 18/01657/COND1 in respect of details reserved by Condition 4 -External Materials Schedule and samples, 7 - Construction Method Statement, 8 -Surfacing for driveways/access points, 10 - Vehicle parking and turning, 11 -

Access details, 12 - Cycle storage, 13 - Refuse storage and 15 - Boundary hedge of planning permission reference 16/02529/OUTD. The application was brought to Committee as a result of ward member's call-in.

- 2. Simon Till introduced the report to Members, which took account of all the relevant policy considerations and other material planning considerations. In conclusion the report detailed that the proposal was acceptable in parts, but not in others.
- 3. Officers recommended the Committee to delegate to the Head of Development and Planning to make representations at appeal to recommend a split decision comprising part approval and part refusal.

#### **Removal of Speaking Rights**

- 4. As resolved at the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 29 April 2020, public speaking rights were removed for virtual Council meetings. This right was replaced with the ability to make written submissions. This decision was made in accordance with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panels Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.
- 5. The above changes to speaking rights were subsequently amended at the Council meeting on 10 October 2020. It was agreed that parties making written submissions in relation to a planning application would be invited to attend the Remote Meeting of the Planning Committee to answer any questions that Members of the Committee might wish to ask in order to seek clarification on any part of their statement.
- 6. In accordance with the Extraordinary Council resolution, written submissions relating to this application had been received from Cold Ash Parish Council (Bernard Clark), Mr Simon Vanstone, objector, and Ms Katherine Miles (Pro Vision) agent.
- 7. The written submission from Cold Ash Parish Council was read out by the Clerk as follows:

#### Parish Council's Representation

In the view of Cold Ash Parish Council (CAPC), the 'Discharge of Conditions' you are being asked to consider is legally questionable and flies in the face of the decision the WAPC took on 20th May 2020 and the timing seems inappropriate. Both the Reserved Matters and Discharge of Conditions are now the subject of Appeals with the Planning Inspectorate (APP/W0340/W/20/3257645 and APP/W0340/W/20/3256565).

The most notable condition to be discharged is Condition 11. Access. West Berkshire Planning Officers had vigorously denied that Access was still an issue, verbally and also in writing. In the advice to Councillors for the meeting on 20th May 2020, the Planning Officer wrote the following:

6.33. In relation to objectors concerns that the proposed vehicular access arrangements are still for consideration as part of this Reserved Matters application, officers consider access was a matter approved at the Outline Stage under application reference 16/02529/OUTD dated 24 October 2017. The finer details of access relating to surfacing and construction detail are secured via planning conditions (no's 8 and 11). In other words, access is not consideration as part this Reserved Matters application

Now, Councillors are being asked to agree 'Access'.

If Access really 'was a matter approved' on 24th October 2017, why is Access now 'a matter to be approved'? Answer, it never was approved. At this current meeting,

Councillors are being asked to agree to something that has never been agreed, on the basis of council officers' reports that appear to be economical with the facts.

This is important because the Developer's preferred Access arrangements would destroy an 'Important', Historic and 'Protected Hedgerow', which is actually owned by West Berkshire, who are also the Custodians of Protection of the hedgerow.

In conclusion, CAPC can do no better than quote our now Ward Councillor, Hilary Cole, to Councillors and witnessed by Bernard Clark, at the site visit for the discharge of conditions on 25th October 2018. "I don't see the point of approving conditions, when we don't know what houses will be built."

This is echoed in the minutes of the WAPC meeting of the 31st October 2018, in which Hilary Cole seconded a motion to defer, until Reserved Matters had been agreed.

This seemed like a wise observation then, and if anything, circumstances make it even more obviously sensible now. So CAPC ask for this application to be denied or deferred.

#### Member Questions Relating to the Parish Council's Written Submission

- 8. Councillor Dennis Benneyworth asked Bernard Clark to expand on the statement that access had not been agreed.
- 9. Bernard Clark indicated that he had taken legal advice on the matter which had confirmed this. He also highlighted Condition 11 associated with this planning application, which indicated that access was 'yet to be determined'. He noted David Pearson's comments that access had now been agreed, but the Parish Council's legal advice was clear that it had not. He expressed the hope that Members would not approve Condition 11 and suggested that it would be difficult for Members to decide on access, without knowing where the houses were going to be.
- 10. Councillor Hilary Cole asked Bernard Clark if he understood that the Committee was being asked to make a recommendation with regard to a representation at an appeal, and not a decision on a particular application. She indicated that the application would be heard at appeal regardless of the Committee's decision. She suggested that the Committee's decision could add more weight to the planning Inspector's determination.
- 11. Bernard Clark confirmed that he understood and had taken legal advice from Landmark Chambers, a top planning consultancy, who had confirmed that access had not been agreed. He again urged Members not to agree Condition 11.
- 12. The written submission from Mr Simon Vanstone, objector, was read out by the Clerk as follows:

#### **Objectors' Representation**

To ask the Planning Inspectorate to discharge the conditions adopted when the Outline Planning Permission was granted, regardless of whether the houses themselves are accepted or refused, makes no sense and serves no desirable purpose. The rationale for having conditions is to protect. Discharging the conditions would remove the possibility of protecting the site and could conceivably result in inappropriate development.

On 20th May 2020, the WAPC voted 7 councillors to 2, to reject the proposed houses citing the following grounds:

- i) inappropriate height and mass,
- ii) lack of sympathy to neighbouring low-rise properties,
- iii) discord with the existing fabric of housing,

iv) urbanisation of the eastern gateway to the village of Cold Ash.

To ensure that whatever is built on this sensitive site is sustainable, it is essential that a set of plans formulated for an inappropriate housing development are NOT adopted through the back door.

In the situation where the conditions are discharged, but the houses are refused, the critical evaluation of any future planning application is potentially compromised and undermined by a set of discharged conditions that are inconsistent with the then proposed houses.

It is only when both the conditions and the houses themselves are considered together that officers and members can be expected to make an informed and measured assessment.

Consider the following scenario. Reserved Matters are refused by the Planning Inspectorate, the Outline Planning Permission expires on the 24th October 2020, and the developer is required to submit a FULL application. Such an application may well include a single-access driveway and low-rise dwellings. Being required to reduce the height and mass of the housing, it is also likely that the footprint of the houses and the site layout will change. Provision of bungalows or split-level dwellings might, for example, require entirely different footprints. Given the very real prospect of such material changes, the Construction Method Statement (Condition 7), Vehicle Parking & Turning provisions (Condition 10), Access Details (Condition 11), in addition to the External Materials Schedule (Condition 4) and Cycle Storage (Condition 12) might also be subject to change. Similarly, a change to the houses may precipitate a change to the soft and hard landscaping design and provisions (Conditions 8 and 15).

An almost identical attempt was made by this same developer to push through the conditions attached to the then refused Reserved Matters plans (18/01977/REM) at the WAPC on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018. Again, a split-decision was proposed, however, members quickly recognised the incongruity and resolved that the Head of Development and Planning be authorised to defer the application until the Reserved Matters had been agreed. The motion was proposed by Councillor Paul Bryant, and seconded by Councillor Hilary Cole.

Residents once again respectfully ask members to exercise caution and sensibility, and reject the proposed discharge of the conditions, or any part of them.

#### Member Questions Relating to the Objectors' Written Submission

- 13. Members did not have any questions relating to the Mr Simon Vanstone.
- 14. The written submission from the agent, Ms Katherine Miles (Pro Vision), was read out by the Clerk as follows:

#### Applicant's Representation

As stated in the Committee report, the power to determine this application rests with the Planning Inspectorate as an Appeal against non-determination has been made given the failure of the Council to reach a decision on this application.

The Appeal relates to an application for the approval of technical details reserved by conditions attached to the Outline Planning Permission.

Outline Planning Permission was granted for "The erection of 5 detached dwelling houses with ancillary garages, access, parking, landscaping" in October 2017. An appeal against the Council's refusal of the Reserved Matters has been conjoined with the non-determination appeal in respect of the planning conditions.

The information submitted in respect of Conditions 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 15 of the Outline permission is deemed acceptable, and Officers recommend approval. It would be reasonable for the Committee to confirm to the Inspectorate that it would have had no objection to the approval of the details in respect of those conditions.

In respect of Condition 4, Officers advise the proposed mix and palette of materials is appropriate within the context of materials found within the wider village, yet this condition is not recommended for approval because the "appearance" of the dwellings has not been approved through Reserved Matters.

Condition 4 was imposed to ensure materials used in the development are appropriate to the character of the area. The Council has before it a schedule of materials which it confirms is appropriate to the character of the area. It follows that those details should be recommended for approval.

In approving Condition 4, the Council is stating that a dwelling constructed using those materials would be acceptable in this area having regard to Policies CS14 and CS19 of the Core Strategy, Policy HSA7 of the DPD and Guideline SDM2 of the Cold Ash Village Design Statement which requires good quality materials appropriate to the character of the area to be used in new developments.

The Committee should confirm that it would have had no objection to the approval of the details in respect of Condition 4.

Condition 12 requires details of cycle storage to be approved. Officers state this condition cannot be approved as the "appearance" and "scale" of the garages has not yet been approved.

Policy P1(iv) of the HSADPD states "Garages will not be counted as a parking space". The Council's 'Cycling and Motorcycling Advice and Standards for New Development' states that garages can be used for cycle storage.

The outline permission includes garages. A garage will be provided for each property, and can be used to store cycles. The Council should confirm that it would have had no objection to Condition 12 being approved on the basis that a garage for each dwelling will be provided.

The Council will subsequently be able to determine if the garage (typically 3m x 6m) is appropriately scaled having regard to the area.

In summary, there is no reasonable basis to refuse this application for approval of technical details relating to an outline planning permission.

#### Member Questions Relating to the Agent's Written Submission

15. Members did not have any questions for Ms Katherine Miles (Pro Vision).

#### Ward Member Representation by Councillor Garth Simpson

- 16. The Chairman noted that Councillors Hilary Cole and Garth Simpson had requested to speak, and because they had differing views, they were each been allocated five minutes.
- 17. Councillor Simpson in representing the Committee as Ward Member made the following points:
  - This was the second attempt to discharge conditions attached to the outline planning consent and the second time that officers had proposed a split decision.

- Members had previously voted to defer until the reserved matters were approved.
- Concerns had been expressed by the Committee, Cold Ash Parish Council, Simon Vanstone (as the lead residents representative), and Bernard Clark, as well as Councillor Simpson.
- He commended the residents' eloquent representation as to the practical consequences of supporting the split decision.
- It was risky for officers to propose to discharge conditions when the houses were not considered acceptable by Members.
- Bernard Clark had indicated that the application was of dubious legality.
- Cold Ash Parish Council had only had four working days' notice and had not had the opportunity to properly examine this.
- The principle of five houses being built on land adjacent to Summerfield had been accepted by the Parish Council and residents of Cold Ash.
- The proposed split decision was a subversive attempt by officers, and a reversion of Members' refusal of 19/00832/REM on 20 May 2020.
- The recommendation was designed to deal with as many conditions as possible and to prop up the notion that access had been properly dealt with. Cold Ash Parish Council's representation illustrated that this was not the case.
- Access was the root cause of why this application had been the subject of so many appeals, with non-determination by the developer being the third.
- He had hoped that Councillor Hilary Cole would have supported the Parish Council and recommended refusal.
- He urged Members to reject the proposal to discharge conditions by refusing the recommendation of officers.
- Appeals arose because of real differences of opinion and the Inspector should provide guidance as to the next steps.

#### Member Questions of Ward Member Councillor Garth Simpson

- 18. Councillor Dennis Benneyworth asked Councillor Simpson to expand on the statement that access was the root of the problem.
- 19. Councillor Simpson explained that the planning work stretched back five years. He suggested that officers' critique had failed to reconcile matters of planning policy and natural town and planning guidance. He indicated that access issues were a common thread through the following, which were debated in May 2020:
  - Up to five houses with gross external area of 300 square metres coherence with vernacular architecture;
  - Retention of the historic hedge and its important role as a transition from rural to semi-rural countryside;
  - Retention of gaps between the houses (a feature of the Housing Site Allocation Development Plan Document (HSADPD));
  - Avoidance of 'urban slap syndrome'; and
  - Required minimum highways visibility splays.

- 20. Members had previously raised concerns about inappropriate height and mass, and lack of sympathy to neighbouring low-rise properties.
- 21. Councillor Simpson also suggested that the visibility splay calculations by Highways were incorrect and would result in the loss of 70% of the hedge. He concluded that the access was a fundamental problem along with scale and massing.

#### Ward Member Representation by Councillor Hilary Cole

- 22. Councillor Hilary Cole in representing the Committee as Ward Member made the following points:
  - She noted that the application had received a good airing in May and was now the subject of a planning appeal.
  - The site already had outline permission.
  - Although not a fan of the split decision, she could see no alternative in order to direct the position the Council would adopt at appeal.
  - Although the application had attracted many letters of objection, many were from residents who lived a considerable distance from the site and were not directly affected by the development, so the Committee should not give weight to many of these objections.
  - It would be foolish to 'go round the block again' with this application.
  - Developers had gone a long way to address the concerns of affected residents.
  - She urged the Committee to approve the officer recommendation and highlighted the conditions on page 159 of the agenda.
  - She suggested that the 18 October 2018 decision was irrelevant as the current application was different and so comments made should be discounted.

#### Member Questions of Ward Member Councillor Hilary Cole

- 23. Councillor Howard Woollaston noted that the original application had been refused for reasons relating to the hedge and massing of buildings. He asked if by approving this application, the Committee would be endorsing access to the proposed development.
- 24. Councillor Hilary Cole suggested that the Council would be in a better position by discharging these conditions than if it were left to the planning Inspector. She indicated that discharging these conditions would give an indication of what the Council desired at this site. She acknowledged that the boundary hedge was a matter of contention, but reminded Members that the Tree Officer did not consider it an ancient hedgerow, and there was no great merit in protecting it.

#### **Questions to Officers**

- 25. Councillor Carloyne Culver asked if it was putting the cart before the horse to approve certain conditions without knowing the outcome of the reserved matters appeal. For example, if the appeal determined that there should be one access, why should the Council discharge a condition that referred to places (plural)?
- 26. David Pearson noted that there was confusion about what was agreed at the outline stage in 2016. He indicated that the principle of having three accesses to the site had been set as part of the outline permission. He noted that the reserved matters appeal was not dealing with any matters relating to access, just scale, appearance and landscaping. He disagreed with Cold Ash Parish Council and confirmed that the access had been consented. He explained that the condition was not about the

principle of having three entrances, but was about the technical specification of the accesses in terms of the visibility splays, corner radii and surfacing.

- 27. Councillor Culver asked if there was a precedent for an appeal on reserve matters and on conditions, where Members were asked to give a view to an Inspector. She queried whether this would influence the Inspector's decision.
- 28. David Pearson confirmed that the Council was asked to state its case at every appeal and that it was normal for the Council to make its views known. He suggested that the biggest risk to the Council was that it would be asked to pay costs because it had been unreasonable, and that this risk was increased if the Council did not respond and give its views. The Committee's decision provided an indication of what the Council would do if it was able to discharge the conditions. He confirmed that such a decision would have been made by Committee rather than delegated to officers.
- 29. Councillor Culver asked if the Committee was allowed to propose a different split in the conditions. David Pearson confirmed that it was up to Members to decide on the most appropriate split.
- 30. Councillor Andy Moore highlighted a disagreement between the applicant and officers in relation to the inclusion of garages as part of Condition 12. He also asked whether garages were considered suitable for cycle storage.
- 31. David Pearson indicated that officers disagreed with the applicant, because whilst layout had been agreed at the outline stage, scale, appearance and landscaping had not. As Members had refused the reserve matters application, officers had tailored the recommendation to take into account that decision. Officers considered that Condition 12 would be dealt with by the Inspector when dealing with the reserved matters appeal.

#### Debate

- 32. Councillor Clive Hooker noted that the Committee was only making a recommendation, rather than a decision and therefore if members had any objections to going straight to the vote.
- 33. Councillor Hilary Cole confirmed that she was happy to go straight to a vote.
- 34. Councillor Bennyworth indicated that he would abstain because he had temporarily lost access to the virtual meeting and had not heard the item in full.
- 35. Councillor Abbs indicated that he wished to debate the item.
- 36. The Chairman again asked all members if they wished to debate the item. As there were three votes in favour and three against, Kim Maher advised that there needed to be a short debate.
- 37. Councillor Abbs noted that lots of time and energy had gone into developing the conditions and could not understand why some seemed to be important than others. He suggested that the recommendation to the Inspector should be that all conditions stay intact.
- 38. Councillor Culver agreed with the points made by Councillor Abbs.
- 39. Councillor Hilary Cole proposed to approve the officer recommendation.
- 40. Councillor Woollaston seconded the proposal.
- 41. The Chairman invited the Committee to vote on the proposal by Councillor Hilary Cole, seconded by Councillor Woollaston to accept Officer's recommendation to

delegate to the Head of Development and Planning to make representations at appeal to recommend a split decision comprising part approval and part refusal. At the vote, the motion was carried by four votes to three with one abstention.

42. **RESOLVED** to delegate to the Head of Development and Planning to make representations at appeal to recommend a **split decision** as follows:

1. Details pursuant to Conditions 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 15 of Planning Permission 16/02529/OUTD can be **approved** subject to full implementation in accordance with the details submitted and wording of each condition;

and

2. Details pursuant to Condition 4 (Materials) and Condition 12 (Cycle Storage) are **refused** as these elements are integral to matters of 'Appearance' and 'Scale' considered most recently under reserved matters application 19/00832/REM which was refused on 22 May 2020 and is currently subject to planning appeal under appeal reference APP/W0340/W/20/3256565\*.

\*The Planning Inspectorate have been invited to consider both planning appeals together

#### 28. Appeal Decisions relating to Western Area Planning Committee

No appeals were available to be considered by Members relating to the Western Area.

(The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and closed at 10.12 pm)

CHAIRMAN

Date of Signature

# Agenda Item 4.(1)

ltem No.	Application No. and Parish	Statutory Target Date	Proposal, Location, Applicant
(1)	20/01326/FUL Newbury Town Council	12 August 2020 <sup>1</sup>	Change of use of the ground floor from betting shop (Sui Generis) use to adult gaming and amusement centre with bingo (Sui Generis). Installation of associated signage comprising 1no. externally illuminated fascia sign and 1no. externally illuminated projecting sign.
			11 - 13 Market Place, Newbury RG14 5AA
			Cashino Gaming Ltd
<sup>1</sup> Exter	nsion of time agreed	with applicant until 1	6 November 2020

The application can be viewed on the Council's website at the following link: <u>http://planning.westberks.gov.uk/rpp/index.asp?caseref=20/01326/FUL</u>

Recommendation Summary:	To <b>DELEGATE</b> to the Head of Development & Planning to <b>GRANT PLANNING PERMISSION</b> subject to Conditions.	
Ward Member(s):	r(s): Councillor Martha Vickers Councillor Andy Moore	
Reason for Committee Determination:	10 or more objections and a petition of objection of at least 20 signatures to a recommendation determination of Approval.	
Committee Site Visit:	Owing to social distancing restrictions, the option of a committee site visit is not available. Instead, a collection of photographs is available to view at the above link	

Contact Officer Details		
Name: Jeffrey Ng		
Job Title:	Planning Officer	
Tel No:	(01635) 519111	
Email: jeffrey.ng1@westberks.gov.uk		

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This is a planning application for the change of use of ground floor of 11-13 Market Street from a betting shop (Sui Generis) to use as an adult gaming and amusement centre with bingo (Sui Generis). Installation of associated signage comprising 1no. externally illuminated fascia sign and 1no. externally illuminated projecting sign.
- 1.2 The application site lies within the Newbury Conservation Area, a Primary Shopping Frontage and the Town Centre Commercial Area. It is also within the Environment Agency Flood Zone 2.

### 2. Planning History

2.1	The table below outlines the relevant planning history of the application s	site.

Application	Proposal	Decision
13/00078/FULD	Change of Use and minor alterations of first and second floor offices to three one- bedroomed residential flats.	Approved
13/01125/FUL	Change of Use of premises for A2 purposes as a licensed betting office.	Approved
13/01497/FUL	Installation of a new shopfront, satellite dish and three replacement a/c condenser units.	Approved
13/01498/ADV	New externally illuminated fascia sign and an externally illuminated projecting sign.	Approved
13/02498/COND1	Application for approval of details reserved by Condition 4 - Condensing Units Acoustic Details and Calculations of approved reference 13/01497/FUL. Installation of a new shopfront, satellite dish and three replacement a/c condenser units.	Approved
13/02501/FULD	Application for approval of details reserved by Condition 3 - Scheme of Sound Insulation of approved reference 13/00078/FULD. Change of Use and minor alterations of first and second floor offices to three one-bedroomed residential flats.	Approved

# 3. Procedural Matters

### Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

3.1 Given the nature and scale of this development, it is not considered to fall within the description of any development listed in Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. As such, EIA screening is not required.

### Publicity

3.2 Site notice displayed on 01 July 2020 at the location site; the deadline for representations expired on 22 July 2020.

### Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- 3.3 CIL is a levy charged on most new development to pay for new infrastructure required as a result of the new development. CIL will be charged on residential (C3 and C4) and retail (A1 A5) development at a rate per square metre (based on Gross Internal Area) on new development of more than 100 square metres of net floorspace (including extensions) or when a new dwelling is created (even if it is less than 100 square metres).
- 3.4 CIL liability will be formally confirmed by the CIL Charging Authority under separate cover following the grant of any permission. More information is available at <u>www.westberks.gov.uk/cil</u>

# 4. Consultation

### Statutory and non-statutory consultation

4.1 The table below summarises the consultation responses received during the consideration of the application. The full responses may be viewed with the application documents on the Council's website, using the link at the start of this report.

Newbury Town Council	The Council has raised objection as the proposal Members feel that it is not in keeping with the aspirations of the Market Place and the future progression of the atmosphere in the Market Place.
WBC Highways	No comments to make.
WBC SuDS Team	No comments to make.
WBC Conservation	No objection.
WBC Public Rights of Way	No comments received by the date of writing.
WBC Environmental Health	Do not consider that the background music will cause elevated noise levels and do not support an imposition of a restriction on the operating hours.

Thames Valley Police	No objection.
Environment Agency	No comments received by the date of writing.
Rambles' Association	No comments received by the date of writing.

### Public representations

- 4.2 Representations have been received from 11 contributors, 0 of which support, and 11 of which object to the proposal. A petition of objection of 201 signatures has also been received.
- 4.3 The full responses may be viewed with the application documents on the Council's website, using the link at the start of this report. In summary, the following issues/points have been raised:

Amenity	<ul> <li>Concerns about the sound from the proposed development will transmit to the upper floor residential accommodation and there is a concern about the absence of a specialist noise survey in this application.</li> <li>Noise disturbance to residents of Market Place</li> </ul>
Other issues	<ul> <li>Concerns about the continuing spread of gambling and late night facilities will have an adverse impact on the high street</li> <li>Concerns about the potential gambling and anti-social behaviour</li> <li>Concerns about the costs of problem gambling</li> <li>Concerns about the background of the company operating the proposed centre</li> <li>Concerns about the proposed 24 hours operation as the former betting office was closed at 10pm</li> <li>Concerns about the encouragement people who come out of the pubs</li> <li>Concerns about the impact on the learning centre opposite to the site</li> <li>This licence (planning) application should be refused</li> </ul>

# 5. Planning Policy

- 5.1 Planning law requires that applications for planning permission be determined in accordance with the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The following policies of the statutory development plan are relevant to the consideration of this application.
- Policies ADPP1, ADPP2, CS1, CS11, CS13, CS14, CS16 and CS19 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026 (WBCS).
- Policies ECON.5, SHOP.1, OVS.5 and OVS.6 of the West Berkshire District Local Plan 1991-2006 (Saved Policies 2007).
- 5.2 The following material considerations are relevant to the consideration of this application:

- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
- Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)
- WBC Quality Design SPD (2006)
- Planning Obligations SPD (2015)
- Outdoor advertisements and signs: a guide for advertisers (2007)
- Cycle and Motorcycle Advice and Standards for New Development (2014)
- Newbury Town Council Design Statement (2017)

# 6. Appraisal

### Principle of development

- 6.1 Paragraph 85 of the NPPF states that planning decisions should support the role that town centres play at the heart of local communities, by taking a positive approach to their growth, management and adaptation.
- 6.2 The Spatial Strategy policies in the West Berkshire Core Strategy (WBCS) provide the overarching strategy for development in West Berkshire. The application site is within the Primary Shopping Frontage and the Town Centre Commercial Area. Though it is currently vacant, the application site was a betting office subject to a planning permission (13/01125/FUL). The officer report for this application states that casinos are an appropriate town centre use and a betting office would also constitute an appropriate town centre use as both uses involve gambling.
- 6.3 Though Newbury Town Council has raised an objection to the proposed development, it is noted that the Town Council published a Newbury Town Design Statement in 2017. The Statement identifies that Market Place is a cultural/leisure/recreation quarter and it is considered that the proposed development can be considered as leisure/recreation use. Given that there is no other policies restricting the adult gaming centre within town centres, the principle of development is therefore accepted in this case.

### Design and Appearance

- 6.4 Achieving well-designed places is one of the core planning principles of the NPPF. Policy CS14 clearly sets out that new development must demonstrate high quality and sustainable design that respects and enhances the character and appearance of the area, and makes a positive contribution to the quality of life in West Berkshire. Policy CS19 seeks to ensure development is appropriate in terms of location, scale and design.
- 6.5 While there are no other changes to the appearance to the ground floor of the building, the proposal is also seeking to install a number of associated signage comprising an externally illuminated fascia sign and an externally illuminated projecting sign.
- 6.6 The Conservation Officer has raised no objection to the proposed development and it is not considered that the proposed development would have an adverse impact on the character of the Newbury Conservation Area.

### Amenities

- 6.7 A number of letters of objection have raised concerns that the noise from the proposed development will transmit to the upper floor residential accommodation.
- 6.8 Paragraph 11 of the NPPF states that planning decisions should apply a presumption in favour of sustainable development. Local planning authorities should grant permission

unless any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the NPPF taken as a whole.

- 6.9 Thames Valley Police and Environmental Health Officer have been consulted in this application and both have raised no objection to the proposed development. Given that the proposed development will not cause elevated noise levels, it is not considered that it is necessary to impose any operating hours restriction.
- 6.10 The applicant has submitted a Noise Assessment Report and it concludes that the noise levels of proposed development comply with the criteria within the BS8233:2014 and the application site will be suitable for 24-hour operation if all defects identified in Table 1 of the Report are rectified. It is recommended that condition is imposed to ensure that all rectification works identified in the Report shall be completed before the development hereby permitted is brought into use.

### Community Infrastructure Levy

- 6.11 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was implemented in West Berkshire on 1 April 2015 and it is a levy charged on most new development within the local authority area. The money is used to pay for new infrastructure required as a result of the new development. This infrastructure can be wide-ranging, including schools, road schemes, health facilities and sports and leisure facilities.
- 6.12 The applicant has been advised to contact the CIL team to ascertain whether the proposal is CIL liable.

### **Other Matters**

- 6.13 This is a planning application and it is not a licence application. The Council Licensing Team has confirmed that they have received a betting premises licence application and a Hearing will be held on 09 November at the Licensing Committee.
- 6.14 There is also a concern about the absence of a specialist noise survey in this application. However, it is considered that an adequate noise assessment is submitted in this application and the conclusion of the assessment report has also reinstated that the noise levels of the proposed development comply with the criteria.
- 6.15 There is a concern about the potential impacts of gambling, costs of problem gambling and the negative impacts of anti-social behaviour. Moral objections to a development including gambling are not relevant planning issue and cannot be taken account in reaching a decision.
- 6.16 There is a concern about the background of the company operating the proposed centre. Again, background of the applicant is not relevant planning issue and cannot be taken account in reaching a decision. It is also the case that restrictive covenants are not material considerations in the determination of planning applications.

# 7. Planning Balance and Conclusion

7.1 11-13 Market Place lies within the Newbury Conservation Area, a Primary Shopping Frontage and the Town Centre Commercial Area. For reasons set out above the proposed development is considered to be in accordance both national and local planning policies.

# 8. Full Recommendation

8.1 To delegate to the Head of Development and Planning to GRANT PLANNING PERMISSION subject to the conditions listed below.

### Conditions

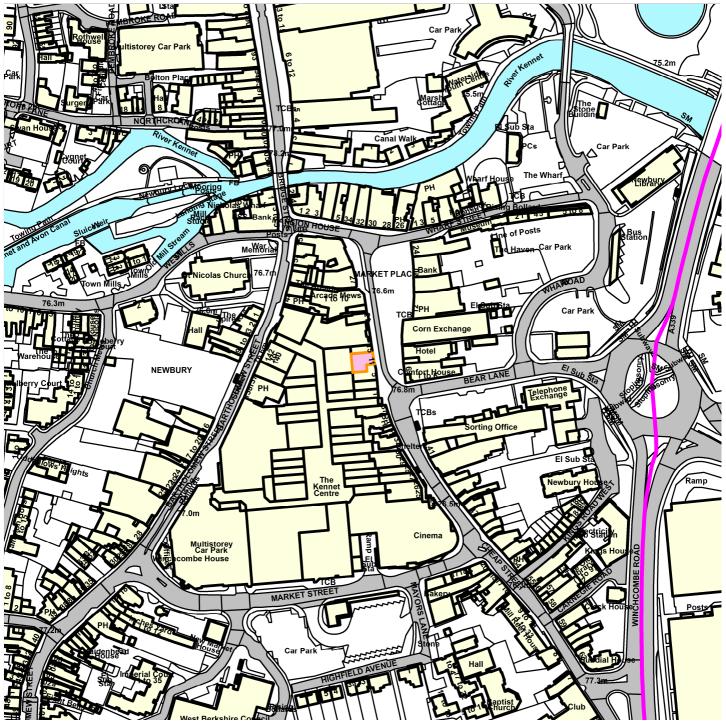
1	Approved Documents
	The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in all respects in accordance with the following plans/drawings:
	<ul> <li>Drawing Ref. MP/NEW/01 Existing Floor Plans and Shopfront Elevation (Rev. A) dated 12 June 2020</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Drawing Ref. MP/NEW/04 Proposed Fascia Sign and Projecting Sign Details (Rev. D) dated 30 September 2020</li> <li>Drawing Ref. MP/NEW/06a Block Plan dated 12 June 2020</li> </ul>
	Reason: To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the submitted details and to enable the Local Planning Authority to control the development and monitor the site to ensure compliance with the planning permission.
2	Commencement
	The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.
	Reason: To accord with the provisions of Section 91 (1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by Section 51 (1) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and to enable the Local Planning Authority to control the development and monitor the site to ensure compliance with the permission.
3	Materials as specified
	The materials to be used in the development hereby permitted shall be as specified on the plans and/or the application forms.
	Reason: To ensure that the external materials are visually attractive and respond to local character. This condition is imposed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework 2019, Policy CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026), Supplementary Planning Document Quality Design (June 2006) and Supplementary Planning Guidance 04/2 House Extensions (July 2004).
4	Noise Mitigation
	The development hereby permitted shall not be brought into use until all rectification works identified in Table 1 of the approved Noise Assessment Report (Ref: PR2001_28_FINAL) dated 01 October 2020 have been provided. Thereafter these works shall be permanently retained in accordance with approved details.
	Reason: To protect the amenities. This condition is in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 and Policy CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026.

# Informatives

proactively with the applic proposals against relevant Policy Framework including Regulations. Further, the considerations and determ applicant. This approach ha		In determining this application the Local Planning Authority has worked positively and proactively with the applicant by: scoping of the application and assessing the proposals against relevant Development Plan policies and the National Planning Policy Framework including its associated planning practice guidance and European Regulations. Further, the Local Planning Authority has: identified all material considerations and determined the application within the timeframe agreed with the applicant. This approach has been in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 38 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2019.
	2	For further information regarding the discharge of the conditions or any other matters relating to the decision, please contact the Customer Call Centre on: 01635 519111.

# 11-13 Market Place Newbury RG14 5AA

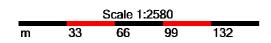




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Scale: 1:2580

Organisation	West Berkshire Council
Department	
Comments	Not Set
Date	02 November 2020
SLA Number	0100024151

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# Agenda Item 4.(2)

ltem No.	Application No. and Parish	Statutory Target Date	Proposal, Location, Applicant
(2)	20/01327/ADV Newbury Town Council	12 August 2020 <sup>1</sup>	Installation of associated signage comprising 1no. externally illuminated fascia sign and 1no. externally illuminated projecting sign. 11 - 13 Market Place, Newbury RG14 5AA
			Cashino Gaming Ltd
<sup>1</sup> Exter	<sup>1</sup> Extension of time agreed with applicant until 16 November 2020		

The application can be viewed on the Council's website at the following link: <u>http://planning.westberks.gov.uk/rpp/index.asp?caseref=20/01327/ADV</u>

Recommendation Summary:	To <b>DELEGATE</b> to the Head of Development & Planning to <b>GRANT</b> ADVERTISEMENT CONSENT subject to Conditions.
Ward Member(s):	Councillor Martha Vickers Councillor Andy Moore
Reason for Committee Determination:	This application is related to 20.01326/FUL planning application which has 10 or more objections and a petition of objection of at least 20 signatures to a recommendation determination of Approval.
Committee Site Visit:	Owing to social distancing restrictions, the option of a committee site visit is not available. Instead, a collection of photographs is available to view at the above link
Contact Officer Details	
Name:	Jeffrey Ng
Job Title:	Planning Officer
Tel No:	(01635) 519111
Email:	jeffrey.ng1@westberks.gov.uk

# 1. Introduction

1.1 This is an advertisement consent application for the installation of 1no. externally illuminated fascia sign and 1no. externally illuminated projecting sign at 11-13 Market Place, Newbury. This signage is associated with the proposed change of use of the premises sought under application 20/01326/FUL which is item 1 on this agenda.

# 2. Planning History

2.1 The table below outlines the relevant planning history of the application site.

A	Application	Proposal	Decision
	13/01498/ADV	New externally illuminated fascia sign and an externally illuminated projecting sign.	Approved

# 3. Procedural Matters

- 3.1 A separate consent process within the planning system controls the display of advertisements. The only issues that can be considered when determining such applications is their effect on amenity and public safety, so the regime is lighter touch than the system for obtaining planning permission for other forms of development. The cumulative impact of advertisements in a specific area may be taken into account when amenity is being considered.
- 3.2 This item has been brought to committee because the advertisements are mentioned in the description of the associated planning application which gathered a significant number of objections. It is possible that interested parties may not have realised that separate comments should have been submitted in respect of this application.
- 3.3 All advertisements are subject to standard conditions in Schedule 2 of the Advertisement Regulations. All advertisements must comply with any other relevant statutory provisions (e.g. listed building consent, where necessary).

# 4. Consultation

### Statutory and non-statutory consultation

4.1 The table below summarises the consultation responses received during the consideration of the application. The full responses may be viewed with the application documents on the Council's website, using the link at the start of this report.

Newbury Town Council	The Council has raised objection as the proposal Members feel that it is not in keeping with the aspirations of the Market Place and the future progression of the atmosphere in the Market Place.
WBC Highways	No comments to make.

### Public representations

4.2 No representations have been received.

# 5. Planning Policy

- 5.1 Planning law requires that applications for planning permission be determined in accordance with the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. In the case of applications of advertisement consent only those policies which relate to amenity and public safety fall to be considered. The following policies of the statutory development plan are relevant to the consideration of this application.
- Policies ADPP1, ADPP2, CS13, CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026 (WBCS).
- 5.2 The following material considerations are relevant to the consideration of this application:
- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
- Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)
- Outdoor advertisements and signs: a guide for advertisers (2007)
- WBC Quality Design SPD (2006)
- Newbury Town Council Design Statement (2017)
- Shopfronts and Signs SPG (West Berkshire Council, July 2003)

# 6. Appraisal

### Public Safety

- 6.1 Paragraph 067<sup>1</sup> of the Planning Practice Guidance All advertisements are intended to attract attention but proposed advertisements at points where drivers need to take more care are more likely to affect public safety. For example, at junctions, roundabouts, pedestrian crossings, on the approach to a low bridge or level crossing or other places where local conditions present traffic hazards. There are less likely to be road safety problems if the advertisement is on a site within a commercial or industrial locality, if it is a shop fascia sign, name-board, trade or business sign, or a normal poster panel, and if the advertisement is not on the skyline.
- 6.2 Highways has made no comments to the proposal. It is not considered that the proposal would not have any adverse impact on public safety.

### Amenity

6.3 "Amenity" is not defined exhaustively in the Regulations. It includes aural and visual amenity (Regulation 2(1)) and factors relevant to amenity to include the general characteristics of the locality, including the presence of any feature of historic, architectural, cultural or similar interest (Regulation 3(2)(a)). It is, however, a matter of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Reference ID: 18b-067-20140306

interpretation by the local planning authority as it applies in any particular case. In practice, "amenity" is usually understood to mean the effect on visual and aural amenity in the immediate neighbourhood of an advertisement or site for the display of advertisements, where residents or passers-by will be aware of the advertisement.

6.4 The Conservation Officer has raised no objection to proposed signage and it is not considered that it would have an adverse impact on the character of the Newbury Conservation Area and the occupants of the surrounding buildings. The signage would be read in the context of other similar advertisements already on display in this commercial area.

# 7. Conclusion and Full Recommendation

- 7.1 It is considered to be in accordance both national and local planning policies.
- 7.2 To delegate to the Head of Development and Planning to PERMIT ADVERTISEMENT CONSENT APPLICATION subject to the conditions listed below.

### Standard Advertisement Consent Conditions

1	Any advertisements displayed, and any site for the display of advertisements, shall be maintained in a clean and tidy condition to the reasonable satisfaction of the local planning authority.
2	Any structure or hoarding erected or used principally for the purpose of displaying advertisements shall be maintained in a safe condition.
3	Where an advertisement is required under these Regulations to be removed, the removal shall be carried out to the reasonable satisfaction of the local planning authority.
4	No advertisement is to be displayed without the permission of the owner of the site or any other person with an interest in the site entitled to grant permission.
5	No advertisement shall be sited or displayed so as to secure, or hinder the ready interpretation of, any road traffic sign, railway signal or aid to navigation by water or air, or so as to render hazardous the use of any highway, railway, waterway or aerodrome (civil or military).

### **Proposed Additional Conditions**

1	Approved Documents
	The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in all respects in accordance with the following plans/drawings:
	<ul> <li>Drawing Ref. MP/NEW/01 Existing Floor Plans and Shopfront Elevation (Rev. A) dated 12 June 2020</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Drawing Ref. MP/NEW/04 Proposed Fascia Sign and Projecting Sign Details (Rev. D) dated 30 September 2020</li> </ul>
	Drawing Ref. MP/NEW/06a Block Plan dated 12 June 2020

	Reason: To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the submitted details and to enable the Local Planning Authority to control the development and monitor the site to ensure compliance with the planning permission.
2	Materials as specified
	The materials to be used in the development hereby permitted shall be as specified on the plans and/or the application forms.
	Reason: To ensure that the external materials are visually attractive and respond to local character. This condition is imposed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework 2019, Policy CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026), Supplementary Planning Document Quality Design (June 2006) and Supplementary Planning Guidance 04/2 House Extensions (July 2004).

### Informatives

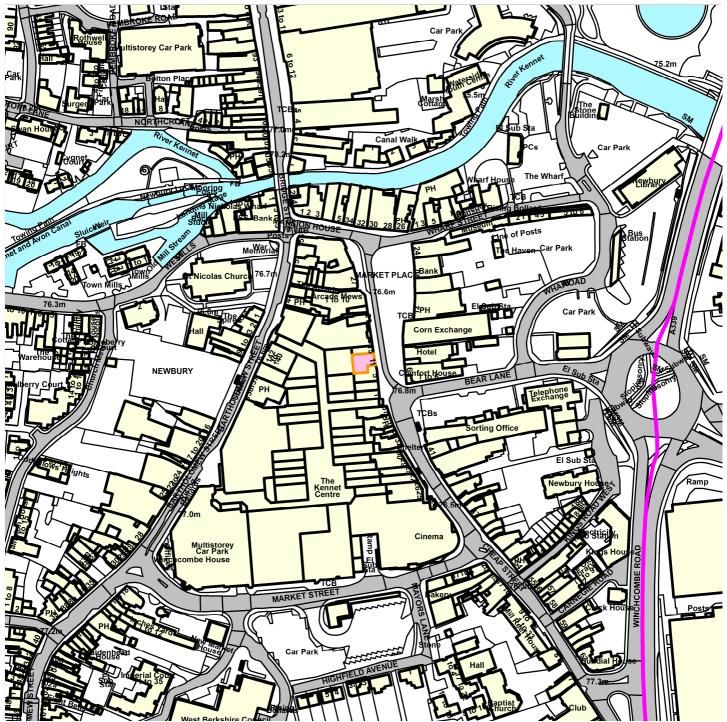
1	In determining this application the Local Planning Authority has worked positively and proactively with the applicant by: scoping of the application and assessing the proposals against relevant Development Plan policies and the National Planning Policy Framework including its associated planning practice guidance and European Regulations. Further, the Local Planning Authority has: identified all material considerations and determined the application within the timeframe agreed with the applicant. This approach has been in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 38 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2019.
0	For further information regarding the discharge of the conditions or any other matters

2 For further information regarding the discharge of the conditions or any other matters relating to the decision, please contact the Customer Call Centre on: 01635 519111.

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# 11-13 Market Place Newbury RG14 5AA

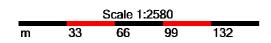




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Organisation	West Berkshire Council
Department	
Comments	Not Set
Date	02 November 2020
SLA Number	0100024151

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# Agenda Item 4.(3)

ltem No.	Application No. and Parish	Statutory Target Date	Proposal, Location, Applicant
(3)	20/01620/FULD Kintbury Parish Council	18 September 2020 <sup>1</sup>	Erection of 1 bedroom North Lodge to be occupied in connection with Denford Park Estate with ancillary parking, turning, landscaping and garden area. Alterations to existing access arrangements including replacement boundary wall and gates. Denford House, Denford Park, Hungerford RG17 0PG HRH Prince Faisal Bin Salman Al Saudand
<sup>1</sup> Exter	<sup>1</sup> Extension of time agreed with applicant until 16 November 2020		

The application can be viewed on the Council's website at the following link: <u>http://planning.westberks.gov.uk/rpp/index.asp?caseref=20/01620/FULD</u>

Recommendation Summary:	To <b>DELEGATE</b> to the Head of Development & Planning to <b>GRANT PLANNING PERMISSION</b> subject to Conditions.
Ward Member(s):	Councillor Dennis Benneyworth Councillor James Cole Councillor Claire Rowles
Reason for Committee Determination:	Call-in request from Ward Member(s).
Committee Site Visit:	Owing to social distancing restrictions, the option of a committee site visit is not available. Instead, a collection of photographs is available to view at the above link

Contact Officer Details	
Name:	Jeffrey Ng
Job Title:	Planning Officer
Tel No:	(01635) 519111
Email:	jeffrey.ng1@westberks.gov.uk

# 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This application seeks planning permission for the erection of 1 bedroom North Lodge to be occupied in connection with Denford Park Estate with ancillary parking, turning, landscaping and garden area. Alterations to existing access arrangements including replacement boundary wall and gates.
- 1.2 A planning application (20/00186/FUL) was refused as the proposal failed to demonstrate that there are no other suitable alternative dwellings that could be made available to meet such need and therefore the proposal is not considered as one of the exceptions set out in Policy C1 of Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document 2006-2026 and the proposed design of the lodge fails to reflect the architectural style of Denford Park, as part of the wider estate and the introduction of the lodge will have an adverse impact on the character of the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) .The current application is considered a resubmission of this refused application.

# 2. Planning History

2.1	The table below outlines the relevant planning history of the application site.	
<u> </u>	The table below balance the relevant planning motory of the application elec-	

Application	Proposal	Decision
07/02206/COMIND	Change of use to residential and equestrian use. Demolition of modern buildings; construction of pavilion, gardener's shed, guest house, cottage and stud manager's house. Alterations to stable court, Spanish flat, office and stores. Construction of storage barn, American barn, indoor riding school and yearling yard. Landscaping associated with house, stud and park.	Granted.
07/02207/LBC	Listed Building Consent for the Change of use to residential and equestrian use. Demolition of modern buildings; construction of pavilion, gardener's shed, guest house, cottage and stud manager's house. Alterations to stable court, Spanish flat, office and stores. Construction of storage barn, American barn, indoor riding school and yearling yard. Landscaping associated with house, stud and park.	Granted.
07/02386/FULD	Erection of North Lodge	Granted.
07/02422/FUL	The closure of existing private access. Construction of new	Granted.

	access, forecourt and private drive.	
09/00643/FULD	Erection of 2 bedroom North Lodge and garage.	Granted.
12/00151/FULD	Erection of 2 bed North Lodge to be occupied in connection with Denford Park Estate, with ancillary single garage and domestic curtilage. Alterations to approved roadside boundary wall, railings and gates.	Granted.
12/00150/FUL	Erection of detached equestrian building.	Refused.
20/00186/FUL	Erection of 1 bedroom North Lodge to be occupied in connection with Denford Park Estate with ancillary parking, turning, landscaping and garden area. Alterations to existing access arrangements including replacement boundary wall and gates.	Refused

# 3. Procedural Matters

### Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

3.1 Given the nature and scale of this development, it is not considered to fall within the description of any development listed in Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. As such, EIA screening is not required.

# Publicity

3.2 Site notice displayed on 03 August 2020 at the location site; the deadline for representations expired on 24 August 2020.

## Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- 3.3 CIL is a levy charged on most new development to pay for new infrastructure required as a result of the new development. CIL will be charged on residential (C3 and C4) and retail (A1 A5) development at a rate per square metre (based on Gross Internal Area) on new development of more than 100 square metres of net floorspace (including extensions) or when a new dwelling is created (even if it is less than 100 square metres).
- 3.4 CIL liability will be formally confirmed by the CIL Charging Authority under separate cover following the grant of any permission. More information is available at <u>www.westberks.gov.uk/cil</u>

# 4. Consultation

### Statutory and non-statutory consultation

4.1 The table below summarises the consultation responses received during the consideration of the application. The full responses may be viewed with the application documents on the Council's website, using the link at the start of this report.

Kintbury Parish Council	The Council has raised objection as the proposal would have a new building in an open countryside within the AONB.
WBC Highways	No objection subject to conditions.
WBC Archaeology	No objection.
WBC Conservation	No objection.
WBC Ecology	No objection subject to conditions.
WBC Environmental Health	No objection.
WBC Tree Officer	No objection subject to condition.
WBC Waste Management	No comments received by the date of writing.
WBC SuDS	No comments received by the date of writing.
WBC Minerals and Waste	No objection.
North Wessex Downs AONB Management Board	No comments received by the date of writing.
Thames Valley Police	No comments received by the date of writing.
Thames Water	No comments received by the date of writing.

## Public representations

- 4.2 Representations have been received from 2 contributors, 0 of which support, and 2 of which object to the proposal.
- 4.3 The full responses may be viewed with the application documents on the Council's website, using the link at the start of this report. In summary, the following issues/points have been raised:

Character and Appearance	<ul> <li>There is an improvement of the design of the roof from the previous refusal but a further enhancement is needed to minimise the impacts on the residential amenities.</li> <li>The proposed flat-roof design would have an adverse impact on the appearance and character of the rural area</li> </ul>
Planning Policy	• The proposal is not in line with the planning policies related to countryside and the AONB.
Amenities and Overlooking	There are three proposed windows which will directly face the opposite Denford Park Lodge, while only one window was allowed in the previous approved scheme.
	• The proposed lodge would have an adverse impact on the neighbours and there is a lack of information related to hours of operation and the location of the security cameras.
Highways and Access	<ul> <li>The proposed single gate system and an absence of pedestrian movement would have an adverse impact on the traffic movements and safety issue.</li> </ul>
	• The replacement of a timber frame gates has an adverse impact on the visibility.
Visual and Lighting	• The proposal would have external lighting and it will have an adverse impact on both the amenities and the surrounding areas.
Planning Condition	<ul> <li>There was an occupancy condition restricting the approved North Lodge in the planning permission 12/00151/FULD and it is necessary to impose a similar condition in this application.</li> </ul>
Other Issues	<ul> <li>There is a property College Farm, which is owned by the applicant and is available for such purpose.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>There is a concern whether the security lodge will become a normal dwelling.</li> </ul>

# 5. Planning Policy

- 5.1 Planning law requires that applications for planning permission be determined in accordance with the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The following policies of the statutory development plan are relevant to the consideration of this application.
  - Policies ADPP1, ADPP5, CS1, CS4, CS12, CS13, CS14, CS16, CS17 and CS19 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy 2006-2026 (WBCS).
  - Policies C1, C3, C5 and P1 of the Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document 2006-2026 (HSADPD).
  - Policies TRANS 1, OVS.5 and OVS.6 of the West Berkshire District Local Plan 1991-2006 (Saved Policies 2007).

- 5.2 The following material considerations are relevant to the consideration of this application:
  - National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
  - Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)
  - WBC House Extensions SPG (2004)
  - WBC Quality Design SPD (2006)
  - Planning Obligations SPD (2015)
  - Cycle and Motorcycle Advice and Standards for New Development (2014)
  - Newbury Town Council Design Statement (2017)

# 6. Appraisal

### PRINCIPLE OF DEVELOPMENT

- 6.1 According to Paragraph 010 of Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)<sup>1</sup>, the planning history of a site may be a relevant consideration in the determination of an application. However, the Paragraph goes on to state that the factors to take into consideration including evidence as to the reasons why an earlier permission was not implemented, the time that has elapsed since the previous permission expired and the number of similar applications made for the same site are relevant when considering an application.
- 6.2 In this case, the applicant sets out that permissions were granted for a similar scheme previously in 2008, 2009 and 2012 and the current proposal is an alternative scheme to those approved schemes and the latest permission granted in 2012 was lapsed in 2015. While it is a fact that the current planning system does not allow an extension of time on a permission<sup>2</sup>, the applicant has further clarified that those permissions could not be implemented due to the delay on the completion and occupancy of the main house. Though the principle of the development has been previously established, the Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document 2006-2026 (HSADPD) was formally adopted in 2017 and it is considered that this application should be assessed against this document.

### Location of New Housing in the Countryside

- 6.3 The Spatial Strategy policies in the West Berkshire Core Strategy (WBCS) provide the overarching strategy for development in West Berkshire. They provide for where new housing should go in the District as set out in the Area Delivery Plan Policies (ADPP). Policy ADPP1 sets out a spatial strategy for the distribution of housing throughout the District. The policy seeks to accommodate development in the most sustainable way, focusing the majority of development in settlements with existing facilities and services. The ADPP guide development but should be read in conjunction with Policy CS1 and Policy C1 of Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document 2006-2026 (HSADPD) which makes clear where new residential development is suitable in the opinion of the Council.
- 6.4 Policy C1 of the HSADPD states that there is a presumption against new residential development outside of the settlement boundaries. Exceptions to this are limited to rural exception housing schemes, conversion of redundant buildings, housing to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Reference ID: 21b-010-20190315

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Given that the latest permission was lapsed in 2015, it is confirmed that no existing permissions fulfil the requirements of extension under the Business and Planning Act 2020.

accommodate rural workers, extension to or replacement of existing residential units and limited infill in settlements in the countryside with no defined settlement boundary.

- 6.5 The application site is located outside any defined settlement boundary as identified in Policy ADPP1. The proposal is seeking to erect a security lodge at the northern entrance of the Estate and it will have one bedroom and be occupied in connection with the Estate. Policy C5 states that new dwellings in the countryside related to, and located within or near to, a rural enterprise will be permitted if it meets a number of criteria set out in the Policy.
- 6.6 Letters of objection have raised a concern that the current proposal is not in line with the planning policies. Kintbury Parish Council has also raised objection to the proposed development as it will introduce a new building in an open countryside within the AONB.

#### Housing Related to Rural Workers

- 6.7 Policy C5 of the HSADPD states that new dwellings in the countryside related to, and located at or near, a rural enterprise will be permitted subject to conditions.
- 6.8 The applicant states that the proposed security lodge is required to provide adequate security measures to the northern entrance of the Estate. The applicant has set out that their in-house security team have attempted to adopt the security measures, including temporary arrangement, in the absence of the proposed lodge. However, the team have confirmed that these measures are not sustainable, especially during the winter time and bad weather. They identified that the un-manned gates are not the suitable means of access and the proposed lodge is the only way for them to provide a guard room with basic accommodation. The applicant has further pointed out that there are no other existing dwellings or buildings at the site can accommodate the guards. The applicant has also made a reference to the similar lodge at the southern entrance, which is currently occupied by one of their night guards.
- 6.9 The proposed lodge is considered to be essential to the continuing equestrian use of the Estate as it is seeking to provide a security lodge at the northern entrance of the Estate. Given that there are no other existing vacant buildings within the Estate, it is considered that there is no other alternative buildings available to meet the need.
- 6.10 The nature of the role of the guards should be present at the entrance at all time and therefore it is not considered to be unreasonable to provide a basic accommodation at the same place in order to avoid the introduction of another building to meet this need within the countryside. An occupancy condition however shall be imposed to restrict the use of the property to persons employed with the Estate. A condition shall also be imposed to secure that the proposed lodge is ancillary to the Estate and no separate curtilage shall be created.
- 6.11 In summary, it is considered that there is a security and operational need demonstrated in this application and it should be a material consideration when assessing this application.

#### Equestrian/Racehorse Industry

6.12 Policy CS12 of the WBCS states that provides for equestrian related development will be supported. Development associated with equestrian activities will be encouraged where the reuse of existing buildings is considered before any new build; and the scale, form, impact, character, siting, and level of activity is in keeping with its location. Proposal for associated new residential accommodation in the countryside will be permitted where genuine need is suitably demonstrated through a business case and accommodation cannot be reasonably secured within existing settlements.

6.13 In this case, the application site is within the northern part of an established Denford Park Estate, which is for equestrian stud and the owner of the stud also resides at the Estate. The applicant states that there is a need to provide adequate security measures at the northern entrance, the same way that the southern entrance of the Estate does. The Council accepts that the security and operational need of a security lodge is demonstrated in this case.

### **Conclusion**

6.14 In conclusion, the principle of development of this proposed development has been fully re-assessed against the up-to-date policies of the development plan, though it has been established in the previous permissions. Given that there is a security and operational need to support this application, which officers accept, the principle of development is considered by officers to be acceptable in this case.

# DESIGN, CHARACTER AND APPEARANCE

- 6.15 Achieving well-designed places and conserving and enhancing the natural environment are core planning principles of the NPPF. Paragraph 172 of the NPPF states that great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in AONB. Policy ADPP5 of the WBCS states that new development will respect and respond to the historic environment of the AONB. Policy CS14 clearly sets out that new development must demonstrate high quality and sustainable design that respects and enhances the character and appearance of the area, and makes a positive contribution to the quality of life in West Berkshire. Policy CS19 seeks to ensure development is appropriate in terms of location, scale and design.
- 6.16 Policy C1 of the HSADPD states that planning permission will not be granted where a proposal harms or undermines the existing relationship of the settlement within the open countryside, where it does not contribute to the character and distinctiveness of a rural area, including the natural beauty of the AONB or where development would have an adverse cumulative impact on the environment or highway safety. Policy C3 goes on to state that the design of new housing, including replacement dwellings, must have regard to the impact individually and collectively on the landscape character of the area and its sensitivity to change.
- 6.17 The conservation officer initially raised objection to the previous refused application (20/00186/FUL) due to the proposed vernacular style cottage with a thatched hipped roof. The current proposal is revised to propose a smaller single storey lodge with a similar architectural style to Denford Park. The conservation officer has removed the objection in this current application and it is not considered that the current proposal would have an adverse impact on the setting of the Grade II listed Denford House, which is situated within the Estate. The Council's archaeologist has also raised no objection to the proposed development as there is no major impact on any features of archaeological significance from the proposed development.
- 6.18 The tree officer has raised no objection to the proposed development and it is considered that the proposal would provide an opportunity to enhance the existing landscaping and trees around the application site and on the road boundary and access. However, a detailed scheme of landscaping is required to ensure that the proposed development would not have an adverse impact on the setting of the surrounding areas and the AONB, and a condition is recommended in this respect.
- 6.19 In order to retain the rural character of the surrounding areas and the AONB, a condition is recommended to remove the permitted development rights of the proposed lodge to prevent further extension and alteration of the lodge. Given that these matters can be controlled by way of conditions, it is not considered that the proposed development

would have an adverse impact on the setting and appearance of the surrounding areas and the AONB.

### **BIODIVERSITY AND ECOLOGY**

- 6.20 Policy CS17 of the WBCS clearly states that development which may harm, either directly or indirectly, locally designated sites, habitats or species of principal importance for the purpose of conserving biodiversity or the integrity or continuity of landscape features of major importance for wild flora and fauna, will only be permitted if there are no reasonable alternatives and there are clear demonstrable social or economic benefits of regional or national importance that outweigh the need to safeguard the site or species and that adequate compensation and mitigation measures are provided when damage to biodiversity/geodiversity interests are unavoidable.
- 6.21 A letter of representation has raised a concern over the external lighting. The Council's ecologist has raised no objection to the proposed development subject to conditions. A set of pre-commencement conditions have been recommended to ensure that details of biological enhancement measures have been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority, including specific measures to protect bats, birds and bees.
- 6.22 In order to minimise the impacts on neighbouring amenity, the AONB, wildlife and the natural environment, a condition is recommended to secure details of external lighting prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted.

### AMENITIES

- 6.23 The Quality design SPG states that proposals will only be permitted where there is no material harm to any neighbour's privacy and outlook. Windows that directly overlook a nearby neighbouring dwellings should be avoided and a minimum distance of 21 metres is recommended between directly facing windows.
- 6.24 A letter of representation has raised a concern that the proposed windows will directly face the opposite property, which is known as Denford Park Lodge and there is a lack of information related to the operation hours and the location of the security cameras.
- 6.25 Based on the submitted information, it is not considered that the three proposed windows at the northern elevation of the proposed lodge would directly face and overlook Denford Park Lodge. There is more than 21 metres between Denford Park Lodge and the proposed lodge, given that it has been set back from the boundary of the Estate.
- 6.26 In order to minimise the impact on neighbouring amenity, a condition shall be imposed to restrict the hours of operation during the construction works. Given that the proposed lodge is a security guard room with basic accommodation provided, officers do not consider it appropriate to impose a condition related to the operation hours. A condition has already been recommended to remove the permitted development rights of the proposed lodge for further extensions, alternations and other minor operations.

# TRAFFIC AND HIGHWAYS

6.27 A letter of representation has raised a concern that the proposed single gate system, due to the replacement of a timber frame gate and an absence of pedestrian movement, would have an adverse impact on traffic movements, visibility and highway safety respectively.

6.28 The Local Highways Authority has raised no objection to the proposed alterations to the access, wall and gates subject to conditions to secure details of electric vehicle charging points and cycle storage prior to the development hereby permitted.

# FLOOD RISK

- 6.29 The application site is within the Environment Agency Flood Zone 1. No flood risk assessment is required in this case as the proposed development is smaller than 1 hectare and is not affected by sources of flooding other than rivers and the sea. As such, it would not give rise to any adverse impacts on flood prevention.
- 6.30 Policy CS16 of the WBCS states that surface water shall be managed in a sustainable manner through the implementation of Sustainable Drainage Methods (SuDS) in all new development sites. As such, a condition is recommended to secure details of sustainable drainage methods shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority prior to the occupation of the proposed lodge.

## OTHER MATTERS

- 6.31 Other issues raised by objection letters will be addressed in this section.
  - A letter of representation has raised a concern that the proposed lodge will become a normal dwelling. A conditions restricting occupancy and requiring that it remains ancillary to the main dwelling are recommended to address these concerns. It is also important to point out that restrictive covenants are not material considerations in the determination of planning applications.
  - There is a property, College Farm, which is owned by the applicant and is available for such purpose. It is a fact that College Farm is within Denford Estate, which is approximately 210 metres from the location of the proposed lodge. While this application is seeking to propose a security guard room with basic accommodation at the northern entrance, College Farm is clearly not an appropriate option as it is not within the northern entrance area. The applicant has also mentioned that they cannot find an alternative building

# 7. Planning Balance and Conclusion

- 7.1 This application seeks planning permission for the erection of 1 bedroom North Lodge to be occupied in connection with Denford Park Estate with ancillary parking, turning, landscaping and garden area. Alterations to existing access arrangements including replacement boundary wall and gates.
- 7.2 A planning application (20/00186/FUL) was previously refused as the proposal failed to demonstrate that there are no other suitable alternative dwellings that could be made available to meet such need and therefore the proposal is not considered as one of the exceptions set out in Policy C1 of Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document 2006-2026 and the proposed design of the lodge fails to reflect the architectural style of Denford Park, as part of the wider estate and the introduction of the lodge will have an adverse impact on the character of the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) .The current application is considered a resubmission of this refused application.
- 7.3 Additional information has been provided in this application to demonstrate that there is a security and operational need for the proposed lodge. Furthermore, the design of the

proposed lodge has been revised and is considered to be sympathetic to the architectural style and setting of the whole Estate.

7.4 It is considered that, following advice from technical consultees, and subject to the use of appropriate conditions, the proposal would not have an adverse impact on the setting and the rural character of the AONB. Furthermore, the proposal would not give rise to any adverse impact on amenity and environmental impacts. Therefore, it is considered that planning permission should be granted subject to conditions.

# 8. Full Recommendation

8.1 To delegate to the Head of Development and Planning to GRANT PLANNING PERMISSION subject to the conditions listed below.

### Conditions

1	Approved Documents
	The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in all respects in accordance with the following plans/drawings:
	<ul> <li>Drawing Ref. 190106-100 Location Plan dated January 2020</li> <li>Drawing Ref. 190106-102 Site Plan received on July 2020</li> <li>Drawing Ref. 190106-103 Design Scheme received on July 2020</li> <li>Drawing Ref. 190106-104 Proposed Gates + Wall received on July 2020</li> </ul>
	Reason: To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the submitted details and to enable the Local Planning Authority to control the development and monitor the site to ensure compliance with the planning permission.
2	Commencement
	The development hereby permitted hall be begun before the expiration of two years from the date of this permission as the final approval of the reserved matters.
	Reason: To accord with the provisions of Section 91 (1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by Section 51 (1) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and to enable the Local Planning Authority to control the development and monitor the site to ensure compliance with the planning permission.
3	Hours of Construction
	No demolition or construction works shall take place outside the following hours:
	Mondays to Fridays0730 to 1800Saturdays0830 to 1300
	There shall be no demolition or construction works or related activities carried out on Sundays, Bank Holidays, Public or National Holidays.
	Reason: To safeguard the environment and local amenity. This condition is imposed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 and Policy CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026).
4	Removal of Permitted Development Rights

	Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (as amended) (or any order revoking, re- enacting or modifying that Order), no enlargements or extensions which would otherwise be permitted by Schedule 2, Part 1 and Part 2 of that Order shall be constructed in the curtilage of the dwelling hereby permitted, without planning permission being granted by the Local Planning Authority. Reason: This condition is imposed to prevent the overdevelopment of the site and to
	protect the amenities, in the interests of respecting the character and appearance of the surrounding area and is in accordance with Policies CS14 and CS19 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026) and Supplementary Planning Document Quality Design (June 2006).
5	Use of Materials
	The materials to be used in the external finishes of the development hereby permitted shall match those on the existing development in colour, size and texture, and those materials shall remain at all times thereafter as the unaltered external finish to the development hereby permitted.
	Reason: To ensure that the external materials are visually attractive and respond to local character. This condition is imposed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework 2019, Policies ADPP5 and CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026), West Berkshire Council's Supplementary Planning Document Quality Design (June 2006) and Supplementary Planning Guidance 04/2 House Extensions (July 2004).
6	Ancillary to the Main Dwelling
	The development hereby permitted shall not be used at any time other than for purposes incidental/ancillary to the residential use of the dwelling known as Denford House. The development shall not be used as a separate dwelling unit and no separate curtilage shall be created.
	Reason: The creation of a separate planning unit would be unacceptable in the interests of ensuring a sustainable pattern of development. This condition is imposed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework 2019, Policies ADPP5 and CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026) and Supplementary Planning Document Quality Design (June 2006).
7	Equestrian Occupancy Restriction
	The occupation of the dwelling hereby permitted shall be limited to a person solely or mainly working (or retired through old age or ill health), in the equestrian business, or a widow or widower of such a person and to any resident dependants.
	Reason: To ensure the dwelling remains available to be considered as a supporting accommodation for the equestrian business. This condition is imposed in
	accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 and Policy C5 of the West Berkshire Housing Site Allocations Development Plan Document (2006 – 2026) Adopted May 2017.

	The security cameras shall be installed in accordance with the approved plans received on 03 November 2020.	
	Reason: To protect amenities. This condition is in accordance with Policy CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026) and Supplementary Planning Document Quality Design (June 2006).	
9 Landscaping:		
	Prior to the development hereby permitted, a detailed scheme of landscaping for the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The details shall include schedules of trees and plants noting species, plant sizes and proposed numbers/densities, an implementation programme and details of written specifications including cultivation and other operations involving tree, shrub and grass establishment. The scheme shall ensure;	
	a) Completion of the approved landscape scheme within the first planting season following completion of development.	
	b) Any trees shrubs or plants that die or become seriously damaged within five years of this development shall be replaced in the following year by plants of the same size and species.	
	Reason: To ensure the implementation of a satisfactory scheme of landscaping in accordance with the NPPF and Policies CS14, CS18 and CS19 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026).	
10	External Lighting	
	Prior to the development hereby permitted, an external lighting plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The plan shall include details of how the lights allow for minimal disruption in the movement of protected nocturnal fauna through and around the site, taking into account existing and new vegetation and ecological enhancements. The external lighting shall be installed as approved.	
	Reason: To ensure the protection of protected species including but not limited to breeding birds which are subject to statutory protection under National Legislation. The condition is in accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside act, paragraph 175 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 and Polices CS14, CS17 and CS19 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026).	
11	Bees	
	Prior to the development hereby permitted, details of two bee bricks to be integrated into the new structure shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The details shall include the location of the structures and the specification of the structures. The approved structures shall be installed as approved and thereafter retained at all time.	
	Reason: To incorporate biodiversity improvements in and around the development to protect bees. The condition is in accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside act, paragraph 175 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 and Polices CS14, CS17 and CS19 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026).	
12	Bats	

	<ul> <li>Prior to the development hereby permitted, details of two integrated bat roosting structures or a bat loft with associated access points or equivalent to be integrated into the new structure shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The details shall include the location of the structures and the specification of the structures. The approved structures shall be installed as approved and thereafter retained at all time.</li> <li>Reason: To incorporate biodiversity improvements in and around the development to protect bats. The condition is in accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside aparagraph 175 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 and Polices CS1 CS17 and CS19 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026).</li> </ul>	
13	Birds	
	Prior to the development hereby permitted, details of two bird boxes to be integrated into the new structure shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The details shall include the location of the structures and the specification of the structures. The approved structures shall be installed as approved and thereafter retained at all time.	
	Reason: To incorporate biodiversity improvements in and around the development to protect birds. The condition is in accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside act, paragraph 175 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 and Polices CS14, CS17 and CS19 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026).	
14	Roofing Membrane	
	Prior to the development hereby permitted, details of roofing membrane shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The roofing membranes must be breathable and are proven to cause a lethal entanglement hazard to bats. The approved structures shall be installed as approved and thereafter retained at all time.	
	Reason: To ensure the protection of protected species including but not limited to breeding birds which are subject to statutory protection under National Legislation. This condition is imposed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (February 2019) The Wildlife and Countryside act and Policy CS17 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026).	
15	Electric Charging Point (details to be submitted)	
	No development shall take place until details of an electric vehicle charging point have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The dwelling shall not be occupied until an electric vehicle charging point has been provided in accordance with the approved drawings. The charging point shall thereafter be retained and kept available for the potential use of an electric car.	
	Reason: To promote the use of electric vehicle. This condition is imposed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (February 2019), Policies CS13 and CS14 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026), Policy P1 of the Housing Site Allocation DPD and Policy TRANS1 of the West Berkshire District Local Plan 1991-2006 (Saved Policies 2007).	
16	Access Closure with reinstatement	
	The existing vehicular access at the site shall be stopped up and abandoned immediately after the new access hereby approved have been brought into use. The	

	footway/cycleway/verge shall, at the same time as the stopping-up and abandonment, be reinstated to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.
	Reason: In the interest of road safety and highway maintenance. This condition is imposed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and Policy CS13 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026).
17	Cycle storage
	No development shall take place until details of the cycle parking and storage spaces have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The dwelling shall not be occupied until the cycle parking and storage spaces have been provided in accordance with the approved details. The cycle parking and storage spaces shall be retained for purposes of cycle parking and storage at all times.
	Reason: To ensure that there is adequate and safe cycle storage space within the site. This condition is imposed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework, Policy CS13 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026) and Policy TRANS1 of the West Berkshire District Local Plan 1991-2006 (Saved Policies 2007).
18	Parking/turning in accord with plans
	The dwelling shall not be occupied until the vehicle parking and turning spaces have been surfaced, marked out and provided in accordance with the approved plans. The parking and/or turning space shall thereafter be kept available for parking of private motor cars and light goods vehicles at all times.
	Reason: To ensure the development is provided with adequate parking facilities, in order to reduce the likelihood of roadside parking that would adversely affect road safety and the flow of traffic. This condition is imposed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework, Policy CS13 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026) and Policy TRANS1 of the West Berkshire District Local Plan 1991-2006 (Saved Policies 2007).
19	Sustainable Drainage
	The proposed buildings should not be occupied until details of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), such as water butts or raised planters, to be implemented within the site have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
	Reason: To ensure that sustainable drainage systems have been implemented in all new developments. This condition is imposed in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 and Policy CS16 of the West Berkshire Core Strategy (2006-2026).

# Informatives

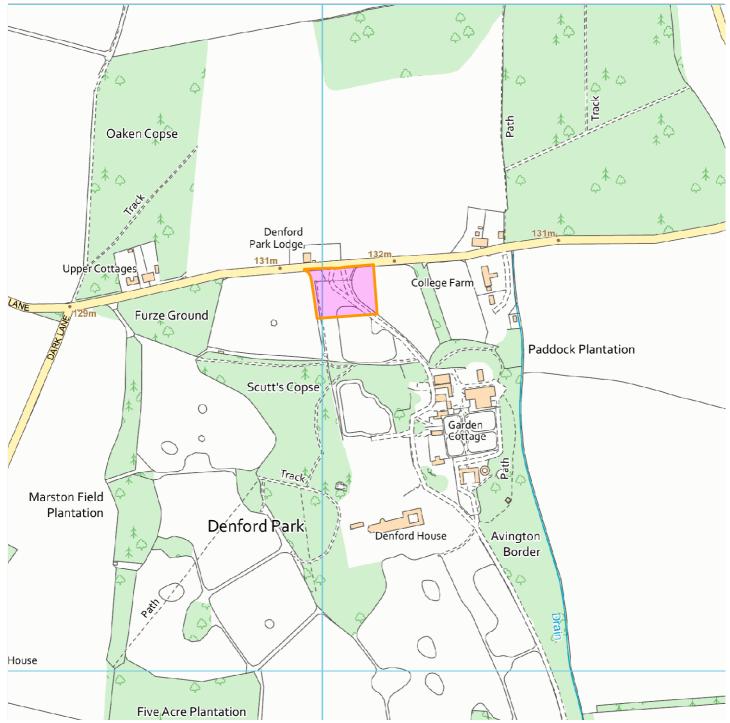
1	HI 3 Damage to footways, cycleways and verges	
	The attention of the applicant is drawn to the Berkshire Act, 1986, Part II, Clause 9, which enables the Highway Authority to recover the costs of repairing damage to the footway, cycleway or grass verge, arising during building operations.	
2	HI 4 Damage to the carriageway	

	The attention of the applicant is drawn to the Highways Act, 1980, which enables the Highway Authority to recover expenses due to extraordinary traffic.	
3	HI 8 Excavation in close proximity to the highway	
	In order to protect the stability of the highway it is advised that no excavation be carried out within 15 metres of a public highway without the written approval of the Highway Authority.	
4	In determining this application the Local Planning Authority has worked positively and proactively with the applicant by: scoping of the application and assessing the proposals against relevant Development Plan policies and the National Planning Policy Framework including its associated planning practice guidance and European Regulations. Further, the Local Planning Authority has: identified all material considerations and determined the application within the timeframe agreed with the applicant. This approach has been in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 38 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2019.	
5	For further information regarding the discharge of the conditions or any other matters relating to the decision, please contact the Customer Call Centre on: 01635 519111.	

# 20/01620/FULD

# Denford House Denford Park Hungerford RG17 0PG





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Organisation	West Berkshire Council
Department	
Comments	Not Set
Date	02 November 2020
SLA Number	0100024151

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