

Report of the Director of Place and Community

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT, 1985

All documents and correspondence referred to within the report as History, Consultations and Letters of Representation, those items listed as 'OTHER BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS' together with the application itself comprise background papers for the purposes of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985.

Other consultations and representations related to items on the Agenda which are received after its compilation (and received up to 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the meeting) will be included in a Supplementary Report to be available at the Committee meeting. Any items received on the day of the meeting will be brought to the Committee's attention. These will also be background papers for the purposes of the Act.

FORMAT OF REPORT

Please note that in the reports which follow

- 1 'Planning Policy' referred to are the most directly relevant Development Plan Policies in each case. The Development Plan comprises the Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy (2015), saved policies of the Lichfield District Local Plan (1998) as contained in Appendix J of the Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy (2015) and an adopted Neighbourhood Plan for the relevant area.
- 2 The responses of Parish/Town/City Councils consultees, neighbours etc. are summarised to highlight the key issues raised. Full responses are available on the relevant file and can be inspected on request.
- 3 Planning histories of the sites in question quote only items of relevance to the application in hand.

ITEM 'A' Applications for determination by Committee - **FULL REPORT** (Gold Sheets)

ITEM 'B' Lichfield District Council applications, applications on Council owned land (if any) and any items submitted by Members or Officers of the Council. (Gold Sheets)

ITEM 'C' Applications for determination by the County Council on which observations are required (if any); consultations received from neighbouring Local Authorities on which observations are required (if any); and/or consultations submitted in relation to Crown applications in accordance with the Planning Practice Guidance on which observations are required (if any). (Gold Sheets)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

ITEM A

APPLICATIONS FOR DETERMINATION BY COMMITTEE: FULL REPORT

2 July 2018

CONTENTS

Case No.	Site Address	Parish/Town Council
17/01191/OUFMEI	Deanslade Park Project, Land south of Falkland Road, Lichfield	Lichfield
18/00538/COU	14 Bloomsbury Way, Lichfield	Lichfield

Lichfield
district council

www.lichfielddc.gov.uk

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Frog Lane
Lichfield
Staffs
WS13 6YY

Telephone: 01543 308000
enquiries@lichfielddc.gov.uk

LOCATION PLAN

17/01191/OUFMEI
Deanslade Park Project
Land South Of Falkland Road
Lichfield

Scale: 1:8,000

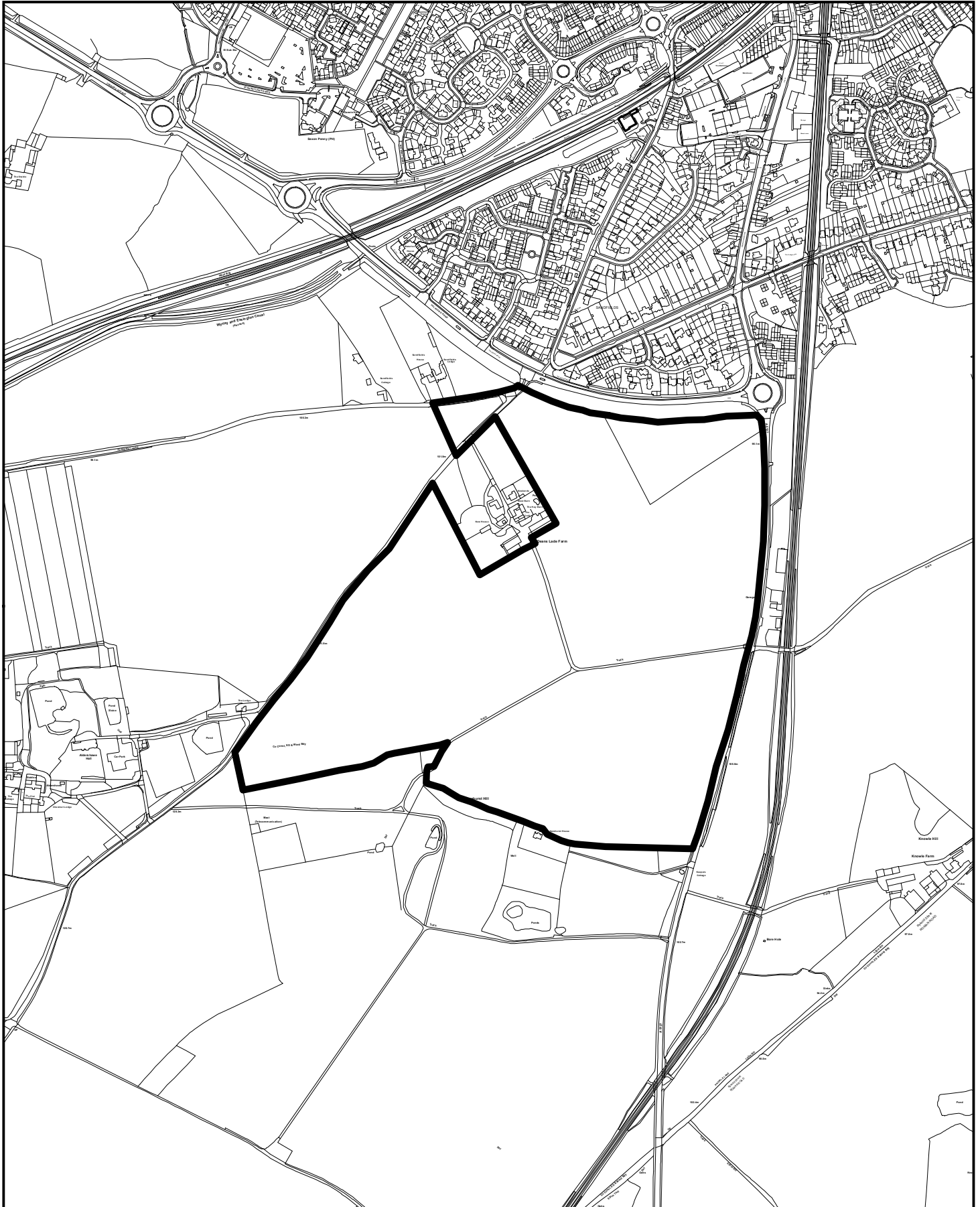
Dated: June 2018

Drawn By:

Drawing No:



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HYBRID PLANNING APPLICATION COMPRISING FULL PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SUSTAINABLE MIXED USE URBAN EXTENSION COMPRISING OF 475 DWELLINGS, NEW VEHICULAR ACCESS POINTS ONTO CLAYPIT LANE AND BIRMINGHAM ROAD, THE REMODELLING AND FORMATION OF A ROUNDABOUT AT THE JUNCTION OF FOSSEWAY LANE AND CLAYPIT LANE, COMPREHENSIVE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE INCLUDING UP TO 16.55 HA OF COUNTRY PARK, FOOTPATHS, CYCLEWAYS, MULTIFUNCTIONAL OPEN SPACE INCLUDING CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS, COMMUNITY ORCHARD, OPEN SPACE FOR INFORMAL SPORT AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN DRAINAGE SYSTEMS, FOUL AND SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE INCLUDING BALANCING PONDS, AND OTHER ANCILLARY INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROUND REMODELLING. WITH OUTLINE APPLICATIONS FOR THE SERVICED PROVISION OF 1.09 HA OF LAND FOR A PRIMARY SCHOOL AND 1.9 HA FOR STRATEGIC SPORTS PROVISION WITH ALL MATTERS RESERVED EXCEPT ACCESS

DEANSLADE PARK, LAND SOUTH OF FALKLAND ROAD, LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE

DEANSLADE PARK CONSORTIUM

Registered on 23/08/17

Parish: Lichfield

Note: This application is being reported to the Planning Committee as it is a Strategic Development proposal which was subject to an Issues Paper. Also the proposal is subject to a S106 agreement, which includes more than 2 obligations.

Furthermore there are also significant planning objections raised by Lichfield City Council on the grounds that:

- there should be a greater number of bungalows within the site,
- the 50mph speed limit on Birmingham Road should be lowered beyond the Travis Perkins site,
- assurances should be given that the Country Park will be open prior to first occupation of any of the dwellings; and
- consideration to be given to grouping the school and sports facility in one location.

RECOMMENDATION:

Subject to the applicant demonstrating that the proposed vehicular access to serve 4 dwellings from Claypit Lane can accommodate appropriate visibility splays within land owned by the applicant. If this is not found to be achievable then delegated Authority be conferred on the Planning Development Manager to agree an alternative layout in this regard. Then;

(1) Subject to the owners/applicants first entering into a Section 106 Legal Agreement under the Town and Country Planning Act (as amended) to secure contributions/planning obligations towards:-

- 1. On-site affordable housing provision.**
- 2. On-site Public Open Space Provision (including Delivery of Country Park)**
- 3. On-site Sports Provision (including changing facilities).**
- 4. Bus Service and Travel Pack Contribution**
- 5. Primary School Education Contribution**
- 6. Travel Plan**
- 7. Off-site highway works**
- 8. Maintenance Management Company**

(2) If the S106 legal agreement is not signed/completed by the 2nd November 2018 or the expiration of any further agreed extension of time, then powers be delegated to officers to refuse planning permission based on the unacceptability of the development without the required contributions and undertakings as outlined in the report.

Approve, subject to the following conditions:

CONDITIONS:

1. The residential (full) part of the development hereby approved shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.
2. The Primary School and Strategic Sports provision authorised by this permission shall be begun either before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission, or before the expiration of two years from the date of the approval of the last of the reserved matters to be approved, whichever is the later. Application(s) for the approval of the reserved matters shall be made to the Local Planning Authority before the expiration of five years from the date of this permission.
3. The Primary School and Strategic Sports provision shall not be commenced until details of the layout of these sites including the disposition of buildings; existing and proposed ground levels and finished floor levels; the design of all buildings and structures; the external appearance of all buildings and structures including materials to be used on all external surfaces; the means of pedestrian and vehicular access and parking layout; and the landscape and planting of the site shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority by way of reserved matters application(s).
4. The development authorised by this permission shall be carried out in complete accordance with the approved plans and specification, as listed on this decision notice, except insofar as may be otherwise required by other conditions to which this permission is subject.

CONDITIONS to be complied with PRIOR to the commencement of development hereby approved:

5. Before any part of the development hereby approved is commenced, a scheme for the phasing of the development of the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The phasing plan shall include details of the phasing of the construction of the dwellings, delivery of Green Infrastructure, Primary School and Sports Provision (including changing facilities). The development shall thereafter be undertaken in accordance with the approved phasing plan, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
6. Before the development of the Primary School or Sports Facility building hereby approved is commenced, full details of the following shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority:
 - (i) External brickwork;
 - (ii) Roof and wall materials; and
 - (iii) Soffit fascia boards and rainwater goods colour.

The development shall thereafter be undertaken in accordance with the approved details and thereafter be retained for the life of the development.

7. Before the development hereby approved is commenced within each phase of the development (as approved by condition 5), a Traffic Management/Construction Vehicle Management Plan, for that phase of development, comprising the routing of construction

vehicles to and from the site, and including the following details, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority:

- i) Temporary access points to be used for the construction of each phase of the development;
- ii) Arrangements for the parking of site operatives and visitors;
- iii) Loading and unloading of plant and materials;
- iv) Storage of plant and materials used in constructing the development;
- v) Construction hours;
- vi) Delivery HGV routing and hours;
- vii) Recorded daily inspections of the highway adjacent to the site access; and,
- viii) Wheel washing and measures to remove mud or debris carried onto the highway.

The approved Traffic Management / Construction Vehicle Management Plan shall be adhered to throughout the entire construction period.

- 8. Before the development hereby approved is commenced, a revised plan indicating limits of adoption to include the extent of all vehicular visibility splays shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. All vehicular visibility splays shall be provided prior to their first use, kept free of all obstructions to visibility over a height of 600mm above the adjacent carriageway level and thereafter maintained for the life of the development.
- 9. Before the development hereby approved is commenced, a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit for the three new vehicular access points and the internal road layout, including any raised table junctions, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be completed in accordance with any details required as part of the approved Road Safety Audit.
- 10. Notwithstanding the submitted details, before the residential development hereby approved is commenced, a detailed landscape and planting scheme (to include a watering schedule), shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved landscape and planting scheme shall thereafter be implemented within eight months of the development being brought into use, unless otherwise first agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
- 11. Notwithstanding the submitted details, before the development hereby approved is commenced, within each phase of the development (as approved by condition 5), details of all proposed boundary treatments, for that phase of development, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved boundary treatments shall be implemented for each dwelling or building, prior to their first occupation or use and thereafter shall be retained for the life of the development.
- 12. Before the development hereby approved is commenced, a scheme for protecting the proposed dwellings from noise arising from road, rail and commercial activities within the area, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved scheme of noise protection shall thereafter be implemented before the development is first brought into use and shall be the subject of a validation report, which shall first be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The validation report shall ensure that all noise issues on the site have been adequately addressed prior to the development being first brought into use. The approved measures shall thereafter be maintained for the life of the development, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

13. Before the development hereby approved is commenced, within each phase of the development (as approved by condition 5), a Construction Phase Management Plan to protect any dwellings from noise and dust from the construction of the development shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The construction works shall thereafter be undertaken in accordance with the approved details.
14. Before any part of the development hereby approved is commenced, within each phase of the development (as approved by condition 5), the application site shall be subjected to a detailed scheme for the investigation and recording of any contamination of the site and a report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The report shall identify any contamination on the site, the subsequent remediation works considered necessary to render the contamination harmless and the methodology used. The approved remediation scheme shall thereafter be carried out in full prior to first occupation of the development.
15. Before the development hereby approved is commenced, within each phase of the development (as approved by condition 5), a Site Waste Management Plan, to detail the duration of temporary site waste operations and provide a framework to enable the monitoring of fill operations and waste materials, generated and processed on site, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
16. Before the development hereby approved is commenced, within each phase of the development (as approved by condition 5), drainage plans for the disposal of foul sewage for that phase shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details before the development is first brought into use and thereafter be maintained for the life of the development.
17. Before the development hereby approved, including any site clearance works is commenced, or any equipment, machinery or materials is brought onto site, full details of protective fencing and/or other protective measures to safeguard existing trees and/or hedgerows on the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The agreed tree/hedge protection measures shall thereafter be provided in accordance with the British Standard 5837:2012 and retained for the duration of construction (including any demolition and / or site clearance works), unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. No fires, excavation, change in levels, storage of materials, vehicles or plant, cement or cement mixing, discharge of liquids, site facilities or passage of vehicles, plant or pedestrians, shall occur within the protected areas. The approved scheme shall be kept in place until all parts of the development have been completed, and all equipment; machinery and surplus materials have been removed from the site.

All other CONDITIONS to be complied with:

18. The external materials for the dwellings hereby approved and indicated on the Materials Layout Drawing Number P16-0237_22 Revision G shall be implemented in full accordance with the approved plans. Any proposed change in the external materials to be used shall not be undertaken without the prior written approval of the Local Planning Authority.
19. Pursuant to condition 14, before the first occupation/use of any part of the development, and within 1 month of the approved contamination and remediation scheme being completed, a contaminated land validation report to ensure that all contaminated land issues on the site have been adequately addressed, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

20. Before the first occupation of any of the dwellings or buildings hereby approved, within each phase of the development (as approved by condition 5), a scheme of external lighting for that phase, which shall include provision for the Public Open Space, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved lighting scheme shall thereafter be implemented in full prior to the occupation of the final dwelling or building within that phase and thereafter be retained for the life of the development.
21. The development hereby approved shall only be carried out in accordance with the approved revised Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)/Drainage Strategy dated December 2017 reference number 20965/07-17/3976 Rev C and compiled by MEC and the following mitigation measures detailed within the FRA:
- a) Discharging all site surface water to infiltration and not increase the risk of flooding off-site.
 - b) Provision of appropriate volumes of attenuation flood storage on the site to a 100 year +Climate Change standard.
 - c) Finished floor levels are set no lower than 150mm above local ground level.
 - d) Confirm which responsible body will maintain the surface water systems over the lifetime of the development according to an acceptable maintenance schedule and that is achievable

The scheme shall be fully implemented and subsequently maintained, in accordance with the timing / phasing arrangements embodied within the scheme.

22. Before the first use of the Primary School or Sports Facility, full details of secure weatherproof cycle parking facilities and shower/locker facilities for residents and staff, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved cycle parking facilities shall thereafter be provided for the buildings to which they relate, prior to the development being first brought into use and shall thereafter be retained for the life of the development.
23. The Temporary Construction Access Points approved under condition 7 shall be closed to vehicular traffic and made good concurrent with the opening of the two main site vehicular access points.
24. Before the first occupation of any dwellings hereby approved, the parking and turning areas associated with that property shall be provided and thereafter retained for their designated purposes for the life of the development.
25. Any tree, hedge or shrub planted as part of the approved landscape and planting scheme (or replacement tree/hedge) on the site and which dies or is lost through any cause during a period of 5 years from the date of first planting shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of a similar size and species, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
26. The development hereby approved shall be carried out in strict accordance with the methods of working, which are detailed in the approved Construction Environment Management Plan / Habitat Management Plan produced by Taylor Wimpey, reference 20135-CEMP dated 19.03.18 and the Landscape and Ecology Management Plan, produced by LDA Design, reference 5721, dated 28th March 2018.
27. The development hereby approved shall be carried out in strict accordance with all recommendations and methods of working detailed within the Ecological Baseline Report,

28. Prior to undertaking any vibro-impact works on site, a risk assessment and method statement shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be undertaken in accordance with the approved measures.
29. Before the first occupation of the dwelling to which it relates, a shed shall be erected in the locations indicated on approved plan P16-0237_12 Revision S, and thereafter shall be retained for the life of the development.
30. Notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule 2 Part 2 Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015; or any Order revoking or re-enacting that Order, no gates, walls, fences or other means of enclosure (except for those approved by this permission) shall be erected within the curtilage of the dwellings, unless planning permission has first been granted by the Local Planning Authority.
31. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015, unless specifically agreed pursuant to other conditions of this permission, no external lighting shall be provided within the application site, without the prior permission of the Local Planning Authority.
32. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (as amended), (or any Order revoking and re-enacting the Order with or without modification), the garage accommodation hereby approved, shall only be used for the garaging of private cars and for ancillary storage purposes, and shall not be used as additional living accommodation without the prior written permission, on application to the Local Planning Authority.

REASONS FOR CONDITIONS

1. In order to comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended.
2. In order to comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended.
3. For the avoidance of doubt in that the application has been made for outline permission only; to ensure a satisfactory form of development; safeguard the character of the area and safeguard the amenity of future residents in accordance with the requirements of Core Policy 3 and Policies BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework.
4. For the avoidance of doubt and in accordance with the applicant's stated intentions, in order to meet the requirements of Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and guidance contained in the National Planning Practice Guidance.
5. To ensure the appropriate timing of delivery of the Primary School and Sports Provision, in accordance with the requirements of Policy Lichfield 6 of the Local Plan Strategy and guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework.
6. To ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development in accordance with the requirements of Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.

7. In the interests of highway safety and to protect the amenity of existing and future residents, in accordance with the requirements of Policies BE1 and ST2 of the Local Plan Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.
8. In the interests of highway safety, in accordance with the requirements of Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework.
9. In the interests of highway safety, in accordance with the requirements of Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework.
10. To ensure that a landscaping scheme to enhance the development is agreed and to mitigate the impact of the development on the setting of Grade II Listed Buildings, in accordance with the provisions of Core Policy 14 and Policies BE1 and NR4 of the Local Plan Strategy, the Historic Environment and Trees, Landscaping and Development Supplementary Planning Documents and the National Planning Policy Framework.
11. To ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development in accordance with the requirements of Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.
12. To protect the amenity of existing and future residents and secure the on-going operation of the nearby rail line, in accordance with the requirements of Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.
13. To protect the amenity of existing and future residents, in accordance with the requirements of Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.
14. In order to safeguard human health and the water environment and identify potential contamination on-site and the potential for off-site migration in accordance with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework.
15. In order to minimise waste generation and encourage on-site waste management, in accordance with Core Policy 3 of the Local Plan Strategy, the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Joint Waste Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework.
16. To ensure that the development is provided with a satisfactory means of drainage and to minimise the risk of pollution in accordance with Core Policy 3 and Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.
17. To ensure that no existing trees or hedgerows on the site, which contribute towards the character of the area are damaged during the construction process, in accordance with the provisions of Policies BE1 and NR4 of the Local Plan Strategy, the Trees, Landscaping and Development Supplementary Planning Document and the National Planning Policy Framework.
18. To ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development and to safeguard the future character and appearance of the site, in accordance with the requirements of Policy BE1 of the Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.
19. In order to safeguard human health and the water environment and identify potential contamination on-site and the potential for off-site migration in accordance with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework.
20. To ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development, to minimise impact upon the rural landscape and to safeguard the amenity of existing and future residents in accordance

with the requirements of Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.

21. To ensure that the development is provided with a satisfactory means of drainage as well as to reduce the risk of creating or exacerbating a flooding problem, in accordance with Core Policy 3 and Policy NR9 of the Local Plan Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.
22. To promote the use of sustainable modes of transportation in accordance with Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy, the Sustainable Design Supplementary Planning Document and guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework.
23. In the interests of highway safety, in accordance with the requirements of Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework.
24. In the interests of highway safety and to protect the amenity of existing and future residents, in accordance with the requirements of Policies BE1 and ST2 of the Local Plan Strategy, the Sustainable Development Supplementary Planning Document and the National Planning Policy Framework.
25. To ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development in accordance with the requirements of Policies BE1 and NR4 of the Local Plan Strategy, the Trees, Landscaping and Development Supplementary Planning Document and the National Planning Policy Framework.
26. In order to secure an uplift in the site's habitat value in accordance with Policy NR3 of the Local Plan Strategy, the Biodiversity and Development Supplementary Planning Document and the National Planning Policy Framework.
27. In order to protect protected species and their habitat in accordance with Policy NR3 of the Local Plan Strategy, the Biodiversity and Development Supplementary Planning Document and the National Planning Policy Framework.
28. In the interests of the safe operation of the railway network, in accordance with guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework.
29. In order to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport, in accordance with the requirements of Local Plan Strategy Policy ST1, the Sustainable Design Supplementary Planning Document and the National Planning Policy Framework.
30. To ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development and to safeguard the future character and appearance of the site, in accordance with the requirements of Policy BE1 of the Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.
31. To ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development and to minimise impact upon the protected species and their habitat, in accordance with the requirements of Policies BE1 and NR2 of the Local Plan Strategy, the Biodiversity and Development Supplementary Planning Document and the National Planning Policy Framework.
32. To ensure that there is adequate parking provision to serve the development in the interests of the safety and convenience of users of the highway, in accordance with the requirements of Policies BE1 and ST2 of the Local Plan Strategy, the Sustainable Design Supplementary Planning Document and the National Planning Policy Framework.

NOTES TO APPLICANT

1. The Development Plan comprises the Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy (2015), saved policies of the Lichfield District Local Plan (1998) as contained in Appendix J of the Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy (2015), the Lichfield City Neighbourhood Plan and Emerging Local Plan Allocations 2008-2029 Proposed Submission Document.
2. The applicant's attention is drawn to The Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications, Deemed Applications, Requests and Site Visits) (England) Regulations 2017, which requires that any written request for compliance of a planning condition(s) shall be accompanied by a fee of £34 for a householder application or £116 for any other application including reserved matters. Although the Council will endeavor to deal with such applications in a timely manner, it should be noted that legislation allows a period of up to 8 weeks for the Local Planning Authority to discharge conditions and therefore this timescale should be borne in mind when programming development.
3. The applicant's attention is drawn to the comments of the Staffordshire County Council Rights of Way Officer as detailed within their e-mail dated 28th February 2017.
4. The applicant's attention is drawn to the comments of the Council's Operational Services Customer Relations and Performance Manager in her e-mail dated 26th February 2018.
5. The applicant's attention is drawn to the comments of the Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service as detailed within their e-mail dated 8th September 2017.
6. The applicant is advised to note and act upon as necessary the comments of the Network Rail dated 8th March 2018. Where there is any conflict between these comments and the terms of the planning permission, the latter takes precedence.
7. The applicant is advised to note and act upon as necessary the comments of the Staffordshire Police Architectural Liaison Officer dated 1st March 2018. Where there is any conflict between these comments and the terms of the planning permission, the latter takes precedence.
8. The applicant is advised that during the course of development and operation of the approved use no obstruction, prevention of use or diversion of the public footpaths No. 21 Lichfield or No. 7 Wall Parish must occur.
9. The applicant is advised to consider the installation of electric charging points within the driveways of dwellings within the site.
10. The accesses and off-site highway works will require a Major Works Agreement with Staffordshire County Council and the applicants are therefore requested to contact Staffordshire County Council in respect of securing the Agreement. The link below provides a further link to a Major Works Information Pack and an application form for the Major Works Agreement. Please complete and send to the address indicated on the application form which is Staffordshire County Council at Network Management Unit, Staffordshire Place 1, Wedgwood Building, Tipping Street, Stafford, Staffordshire ST16 2DH (or email to nmu@staffordshire.gov.uk)
<http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/transport/staffshighways/licences/>.
11. This consent will require approval under Section 7 of the Staffordshire Act 1983 and also require a Section 38 approval of the Highways Act 1980. The applicant is advised therefore to contact Staffordshire County Council to ensure that approval and agreements are secured before the commencement of development.

12. Any soakaway should be located a minimum of 4.5m to the rear of the highway boundary.
13. Please be advised that Lichfield District Council adopted its Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule on the 19th April 2016. A CIL charge will apply to all relevant applications determined on or after the 13th June 2016. This will involve a monetary sum payable prior to commencement of development. In order to clarify the position of your proposal, please complete the Planning Application Additional Information Requirement Form, which is available for download from the Planning Portal or from the Council's website at www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/cilprocess.
14. During the course of the application, the Council has sought amendments to the proposals to ensure a sustainable form of development which complies with the provisions of paragraphs 186-187 or the NPPF.

SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR GRANTING Outline and Full Planning Permission including DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES that were relevant in the determination of this application:

The decision to approve outline and full planning permission has been taken because the Council is satisfied that the development is wholly compliant with the Development Plan, will integrate successfully into the character of the area, successfully mitigates or improves its highway, arboricultural or ecological impact and would not adversely affect the special character and setting of nearby Listed Buildings.

The decision to approve outline and full planning permission has also been taken having regard to all the relevant material planning considerations and to the following relevant policies and proposals of the Development Plan: Core Policies 1 (The Spatial Strategy), Core Policy 2 (Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development), Core Policy 3 (Delivering Sustainable Development), Core Policy 4 (Delivering Our Infrastructure), Core Policy 5 (Sustainable Transport), Core Policy 6 (Housing Delivery), Core Policy 11 (Participation in Sport and Physical Activity) and Core Policy 14 (Our Built and Historic Environments) and Policies ST1 (Sustainable Travel), ST2 (Parking Provision), H1 (A Balanced Housing Market), H2 (Provision of Affordable Housing), HSC1 (Open Space Standards, NR3 (Biodiversity, Protected Species and Habitat), NR4 (Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows), BE1 (High Quality Development), Policy Lichfield 4 (Lichfield Housing) and Policy Lichfield 6 (South of Lichfield) of the Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy and the Historic Environment Supplementary Planning Document.

PLANNING POLICY

National Guidance

National Planning Policy Framework
National Planning Practice Guidance
National Policy for Waste
Manual for Streets

Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy (2015)

Core Policy 1 – The Spatial Strategy
Core Policy 2 – Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development
Core Policy 3 – Delivering Sustainable Development
Core Policy 4 – Delivering our Infrastructure
Core Policy 5 – Sustainable Transport

Core Policy 6 – Housing Delivery
Core Policy 7 – Employment and Economic Development
Core Policy 8 – Our Centres
Core Policy 10 – Healthy and Safe Lifestyles
Core Policy 11 – Participation in Sport and Physical Activity
Core Policy 12 – Provision for Arts and Culture
Core Policy 13 – Our Natural Resources
Core Policy 14 – Our Built and Historic Environment
Policy SC1 – Sustainability Standards for Development
Policy SC2 – Renewable Energy
Policy IP1 – Supporting & Providing our Infrastructure
Policy ST1 – Sustainable Travel
Policy ST2 – Parking Provision
Policy H1 – A Balanced Housing Market
Policy H2 – Provision of Affordable Homes
Policy HSC1 – Open Space Standards
Policy NR3 – Biodiversity, Protected Species and their Habitats
Policy NR4 – Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows
Policy NR5 – Natural and Historic Landscapes
Policy NR6 – Linked Habitat Corridors & Multi-functional Greenspaces
Policy NR7 – Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation
Policy BE1 – High Quality Development
Policy Lichfield 1 – Lichfield Environment
Policy Lichfield 3 – Lichfield Economy
Policy Lichfield 4 – Lichfield Housing
Policy Lichfield 6 – South of Lichfield

Saved Local Plan Policies (1998)

Policy C2 – Character of Conservation Areas

Local Plan Allocations (Focused Changes) (Emerging)

Policy IP2: Lichfield Canal
Policy ST3: Road Line Safeguarding
Policy BE2: Heritage Assets

Supplementary Planning Documents

Sustainable Design
Trees, Landscaping and Development
Developer Contributions
Open Space, Sports and Recreation
Biodiversity and Development
Historic Environment
Rural Development

Other

Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Joint Waste Local Plan
Lichfield City Neighbourhood Plan
Lichfield Centres Report 2017 (WYG / White Land Strategies)
Historic England's General Practice Advice

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY

17/00977/OUFMEI – Outline application with all matters reserved except access for a flexible commercial development of up to 2000 sq. m area (classes A1, A2, A3, B1, D1 and D2), associated parking areas, new access on to the Birmingham Road, provision of strategic landscaping, cycle and pedestrian access routes, infrastructure and other operations including the safeguarding of land for the Lichfield southern bypass and safeguarded route for the Lichfield canal – Resolved to approve subject to the signing of a S106 agreement.

AB950012_1 – Agricultural determination – Hay and agricultural; machinery store – No objection – 01.11.95.

L3051 – Golf Course and Sporting Complex – Refused – 14.03.77.

CONSULTATIONS

Lichfield City Council – Recommend refusal as the issues previously raised have yet to be addressed, namely the provision of a greater number of bungalows within the site, reviewing the 50mph speed limit on Birmingham Road, to consider a lower limit extending beyond the Travis Perkins site; assurances that the Country Park will be open prior to first occupation of any of the dwellings and consideration to be given to grouping the school and sports facility in one location (12.03.18).

Previous Comments: No objection subject to consideration of including a greater number of bungalows; reviewing the 50mph speed limit on Birmingham Road, to consider a lower limit extending beyond the Travis Perkins site; assurances that the Country Park will be open prior to first occupation of any of the dwellings and consideration to be given to grouping the school and sports facility in one location (12.01.18).

No objection subject to consideration of including a greater number of bungalows; reviewing the 50mph speed limit on Birmingham Road, to consider a lower limit extending beyond the Travis Perkins site; assurances that the County Park will be open prior to first occupation of any of the dwellings and consideration to be given to grouping the school and sports facility in one location (19.09.17).

Wall Parish Council – The revised details raise further concerns. The traffic projections identified within the submitted documentation, to Wall Island are considered to significantly underestimate the schemes impact. The Council does not accept that the addition of part-time peak am-pm traffic signals on the A5127 onto Wall Island will mitigate congestion caused by these movements, rather it will cause additional delay.

No measures are proposed to mitigate the additional flows northbound onto the A5127 from Wall Island, which is not acceptable, given this junction is already operating at capacity. Considerable remodelling of the Wall Island junction is required to accommodate increased traffic flows.

The traffic surveys fail to consider the likely use of Claypit Lane and Ashcroft Lane as a rat run to access the site from Claypit Lane and gain access away from the site to past the Wall Island junction. Require conditions to be attached to any approval specific to the submission of comprehensive traffic modelling for the extra traffic flows on Claypit Lane / Ashcroft Lane, a roundabout junction access being formed on the A5127 instead of a T junction, the deletion of the roundabout junction onto Claypit Lane and instead providing a roundabout junction from Falkland Road and the provision of substantial traffic calming, speed restrictions, or the closure of Claypit Lane (05.01.18).

Previous Comments: The traffic surveys fail to consider the likely use of Claypit Lane and Ashcroft Lane as a rat run to access the site from Claypit Lane. To address this issue substantial traffic calming, speed restrictions or possibly the closure of Claypit Lane should be a condition of any

approval for the development. When Claypit Lane was closed during the construction works for Falkland Road no adverse impact upon highway users was experienced.

The T junction onto Birmingham Road is inadequate for the number of houses proposed and will lead to congestion to the A5127, thereby increasing the use of Claypit Lane. A roundabout junction is instead required in this location and should be a condition of any approval (04.10.17).

Shenstone Parish Council – Object as the development will increase the volume of traffic moving along Claypit Lane and Ashcroft Lane. The applicant's Transport Assessment makes no assessment of the current or projected volumes of traffic moving along these roads. This is a significant omission given that the roundabout access into the site from Claypit Lane, in combination with congestion issues along the A5127, will exacerbate the use of these rural lanes as a 'rat run'. To address this issue a four arm roundabout should be located directly off Falkland Road rather than Claypit Lane and the speed limit along Claypit Lane should, from the junction with Falkland Road to Aldershaw, be reduced to 40mph. Thereafter through Aldershaw the limit could be 30mph, increasing once more to 40mph between Aldershaw and Wall, then reducing once more passing through this village. Suitable signage will be required to advise motorists of these limit changes (18.10.17).

Lichfield Civic Society – Aspects of the design fail to fully meet the aims of the site's allocation and design concepts. For instance, the District Park, which is to provide a large new area of open space for new and existing residents, has been designed to be only accessible by cars travelling through the site, whereupon inadequate dedicated car parking is provided. Seeking to restrict or limit access by car users is inconsistent with the intended purpose of the allocation. Furthermore, the strategic sports site is also only accessible through the site. Both of these areas should have their own dedicated vehicular access. No attempt is made to retain the hedgerow, which is an important characteristic of the A5127. The unduly cramped and unattractive configuration of the affordable housing should be improved, whilst car parking provision within the site should be altered to be integrated throughout the site more successfully.

No reference is made within the draft S106 agreement to the timing of delivery of the open space, play areas, street lighting, highway and sewer adoption and delivery of bus stops and shelters. Given the developer's record of accomplishment on Darwin Park, these matters should be addressed by legally binding commitments to ensure their delivery at appropriate times within the building project.

The site owner should be a member of the Maintenance Management Company established to maintain the public open space, including the country park within the site, to ensure that public access remains available indefinitely.

Further consideration needs to be given regarding the impact of the development on wider networks, with works undertaken as necessary via funding secured for improvements to secure safe routes into the City Centre for pedestrians and cyclists. For instance, crossing points will be required on Birmingham Road and Falkland Road, whilst the agricultural crossing over the Cross-City Line should be enhanced to allow for pedestrian and cycle links to the neighbouring St Johns development. Furthermore, a contribution should be gathered to aid in the delivery of the Lichfield Southern bypass and the provision of a canal bridge over Claypit Lane.

The developer will need to fund bus services into the site as current provision within this area is insufficient or too remote to offer a viable alternative to private transport.

The extensive use of private drives and shared spaces, appears excessive and would seem to be being utilised in order reduce costs, so that such do not need to be built to an adoptable standard.

It is not clear whether the development will provide for sufficient off street and on street car parking to meet the needs of businesses for deliveries, maintenance services for households or unobstructed

access for buses or emergency vehicles. Therefore recommends that more generous provision for visitor parking be introduced. Finally recommend that electric charging points for vehicles be included within the development.

Further clarification regarding the boundary treatment for the urban edge transition is required, whilst the car parking provision across the site should be reconsidered so as to not result in streets with significant frontage parking, which in combination with stored bins will have a detrimental visual impact.

Adequate car parking provision should be provided to enable drop off and collection of students from the primary school, whilst the design of this area should be fully considered to ensure the usability of the space.

Consideration of securing appropriate community facilities across this site, St Johns and Cricket Lane should be given (06.10.17).

South Derbyshire District Council – No comments (03.01.18).

North Warwickshire Borough Council – No comments (14.02.18, 13.12.17, 07.09.17).

Tamworth Borough Council – No objections (21.09.17).

Cannock Chase District Council – No comment (21.12.17, 18.09.17).

East Staffordshire Borough Council – No objections (30.04.18, 11.04.18, 28.02.18, 03.01.18, 22.09.17).

North West Leicestershire District Council – No objections (19.03.18).

Planning Casework Unit – No comments (04.10.17).

Spatial Policy and Delivery Manager – In response to the letter submitted by Eversheds Sutherland it is noted that in accordance with the requirements of Local Plan Strategy Policy H2, the level of affordable housing provision required within this development is 37% (30.11.17).

Previous Comments: Further to the submission of the Canal Clarification Note reiterates the requirement established by the Local Plan Strategy that the Lichfield & Hatherton Canal route be safeguarded within this development (30.11.17).

Given that the site lies within the 8-15km zone of influence of the Cannock Chase SAC, no financial contribution would be sought (03.10.17).

The application falls within an area allocated for housing growth within the District by the Local Plan Strategy. As such there is strong support for the proposal. However the current affordable housing provision (31%) does not comply with the requirements of Local Plan Strategy Policy H2 and as such the scheme should be amended accordingly (37%). Furthermore, given that Policy HSC1 requires that the site deliver allotments and no such provision is offered, rather a community orchard is proposed, further clarification is required regarding both the operation and management of this infrastructure before a decision regarding its acceptability can be made (28.09.17).

Arboricultural Officer – Provides comments on the suitability of the on-plot landscaping providing a number of recommendations in order to improve the scheme as submitted (11.05.18).

Previous Comments: Substantial issues remain unaddressed with regard to the latest submitted plans. The on plot landscaping details are very poor and therefore a revised approach is required to

this element of the scheme. This matter could however be addressed via the use of a notwithstanding the submitted details condition if required.

A number of further issues regarding the stock type of the trees, the over reliance on small scale tree planting and the lack of details within the maintenance schedule detailed. Further advice provided in order to enhance landscaping provision throughout the site (25.04.18)

The confirmation afforded by the submitted plasticity index that there is no shrinkable soil within the site will allow for larger trees to be planted within the forthcoming amended planting scheme.

The planting scheme proposed adjacent to the new roundabout at Claypit Lane requires amendment to include Common Lime trees, which are considered appropriate to the character of the area. The present scheme is considered unsuitable and would result in an objection in principle.

Further consideration is required for the watering schedule for trees to be planted throughout the site, along with soil details for the Country Park. The Community Orchard should be maintained by an experienced person in fruit tree pruning (22.03.18).

Requests further information pertaining to soil type data and the delivery of the strategic planting areas. The submitted maintenance schedule would be improved by specifying the number of visits per year, whilst a condition will likely be recommended to secure the site's appropriate management.

Appropriately large trees along with suitable pit design to be considered and planned as part of the current application to ensure no future conflict with the routing of services. The schedule of trees continues to require revision along with the introduction of further scattered tree planting within the Country Park. Consideration to be given to the use of stock fencing. Lastly the on-plot planting requires significant improvement and addition to ensure successful integration with the strategic landscaping and meeting the Local Plan Strategy requirement of 20% canopy cover (24.01.18).

The tree species list is insufficiently broad, whilst no detailed maintenance schedule has been provided. There is little tree provision within the housing plots, whilst further planting is possible within certain public open space areas, which prevents the development from attaining the 20% canopy cover required by the Trees, Landscaping and Development SPD. The hedge planting mix does not reflect the site's context.

The Community Orchard is supported, however ownership of the project is critical and a firm commitment to funding of the scheme along with a detailed management plan will be required. The green areas to be formed within the site should be protected during construction works to preserve soil quality. The number of trees within the Country Park should be significantly increased (25.09.17).

Ecology Officer – Satisfied with the information contained within the submitted CEMP / HMP and recommends that the development be carried out in accordance with these documents, which should be secured via condition. Recommends a further condition to ensure the development is undertaken in accordance with the recommendations contained within the Ecological Baseline Report. Finally advises of the need to secure a sensitive lighting scheme to minimise impact upon bats (18.05.18)

Previous Comments: No objection. Advises that the development would be unlikely to impact upon European Protect Species or their habitat, subject to appropriate measures of avoidance, mitigation and compensation being implemented, as detailed within the submitted Ecological Baseline Report and Ecology Management Plan.

Notes that the site will deliver an 18.35 Biodiversity Unit net gain, equalling an improvement of some 23.6%. The development therefore complies with the requirements of Policy NR3 and the Biodiversity and Development SPD.

Requires that the applicant submit a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) and a Habitat Management Plan (HMP) to demonstrate that the habitat creation works will be successful in achieving the required habitat type and condition (01.03.18).

Considered the quantitative data submitted via the Biodiversity Impact Calculator (value of 79.84 units) is an accurate depiction of the site value. The Calculator is also accurate in detailing the likely achievable positive biodiversity value post development of 18.35 units. However notes inaccuracies in the grassland habitat proposed to be formed within the Country Park and therefore requires that the description and management of this area be changed in the Landscape and Ecology Management Plan prior to determination. Requests clarification regarding the ability to secure a lowland meadow within the Country Park (02.01.18).

Notes that further information will be submitted in due course in respect of ecology and protected species. As such formal comments will be provided on submission (21.09.17)

Natural England – No objection subject to a suitable developer contribution being secured to mitigate the impact of the development upon the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation.

Advice given specific to Landscape Impact, Agricultural Land and Soil, Protected Species and Habitats, Ancient Woodland, Environmental Enhancement, Access and Recreation, Rights of Way and Biodiversity Duty (26.02.18, 03.01.18, 02.10.17).

Conservation and Urban Design Manager – The materials shown on the latest Material Plan are acceptable (19.06.18).

Previous Comments: The use of Ibstock Himley Worcester Mixture and Ibstock Alderley Orange bricks are acceptable. The Ibstock Alderley Mixture bricks is a potential alternative to the Alderley Orange but the uniform colour of the Orange makes it a better choice. The Ibstock Dorket Head Balmoral brick is unacceptable (06.06.18).

The use of Mercia Orange multi bricks is acceptable. Ibstock Mercia Antique and Hardwick Red Mixture are not characteristic of the area and as such are unacceptable. The two proposed detail bricks are acceptable (21.05.18).

No further comments to make on the amended landscaping details (24.04.18).

Improved articulation of the rear elevation of the apartment building is required. The close boarded fence to the rear of plots 41, 43-47 should be altered to a brick wall. Weinerberger Sandwell Road and Weinerberger Caldera Red bricks are unacceptable for use within the development.

The details of mitigation for the landscaping area adjacent to the Claypit Lane roundabout is sufficient for Conservation purposes, although suitability of the planting scheme will be determined by the Council's Arboriculturalist (05.04.18)

Notes a number of concerns regarding the design of scheme, specifically the siting of 2 ½ storey dwellings adjacent to bungalows and the utilisation of timber fencing to publically visible edges where brick walls should be used. Improvements undertaken to design of apartment block and eave detailing throughout the house type pack.

Concurs with the conclusion of the EIA Addendum position paper that the development will cause less than substantial harm to the setting of the and significance of surrounding listed buildings. The

mitigation proposed via the landscaping scheme identified for adjacent to the roundabout junction is acceptable in principle but further details are necessary to fully assess the effectiveness of the level of screening to be provided (06.03.18).

Notes a number of concerns regarding the design of the scheme, specifically the siting of 2 ½ storey dwellings adjacent to bungalows, the density of development along the Birmingham Road frontage, the lack of information pertaining to the open space area to the front of Sandfields Lodge and Sandfields House and the design of the dwellings, which lack local reference, with improved eave, window and roof detailing required. In addition, the apartment block requires greater elevation articulation and the proposed materials require amendment with the Sandwell Red Multi bricks inappropriate for this area. Brick walls should solely be used to public boundaries.

The Technical Appendix fails to appropriately consider the impact of this development upon the setting of the Grade II Listed Sandfields Lodge and Sandfields House (02.01.18)

The application has undertaken inadequate assessment of the development's impact upon setting of the Grade II Listed Sandfields Lodge. The Technical Assessment also incorrectly sites Sandfields Pumping Station as being Grade II Listed when it is Grade II*. The Heritage Assessment therefore should be amended and consideration and appropriate weight attributed to the harm caused to the setting of these Listed Buildings (14.12.17).

The amended house type plans lack discernible architectural style, including an under provision of chimneys. The use of multiple small paned windows is inappropriate, whilst the improved alignment of ground and first floor windows should be considered. Assessment of proposed materials provided advising of need for further consideration (13.11.17).

Notes that there are a number of inaccuracies within the submitted plans that need to be resolved prior to determination. The layout of the site should be amended to increase the number of taller buildings along Falkland Road, facing onto the future canal route. The scheme currently lacks strong entrance features, with the walls proposed to form such from Birmingham Road not suitable for this type of development and rather more suited to a commercial or office development. The buildings located at key corner plots need to offer active frontages to both adjoining roads.

There are 12 drop off spaces currently shown to the front of the school. Further consideration of this area to ensure that sufficient provision is provided ensuring drives will not be blocked off at drop off and pick times necessary.

Site permeability is good but there are concerns regarding surveillance of LAPs and NEAPs and the pedestrian / cycle route. Notes concerns regarding the road layout to the fore of the school. Further comments made regarding the design matters specific to general layout, landscaping, parking provision, boundary treatments and house type architectural details, with a need to introduce further relief and articulation, with chimneys to improve the roofscape and greater articulation of front elevations, possibly by incorporating features such as porches, bay windows and steeping of the building line (21.09.17)

Environmental Health Manager – Chapter 9 of the Environmental Statement relating to noise is generally accepted. Noise which may affect current and proposed nearby dwellings have been considered both during the construction phase and post construction. Recommendations are made around acoustic fencing and glazing, but specific details are yet to be determined. Therefore recommends two conditions requiring the submission and approval, prior to the commencement of development, of a noise mitigation strategy for the proposed dwellings and a construction phase management plan.

The proposal has the potential to cause loss of amenity to dwellings due to the lighting scheme for the development, particularly around the sporting facilities, once determined. Recommends the use of a standard lighting condition.

A survey of potential contamination has been undertaken across this site. This has identified issues relating to a low residual effect from landfill gas. The report recommends additional assessment is carried out in the affected areas and in areas that were inaccessible at the time of the original investigation. Therefore, recommends the inclusion of the standard Contaminated Land condition.

The impact on air quality associated with the development has been considered. Dust associated with construction is suggested to be controlled by way of a condition (along with noise). Much of the impact following completion of the developments relates to the use of vehicles associated with the occupiers of the development and this will impact upon the Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) of Muckley Corner and A38 Fradley, though the impact will be in the range of 0 to 0.4% and therefore the overall significance of the proposal is judged to be insignificant. Staffordshire Authorities including Lichfield are currently working on an Air Quality guide for developers, though this has yet to be introduced. In the interim, whilst a number of proposals will have a positive impact on air quality, it is recommended that the applicant considers the future use of electric vehicles by residents on the development and installs appropriate infrastructure, which supports this in dwellings, especially in view of the fact that many will not use their garage to charge an electric vehicle (i.e. consider external driveway charging points) (10.05.18).

Operational Services Manager – Provides detail of the requirements for the storage and disposal of residential waste. Notes that there are a number of private drives within the development and unless indemnity is given the Council will not take vehicles onto unadopted roads (26.02.18, 13.12.17, 04.09.17).

Housing and Wellbeing Manager – The provision of 176 (37%) dwellings within the development is Policy compliant.

The development as a whole proposes 3% (15) 1 bed, 40% (192) 2 bed, 40% (192) 3 bed and 16% (76) 4 and 5 bed homes, which is broadly reflective of the mix required by Local Plan Strategy Policy H2. There is significant demand for housing for older people within the District and the provision of bungalows within the development is welcomed, although ideally further provision should be included.

The affordable housing split of 55% social rented units and 45% shared ownership is acceptable, whilst the design of these dwellings should be indistinguishable and mixed within the market sale properties. On the submitted layout the dwellings are well dispersed. From a public health viewpoint the development and site is considered to be sustainable (21.03.18).

Requires that 37% of the dwellings be affordable. Notes that the site's overall housing mix is broadly compliant with the requirements of Local Plan Strategy Policy H2. The affordable housing mix however is not compliant, with an overprovision of 2 bedroom dwellings. Requires that the affordable housing tenure split must be 65% social rented and 35% intermediate including shared ownership. The affordable housing has been appropriately distributed across the site (03.10.17).

Previous Comments: Given the date when pre-application guidance was provided requires that 31% of the units be affordable (147 units). Notes that the site's overall housing mix is broadly compliant with the requirements of Local Plan Strategy Policy H2. The affordable housing mix however is not compliant, with an overprovision of 2 bedroom dwellings. Requires that the affordable housing tenure split must be 65% social rented and 35% intermediate including shared ownership. The affordable housing has been appropriately distributed across the site (20.09.17).

Staffordshire County Council (Minerals and Waste) – No comments (14.02.18).

Previous Comments: No objection, subject to conditions to define the duration of the infill operations and ongoing monitoring of waste materials generated and reused on site (20.09.17).

Network Rail – Notes that to the west of the development is a mothballed railway line, which will not be directly impacted upon by this development. However HGV movements associated with the construction of the site have the potential to impact upon railway structures and as such consultation between the developer and the Asset Protection Engineers should be undertaken. Recommend that consideration be given to appropriate noise and vibration mitigation measures, given the site's proximity to the active Cross City railway line. If vibro compaction / piling machinery or ground treatment works are undertaken, details should be submitted to the Network Rail Asset Protection Engineer for approval. The applicant must ensure that any drainage scheme should not increase Network Rail's liability, cause flooding or soil slippage, vegetation or boundary issues on railway land. Finally recommends that before granting planning permission, the Local Planning Authority and Highways Authority should ensure that the development is acceptable and can be wholly built in the event that the southern bypass is delayed or not delivered (06.03.18).

Highways England – No objection. Following the issuing of previous responses further advice has been received from the Department for Transport regarding the interpretation of traffic arising from committed developments. The advice details that mitigation should only be sought for traffic from committed developments at the time of opening, rather than when they are fully built out. Utilising this approach, based on the figures identified within the submitted reports, it is concluded that it would not be reasonable to require this application to deliver any mitigation scheme (17.05.18).

Previous Comments: Confirm following the receipt of further information that their previous recommendations remain applicable. It is for the developer to identify an appropriate lesser mitigation scheme, but currently the S106 request is unchanged as is the trigger point for the collection of S106 monies of prior to the occupation of the 50th dwelling. Should the applicant wish to alter this to the 250th dwelling further traffic modelling analysis will need to be submitted (18.04.18).

No objection subject to conditions. The applicant has proposed a number of mitigation measures to the Wall Island roundabout junction consisting of:

- Signalisation of Birmingham Road N (southbound) onto the gyratory;
- Flare increase at the A5 West (eastbound),
- Closure of the westbound circulatory section of the roundabout;
- Re-alignment of the northbound circulatory and inclusion of an additional lane; and
- Removal of the southern signals (those northbound over the bridge and on the westbound circulatory section of the roundabout); and
- Adjustments and optimisation of signal timings.

At the A5 Wall Island southern roundabout, the applicant's proposed mitigation consists of:

- Signalisation of the A5 westbound approach and associated section of the circulatory; and
- Adjustments and optimisation of signal timings

The works will need to be implemented prior to the occupation of the 50th dwelling. Prior to the implementation of any works, a Road Safety Audit, Walking, Cycling and Horse-Riding Assessment and Review and approval for any departures from Standard processes must be completed and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

In addition require a Section 106 agreement to secure a financial contribution to be paid, prior to the commencement of development, for an equivalent value of the mitigation strategy, should the

works not be implemented by the applicant in accordance within the identified timeframe (07.03.18).

The revised submitted information relates to house types, internal layout and certain EIA matters and therefore the holding recommendation remains (15.02.18).

Recommend that the application not be determined for a period of 3 months to allow for time for further information, regarding the development's impact upon the strategic highway network, to be submitted. Specifically concern raised regarding the impact of the development on the A5 Wall Island Junction. The submitted information details a slight traffic increase at AM Peak and an increase of approximately 28% at peak PM. Given the increase in queueing, mitigation is required to manage demand. The mitigation proposed by the applicant, a variable traffic signal system will need to be fully assessed, by the applicant, prior to agreement (19.12.17).

Recommend that the application not be determined for a period of 3 months to allow for time for further information, regarding the development's impact upon the strategic highway network, to be submitted (20.09.17).

Staffordshire County Council (Highways) – No objection, subject to conditions requiring, prior to the commencement of development, the submission and approval by the Local Planning Authority of a Construction Vehicle Management Plan, a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit, a Highways Work Agreement for the 3 new access points and off-site highway works and agreement of appropriate cycle parking facilities. The Temporary Construction Access points shall be closed concurrent with the opening of the two new site access points, the garages shall remain for domestic use and finally prior to the first occupation of any dwelling, the associated parking and turning area shall be provided and thereafter retained for their designated purposes (15.06.18).

Previous Comments: Many of the original issues have now been addressed. There remains a need to agree a Travel Plan along with a monitoring sum of £6,430, which should be included in the S106 agreement. Further consideration required of internal road junctions and their visibility splays, whilst no swept paths have been submitted for the residential access from Claypit Lane to serve plots 47-51. A Road Safety Audit is required for the internal road layout. An amended TRO is required to extend the 40mph limit on Birmingham Road to the west, whilst the same will apply for Claypit Lane. Further comments made regarding the siting of some parking bays, footpath provision and block paving use. Further details of the highway design for the Primary School site required along with details of cycle storage for the wider development. Measures to improve pedestrian and cycle connectivity offered. The construction access is considered acceptable subject to a condition limiting the timescale of use (08.03.18).

A review of the submitted Transport Assessment raises a number of issues, specific to bus provision that require further clarification (09.11.18).

Raise a number of highway issues with the development. The red line location plan includes the employment site, which is the subject of a separate application and as such should be placed within a blue line. In addition the vehicular visibility splays, forward visibility and swept path analysis, are not acceptable at a number of junctions. Notes that the 40mph limit to Birmingham Road is proposed to be extended to the south. This will require a Traffic Regulation Order, the funding for which should be secured via the S106 agreement. A number of design issues with the road layout are advised, which would prevent the scheme from being adopted. Further consideration of the access, parking provision and drop off and pick up facilities for the school should be given, along with details to limit speeds through the site to 20mph. Funding for the monitoring of the Travel Plan will be £6430 (20.10.17).

Staffordshire County Council (Archaeology) – No comments. The Archaeological Assessment found no archaeological features or deposits, whilst concluding that there was low potential for any further archaeological remains to survive (28.02.18).

Staffordshire County Council (Flood Team) – The house type amendments do not affect previous comments (05.03.18).

Previous Comments: No objection subject to a condition requiring that the development be carried out in accordance with the submitted revised Flood Risk Assessment / Drainage Strategy and the mitigation measures identified therein (02.01.18).

Object to the development as the application has been submitted without any analysis of the pluvial flood risks associated with developing the site (30.05.17).

Staffordshire County Council (Education) – The site falls within the catchments of Christ Church CE (VC) Primary School, Lichfield and The Friary School, both of which are projected to be full for the foreseeable future.

Given that the development is for 475 dwellings, it is likely to add 145 Primary School aged pupils, giving an education contribution requirement of £2,938,839. Education contributions for secondary school infrastructure will be sought through CIL contributions (01.03.18).

Previous Comment: No further comments to make (18.12.17).

The site falls within the catchments of Christ Church CE (VC) Primary School, Lichfield and The Friary School, both of which are projected to be full for the foreseeable future.

Given that the development is for 475 dwellings, it is likely to add 150 Primary School aged pupils, giving an education contribution requirement of £3,040,179. The scheme is likely to generate 85 additional secondary school and 17 sixth form students. Education contributions for secondary school infrastructure will be sought through CIL contributions (18.09.17).

Staffordshire County Council (Rights of Way) – No rights of way cross the site. Public Footpath No 7 Wall and No 21 Lichfield City run to the south of the site although these routes are not directly affected by the development (14.06.18).

Previous Comments: Refers to original response. Notes that any new linkages from the site to the existing public footpath would be unlikely to be included on a Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way (28.02.18).

The amended plans do not alter original response (14.12.17).

Ramblers – No comment (03.03.18).

Previous Comments: Refers to previous comments made on 18.09.17 (31.12.17).

No objection. Notes that public footpaths No.21 Lichfield and No.7 Wall Parish are routed to the southern boundary of the site. Safe public access to these rights of way should be maintained (18.09.17).

Environment Agency – No objection (21.02.18).

Previous Comments: No objection (18.12.17).

No objection (20.09.17).

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service – Provides guidance relating to ensuring that the site can be appropriately served by firefighting appliances and the use of domestic sprinklers (22.12.17).

Previous Comments: Provides guidance relating to ensuring that the site can be appropriately served by firefighting appliances and the use of domestic sprinklers (08.09.17).

Severn Trent Water – No objection, subject to a condition securing details of a suitable surface water and foul sewage to be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority (08.09.17).

Staffordshire Police Architectural Liaison Officer – No objection but raises concerns regarding the number of pedestrian routes that do not run alongside vehicle routes. Networks of separate footpaths to unsupervised areas facilitate crime and anti-social behaviour. In addition some parking spaces are not directly overlooked by the dwellings they are to serve. Further advice provided regarding measures to design out crime (01.03.18, 02.01.18, 20.09.17).

Health & Wellbeing Development Manager – The changing room facility will cost between £400k-£450k (18.04.18).

Previous Comments: The 2 football pitches to be provided within the site can if one is utilised for youth football be served by 2 changing rooms. A social area / kitchen will also be needed within the building to offer community facilities and a potential source of valuable income for the future occupant (28.03.18).

Sport England – No objection. The mechanisms identified within the draft S106 agreement, whereby on-site sports provision will be delivered in accordance with the requirements of Core Policy 11, Policy HSC2 of the Local Plan Strategy and the concept statement for the site, or if no on-site provision can be made, to provide an off-site contribution of £575,000 is considered acceptable (07.06.18).

Previous Comments: The additional information submitted by the applicant relates to the cost and design of a two team pavilion and clubhouse facility. It is noted that the local planning authority, following consultation with the Football Association (FA), advised the applicant that a Football Foundation (FF) compliant two team pavilion and clubhouse facility would cost between £400,000 and £450,000. However, the applicant has stated that the figure has not been broken down or substantiated therefore the applicant has undertaken their own research, resulting in a lower costing of £300,000 being proposed.

It is understood that the applicants costing are based on a scheme which was undertaken in the past five years. The FF (responding on behalf of the FA) have advised that the applicant's scheme would not be compliant with their current guidelines. Further to this the FF have provided a layout together with elemental breakdowns and fully priced facility for a project completed in late 2017, which substantiates the cost of £400,000 provided to the applicant.

Should the applicant wish to deviate from the FF's costing then this should be based on a number of quotes (figures broken down) for a FF compliant scheme (layout can be provided to assist with this).

Given the above it is considered that the applicants two team pavilion and clubhouse facility design and its financial contribution figure of £300,000 is not satisfactory (04.05.18).

Object. Refer to previous comments submitted on 18.09.17, 30.11.17 and 19.12.17. Notes that there are ongoing S106 discussions seeking to address stated issues (16.02.18).

Object. Refer to previous comments submitted on 18.09.17 and 30.11.17 (19.12.17).

Object. Notes that the applicant has submitted a Strategic Sports Position Statement, which sets out their approach to the delivery of pitches, changing rooms and car parking spaces. The detailed approach is that an end user is required to sign a contract with the landowner for the sale of the sport pitches within an undetermined time period. Should no contract be signed for the site then no on site provision would be supplied and rather an off-site financial contribution would be made. This approach is considered contrary to Policy HSC2 and rather the pitches should be included within the Maintenance Management Company to ensure their future provision or given to a local club (the FA have confirmed that there is an existing team requiring a site within the area). Furthermore, there are no projects within the vicinity not already identified within the CIL 123 list that require funding (30.11.17).

Objects. Encourages the Council to distribute CIL monies to sporting needs arising directly from the development as well as those identified within the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

Comments on the outdoor sports provision within the site. Notes that the 1.9ha site identified within the scheme accords in terms of scale with the Local Plan Strategy. The Consortium propose currently to landscape the site, provide connection to the internal site road network and ensure the site is managed during the construction period, pending interest from a committed end user.

It is not adequate for the developer to simply provide the land for sport provision, rather it should be established what is the local pitch need, along with appropriate clubhouse, access and construction arrangements and then such should either be provided by the developer or secured via a S106 contribution. As such insufficient information has currently been submitted with the application (18.09.17).

Canals & River Trust – No comment (01.03.18 & 18.12.17).

Notes that the proposed development may impact upon the restoration line of the Lichfield 7 Hatherton Canal and therefore recommends that the Trust be consulted (06.09.17).

Inland Waterways Association – Have a preference that the application not be approved until amended plans are submitted showing the canal channel and towpath within a cutting as it crosses the site. If the Council is minded to approve the application a condition is recommended requiring the removal of the car park across the safeguarded line of the canal and that no other built form that prejudices the delivery of the route be erected (21.04.18).

Previous Comments: Objects to the application as the development continues to fail to deliver, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Plan Strategy, provision for safeguarding the restoration route of the Lichfield Canal and its appropriate integration into the open space and green infrastructure network. The applicant should work with the Lichfield & Hatherton Canal Trust and the County Council to secure an open cutting through the site, offering appropriate public access. The car park should be removed and the site plan adjusted accordingly (27.02.17).

Objects to the application as the development fails, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Plan Strategy, to make appropriate provision for safeguarding the restoration route of the Lichfield Canal and its appropriate integration into the open space and green infrastructure network (09.10.17).

Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust Limited – Following the meeting between all parties on the 11th April 2018 and the commitment to ongoing dialogue established at that meeting, offer no objection to the development subject to a condition requiring that safeguarding of the canal route from any prejudicial development, with details to be agreed at reserved matters (25.04.18).

Previous Comments: The applicant continues to fail to liaise with the Trust to seek to secure an appropriate solution for the canal to cross this site. In order to ensure that the works necessary for

the canal to pass under the railway are undertaken at the same time as the southern bypass engagement is required without delay.

The delivery of the canal via a tunnel under the site is incompatible with the Council's Planning Policy. The tunnel would, in combination with the existing culvert under Birmingham Road lead to a tunnel of some 100 metres, creating public realm safety concerns. It should be noted that the tunnel would also raise technical issues to secure its delivery will also likely being cost prohibitive. The introduction of an open section of canal would remove these issues and also potentially facilitate the disposal of surface water from the site into the canal. Requests that a meeting be organised between the interested parties in order to seek a way forward to address the issues with the current submission (05.03.18).

Object. The application proposes that the canal and towpath cross the site via a proposed tunnel, which would link to an existing tunnel, which runs under Birmingham Road. For the canal to be an attractive and useable facility within the site, a suitable access ramp should be provided and the feature open to the air. Future users of the canal would not feel safe or confident utilizing such a long enclosed area. The applicant has also made no meaningful attempt to work with the Trust to deliver the Lichfield Canal through the site (13.10.17).

LETTERS OF REPRESENTATION

Nine letters of objection have been received. The comments made can be summarised as follows:

Principle

- The roundabout will require further land being taken out of the Green Belt to deliver the scheme.
- The site is located within the Green Belt and should therefore be protected, notwithstanding the need for additional housing.

Visual Impact

- The site offers an important rolling landscape on a key entrance into the City. Considers that other more appropriate flatter sites around the Lichfield area would be more suited to residential development.
- Falkland Road is supposed to be a by-pass. To introduce further development along the southern side of the road would make it more akin to a residential street detracting from the character of the area.
- The Claypit Lane roundabout will have an adverse impact upon the rural setting of two Grade II Listed Building, Sandfields Lodge and Sandfields House. The current isolated location of these buildings is an important character of the building and its former use as an Asylum.

Highway Impact

- The development would increase traffic along already busy routes.
- No vehicular access into the site should occur from Claypit Lane, given this is a rural road incapable of accommodating additional traffic.
- Any construction traffic using Claypit Lane is likely to damage private driveways and telephone lines.
- The roundabout proposed at the junction of Claypit Lane and Fossey Lane will be located too close to the T junction off Falklands Road, causing heavy congestion issues at peak times.
- Residents of the site will utilise the surrounding rural lanes to access the wider highway network. These lanes are unsuitable for additional traffic and this will therefore result in an increase in accidents.

- There are already vehicular congestion issues accessing the A38 from Lichfield, which will be exacerbated by this development.
- The addition of approximately 1,000 new vehicles from residents within the site will, in combination with the additional traffic generated from the proposal at Shortbutts Lane, have a significant impact upon the local highway network.
- Birmingham Road is unable to accommodate any further traffic due to existing congestion issues. There is already danger in seeking to access or exit any properties located along this route.
- No safe pedestrian crossing point has been identified across Falkland Road for those seeking to gain access from the surrounding area to the, public open space, school or Country Park.

Impact on Residential Amenity

- A bedroom window will be overlooked by users of the country park. Requests the planting of additional trees to screen this view.
- Residents within the scheme will overlook surrounding properties.
- The increase in traffic resulting from the development will lead to a significant increase in traffic and noise pollution.
- The development will greatly increase light pollution in the area.
- The amount of discarded litter will greatly increase as a result of the proposal along Claypit Lane.
- During construction works significant noise, air quality degradation and dust disturbance will occur. A restriction should be place on noise levels and working hours.

Other

- Lichfield Scouts require additional accommodation within the area and as such would like to be involved in designing the community facility and could help to manage such a building should they become a future occupant.
- Lichfield is already served by a good amount of sports facilities that are underutilised and therefore the creation of further facilities is inappropriate.
- Will the development ensure that neighbouring properties are now able to access main gas and broadband cable.
- The proposal would reduce the value of existing dwellings within the area.
- There are 3 existing schools within a mile or so of the application site.
- A house in Claypit Lane has recently been refused planning permission for a conservatory. Why is such a large scale development within the same area considered to be acceptable?

A letter has also been received from the Leomansley Area Residents Association (LARA), which provides details of correspondence previously forwarded to Taylor Wimpey, prior to the submission of this application. The matters raised relate to concerns regarding design issues experienced within the Darwin Park estate, which are not wanted to be repeated within this development. Principally concerns are raised regarding garage dimensions not being sufficiently large in order to allow for vehicles to park, courtyard parking not being used, leading to on street parking on narrow roads resulting in the blocking of pavements thereby restricting pedestrian movement and the narrowing of useable roadway restricting vehicular movements, particularly for buses and emergency vehicles. Some roads are not served by tarmacked footpaths, whilst existing trees and hedgerows were removed to enable the development. There were serious delays in the delivery of public open space and play areas, resulting in these areas being yet to be adopted by the Local Council, with resultant maintenance issues.

Sufficient off street car parking needs to be offered to the Primary School to prevent congestion at drop off and pick up time, whilst mitigation measures are required to reduce vehicular speeds throughout the site. Improvements are required to the footpath along Birmingham Road, along with

a reduction in speed limit and appropriate visibility splays to be provided for the highway junction on this road. Appropriate timescales for the delivery of the Southern Bypass need to be established.

During the construction period an appropriate Construction Management Plan to divert traffic away from Darwin Park will be necessary along with measures to control dust and dirt emissions. Wheel washing facilities will therefore be needed for construction vehicles.

Environmental considerations specific to electric vehicle charging points, hedgehog friendly fencing, solar panel provision, sustainable construction methods, permeable block paving use and gas boiler provision are required (16.03.18).

OTHER BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

The developer has submitted the following documents in support of their application:

Agricultural Land Assessment
Air Quality Assessment
Arboricultural Assessment
Canal Clarification Letter
Country Park and Open Spaces Management Strategy
Design and Access Statement
Design Context Appraisal
Drainage Strategy
Ecology Assessment and Species Specific Report
Ecological Clarification Note
Environmental Statement, Figures and Appendices including:

- Air Quality
- Cultural Heritage
- Cumulative Impacts
- Ecology and Biodiversity
- Ground Conditions
- Hydrology
- Infrastructure, Utility and Services
- Lighting Assessment
- Noise Assessment
- Socio-Economic
- Non-technical Summary
- Transportation

Flood Risk Assessment
Ground Investigation Report
S106 Heads of Terms
Heritage and Archaeology Statement
Heritage Technical Note
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
Lighting Assessment
Noise Assessment
Transport Assessment
Travel Plan
Land and Ecology Management Plan
Statement of Community Involvement
Utilities Assessment
Wall Island Modelling Assessments – TN Update

OBSERVATIONS

Site and Location

The site is located to the south of Falkland Road, on the southern edge of the city of Lichfield and totals approximately 40 hectares in size. The site is bounded by the A5127 to the west, Claypit Lane to the east, Falklands Road to the north and open countryside to the south, which rises towards Harehurst prospect. The site encloses, but does not include, the existing Deans Slade Farm complex of former agricultural buildings and farmhouse, which are now in residential use.

The application site currently contains arable farmland, which is enclosed by mature hedgerows.

Background

Members will recall that an Issues Paper for this application was brought to the Planning Committee meeting on the 16th October 2017 seeking issues for further investigation, prior to the full consideration by the Planning Committee.

Proposals

This application consists of two elements, with part of the proposal submitted in full and part submitted in outline only.

The full planning application comprises:

- The erection of 475 dwellings;
- The formation of three new vehicular access points to serve the development. One is proposed from Birmingham Road, with the two remaining accesses from Claypit Lane;
- The creation of a new roundabout on the junction of Fossey Lane and Claypit Lane;
- The formation of Sustainable Urban Drainage Features including balancing ponds located to the centre and north east corner of the site;
- The formation of areas of Green Infrastructure, containing Public Open Space, Children's Play Equipment, footpaths and cycleways; and
- The creation of a 16.55 hectare country park to contain a community orchard and car park.

The outline element of the application comprises:

- The erection of a 1 Form Entry Primary School across a 1.09 hectare site; and
- The formation of a 1.9 hectare Strategic Sports site.

Determining Issues

- 1) Policy and Principle of Development including Green Belt Impact
- 2) Housing Mix and Affordable Housing
- 3) Highway Impact and Parking
- 4) Design and Impact on the Setting of Surrounding Listed Buildings
- 5) Flood Risk and Drainage
- 6) Public Open Space, Green Infrastructure and Landscaping
- 7) Residential Amenity – Future and Existing Residents
- 8) Loss of Agricultural Land
- 9) Biodiversity
- 10) Waste Management
- 11) Archaeology

- 12) Planning Obligations Including Education Provision
- 13) Other Issues
- 14) Financial Considerations (including Community Infrastructure Levy)
- 15) Human Rights

1. Planning Policy and Principle of Development including Green Belt Impact

- 1.1 Section 38 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) sets out that the determination of applications must be made in accordance with the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The Development Plan for Lichfield District comprises the Lichfield District Local Plan (1998) (saved policies), the Local Plan Strategy 2008-2029 and the made Lichfield City Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.2 Paragraph 14 of the NPPF sets out a presumption in favour of sustainable development and within the Ministerial Foreword, it states “*development that is sustainable should go ahead, without delay*”. Therefore consideration has to be given to whether this scheme constitutes a sustainable form of development and whether any adverse impacts would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits it would deliver.
- 1.3 Paragraphs 49 and 50 of the NPPF advise that housing applications should be considered in the context of the presumption in favour of sustainable development and that housing policies within the Local Plan should only be considered up to date if the Local Planning Authority is able to demonstrate a five year supply of housing.
- 1.4 Paragraph 7 of the NPPF provides a definition of sustainable development, identifying that there are three separate dimensions to development, namely its economic, social and environmental roles. These dimensions give rise to the need for the planning system to perform a number of roles:
- an economic role – contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right place and at the right time to support growth and innovation; and by identifying and coordinating development requirements, including the provision of infrastructure;
 - a social role – supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by creating a high quality built environment, with accessible local services that reflect the community’s needs and support its health, social and cultural well-being; and
 - an environmental role – contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity, use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution, and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.

This report will consider how the proposed development fares in terms of these three strands of sustainable development.

- 1.5 The supply of housing land is regarded as having a social and economic role. The NPPF requires that Councils identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years delivery of housing provision. In addition, a buffer of 5% (moved forward from later in the plan period) should also be supplied, to ensure choice and competition in the market for land. Where there has been a record of persistent under delivery of housing, local planning authorities should increase the buffer to 20% (moved

forward from later in the plan period) to provide a realistic prospect of achieving the planned supply and to ensure choice and competition in the market for land.

- 1.6 The latest five year housing land supply position for Lichfield District is contained within the Five Year Housing Land Supply Paper from August 2017, which states that a supply of 5.77 years can be demonstrated within the District.
- 1.7 Given that the Council can demonstrate a 5 year housing supply, it falls for this scheme to be considered, in the first instance, against the Policies contained within the Council's Development Plan.

Local Plan Policies

- 1.8 The Local Plan Strategy sets a strategic requirement to deliver a minimum of 10,030 dwellings during the plan period. Core Policy 1 of the Local Plan Strategy seeks to locate new growth in sustainable settlements and identifies Lichfield as being a key settlement to accommodate growth. Core Policy 6 and Policy Lichfield 4: Housing, identifies that Lichfield will play a significant role in meeting housing need by providing growth of around 3,900 new dwellings within the community, with appropriate associated facilities, including transport and social / green / physical infrastructure, over the plan period. Specific details of the sites allocated to deliver part of this housing provision, approximately 1,350 dwellings across the South of Lichfield are identified under Policy Lichfield 6: South of Lichfield. This specific site, which forms part of this wider allocation, is discussed further within Appendix H of the Strategy, which identifies that approximately 450 dwellings could be developed within the site.
- 1.9 To the east of this site is the Land South of Shortbutts Lane residential development site, which has a resolution to grant permission subject to the signing of a S106 agreement (reference 12/00182/OUTMEI).
- 1.10 The development proposed within this site would therefore, should any approved outline consent for Shortbutts Lane be developed to its maximum, result in a total of 925 dwellings being erected within the south of Lichfield area. The remaining site within this designated area, Cricket Lane, is yet to be the subject of a formal planning application, but Appendix I of the Local Plan Strategy surmises that approximately 450 dwellings could be delivered within the site. Should this occur then the total housing provision across the three sites would equal 1,375 dwellings.
- 1.11 The proposal could potentially therefore result in a minor over delivery of housing for the South of Lichfield area. However the figure of 1,350 identified within the Development Plan is a minimum figure establishing an appropriate parameter of housing delivery. A potential over delivery of approximately 25 dwellings is not therefore considered to be contrary to the provisions of the Plan.

Green Belt Impact

- 1.12 It is noted, notwithstanding the above discussion, that elements of the scheme, namely part of the area where the roundabout on Claypit Lane is proposed to be formed, the land immediately to the south west of this feature, the District Park and one of the temporary compound areas, proposed off Birmingham Road, are located within the West Midlands Green Belt. Within the Green Belt there is a stricter degree of control over development, in order to ensure that it preserves the special characteristics and openness of the area.
- 1.13 The decision making process when considering proposals for development in the Green Belt is in three stages and is as follows:

- a) It must be determined whether the development is appropriate or inappropriate development in the Green Belt.
- b) If the development is appropriate, the application should be determined on its own merits.
- c) If the development is inappropriate, the presumption against inappropriate development in the Green Belt applies and the development should not be approved unless there are very special circumstances which outweigh the presumption against it.

1.14 Policy NR2 of the Local Plan Strategy seeks to retain the character and openness of the Green Belt. The construction of new buildings is regarded as inappropriate, unless it is for one of the exceptions listed in the NPPF. Policy NR2 therefore accords fully with Paragraph 89 of the NPPF. The NPPF advises that the most important attribute of the Green Belt is its openness.

1.15 Paragraph 89 of the NPPF lists appropriate development within the Green Belt, which does not include the provision of highway infrastructure and rather relates to the formation or expansion of existing agricultural operations or sporting or leisure pursuits. Paragraph 90 of the NPPF does however advise that *“certain other forms of development are also not inappropriate in Green Belt provided they preserve the openness of the Green Belt and do not conflict with the purposes of including land in Green Belt.*

These are:

- *mineral extraction;*
- *engineering operations;*
- *local transport infrastructure which can demonstrate a requirement for a Green Belt location;...”*

1.16 Evidently the roundabout comprises local transport infrastructure. The need for this feature within this location has been established by the Highways Authority, who advise that a traffic island was selected to reduce conflict at the four arm junction, reduce queuing from any one arm and to allow movement of large service vehicles e.g. buses and refuse trucks, in and out of the proposed development. The country park is considered to be a recreation facility, which will not impact upon the area’s openness. It is noted that a car park is proposed to be formed within the Country Park. The scale of this facility has been kept to a minimum and formed utilising grasscrete to ensure that when not in use, there is little impact on the openness of the Green Belt. Thus, these aspects of the proposal can be considered to comply with the exception allowances for development within the Green Belt.

1.17 It should be noted that the parcel of land adjacent to the roundabout, will, as discussed below, accommodate an area of landscaping. Given the planting of such would not be considered to be development, the impact of these works do not need to be considered under their effect on the Green Belt’s openness.

1.18 The formation of the construction compound does not comply with any of the exception criteria and as such, in accordance with Paragraph 88 of the NPPF, in order to be considered acceptable, must be able to demonstrate ‘Very Special Circumstances’. The Very Special Circumstances in this case are that the applicant has demonstrated that the Compound cannot be located elsewhere within the application site, without serious disruption to the build out process of the scheme. Any impact will evidently be temporary in nature and the land altered to form part of the Country Park when the development is complete. Thus, any impact upon openness will be short term in nature. Furthermore, the compound will help facilitate the delivery of much needed housing on an allocated site, which in accordance with the requirements of the NPPF should be afforded significant material planning weight. Given

these arguments, it is considered that in this case, Very Special Circumstances can be established and this aspect of the proposal is considered to be acceptable.

- 1.19 Given the above assessment, it is evident that this proposal accords with the requirements of the Development Plan and NPPF and therefore the principle of residential development within this site is considered acceptable. However, it is necessary to consider, in detail, a range of other issues detailed within the concept rationale of Appendix I of the Local Plan Strategy, along with compliance with the Key Design Principles established therein.

2. Housing Mix and Affordable Housing

- 2.1 Policy H1 of the Local Plan Strategy seeks the delivery of a balanced housing market through an integrated mix of dwelling types, sizes and tenures based on the latest assessment of local housing need. This reflects the approach in the NPPF, which sets out that local planning authorities should deliver a wide choice of high quality homes with a mix of housing based on current and future demographic trends, market trends and the needs of different groups in the community. Evidence in the Southern Staffordshire Housing Needs Study and Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) Update (2012) identified an imbalance of housing types across the District with high concentrations of larger detached homes. Consequently, it has identified the need for smaller affordable homes, particularly those of an appropriate type and size for first-time buyers or renters.

- 2.2 The dwelling mix identified under the requirements of Local Plan Strategy Policy H1, as necessary to address the imbalance in the District's housing stock is 5% one bedroom, 42% two bedroom, 41% three bedroom and 12% four bedroom and above.

- 2.3 The housing mix proposed for site is detailed within the below table:

Number of Bedrooms	Number of Dwellings	Percentage
1	15	3%
2	192	41%
3	192	41%
4/5	76	16%
Total	475	100%

- 2.4 Whilst the mix is therefore not wholly compliant with the requirements of Policy H1 it is sufficiently close to meet the broad requirements of the Policy and will deliver a larger number of smaller scaled dwellings. Furthermore, it should be noted that the Council's Spatial Policy and Delivery Team have raised no concerns regarding this matter.

Affordable Housing

- 2.5 The site is over the threshold for the provision of affordable housing as required by Local Plan Strategy Policy H2. The on-site affordable housing provision required by Policy H2, following the issuing of the latest Annual Monitoring Report issued in 2017 is for 37% of the units proposed

- 2.6 Policy H2 also recommends that of the affordable housing provided within a site, 65% should be social rented and managed by a registered provider, although it is acknowledged that the precise proportions will be agreed with the District Council having regard to housing needs within the locality.

- 2.7 In this case, the applicant has indicated that 176 of the dwellings within the site, will be affordable, which equates to 37%. The affordable housing split is proposed to be 55% social rented units and 45% shared ownership. The Council's Housing Manager has considered the

suitability of this arrangement and advised that in this location this tenure arrangement is acceptable.

- 2.8 The NPPF requires that new developments should create mixed and sustainable communities and so all affordable housing should be indistinguishable from and integrated amongst homes for sale on the open market. Policy H2 of the Local Plan Strategy reflects this and seeks to create a mixed and sustainable community.
- 2.9 The affordable units are to comprise a mix of 15 no. 1 bed, 111 no. 2 bed, 48 no. 3 bed and 2 no. 4 bed units, which has been determined to be acceptable by the Housing Manager. No open market 1 bed units are to be provided elsewhere within the site and as such there is the potential for these to be properties to be distinguishable from the market housing. The design employed however is such to appear as a two storey dwelling, which replicates architectural detail evident elsewhere throughout the site. The affordable units have been dispersed throughout the development, with some units evident within each character area. The maximum provision in any one area is 15 units and therefore the scheme will successfully integrate these dwellings into the surrounding built form.
- 2.10 Given the above detailed housing mix and affordable housing provision, the development complies with the requirements of the Development Plan and NPPF in this regard.

3. Highways Impact and Parking

- 3.1 Paragraph 34 of the NPPF and Strategic Policy 5 of the Local Plan Strategy both seek to ensure that development which generates significant movement, is located where the need to travel can be minimised and the use of sustainable travel maximised. Paragraph 40 of the NPPF states *"Local Authorities should seek to improve the quality of parking in town centres so that it is convenient, safe and secure, including appropriate provision for motorcycles"*.
- 3.2 The proposed development will undoubtedly create an increase in the level of traffic on surrounding roads by virtue of the increased intensity of use of the site. The volume and movement of traffic along Birmingham Road, Claypit Lane and Falkland Road will be particularly affected, with an increase in vehicles accessing and exiting the site from the new vehicular access points proposed to be formed within this area.
- 3.3 Vehicular access into the site will be via 3 new points of entry, one from Birmingham Road, near opposite to the Travis Perkins building, the second from a new roundabout junction formed off Claypit Lane, to the north western edge of the site and lastly via a small scale access from Claypit Lane, to the south western edge of the site, which is proposed to serve 4 dwellings.
- 3.4 The suitability of these points of access, from a highway safety viewpoint, have been considered by the Highways Authority, who consider that the Birmingham Road and roundabout accesses are appropriate to ensure safe access and egress to the site. Further precise details of the junctions are however necessary and as such, conditions requiring exact details and the provision of requisite visibility splays are recommended.
- 3.5 The Claypit Lane access proposed to serve 4 new dwellings has raised an issue that currently remains outstanding awaiting the submission of further information from the applicant. Claypit Lane is presently a 60mph road and as such, the visibility splays required for the access, given this speed limit, are such that they could potentially need to cross land not within the ownership of the applicant, namely the field to the fore of New House. The applicant is undertaking a speed survey to determine what visibility splays will be required based upon actual speeds undertaken by traffic travelling along this highway. The results of the survey will thereafter determine what splays will be needed and whether the access can

be sited in the location currently indicated. It should be noted that if the speed survey demonstrates that the splay will cross land outside of the applicant's ownership and therefore the 4 properties will have to be accessed from a road internal to the site, then an appropriate consultation period with neighbours and consultees will be required. To ensure that this matter can be fully addressed, prior to the issuing of a decision, it is requested that delegated authority be provided to the Planning Development Manager, solely on this matter, to allow for this issue to be fully addressed, without delaying the determination of this application.

- 3.6 The design and layout of the internal road network of the site has now been agreed with the Highways Authority, following the submission of suitable tracking information to demonstrate the vehicles will be able to manoeuvre safely around the site. In addition, appropriate surface finish materials are evidenced, suitable road widths and footpaths, along with measures to be installed to ensure that vehicle movements through the site will be limited to 20mph. The delivery of these features will be secured via the use of appropriate conditions.
- 3.7 The request by Lichfield City Council that the Country Park and Sports Facility have their own separate vehicular access is noted, however such is not a requirement of the Highways Authority and as such, the applicant cannot be required to supply this provision. In addition it should be noted that the creation of these new accesses would evidently require the removal of further areas of hedgerow.

Traffic Management

- 3.8 A Transport Assessment has been submitted with the application, which demonstrates a robust approach has been applied in calculating committed and future development flows and their impact upon the surrounding highway network. It is demonstrated that the junctions in the study area will largely operate within capacity following the completion of this development. However, there will be increased queueing occurring on Birmingham Road at peak AM and PM times. In particular it is advised that upon completion of this development with no mitigation in place the PM peak total delay is shown to increase by 28%.
- 3.9 Highways England initially recommended that a condition regarding the securing of a financial contribution towards mitigation works at the A5 Wall Island be attached to any planning permission that may be granted. Since the time of issuing their initial responses, they have received advice from the Department for Transport regarding the interpretation of traffic arising from residential developments allocated within adopted Local Plans and their effects on the Strategic Highway Network (SHN). The effect of this advice is that only traffic from committed developments that will be on the network at the time of first occupation is to be included in assessments, rather than treating them as fully built out as had previously been the case. Following the issuing of this advice, Highways England reviewed the assessments carried out in support of this application, and consider that the extent of queuing on the SHN is likely to be less than that shown in the modelling work submitted by the applicant. It was also noted that the development's trip impact will be dispersed across the SHN and local road approaches to the A5 Wall Island Junction. Therefore, it has been concluded that it would not be reasonable to require this application to deliver the mitigation scheme previously identified and in fact, no mitigation is considered necessary to address the impact of this development upon the SHN. Given this conclusion, whilst the concerns of Wall and Shenstone Parish Councils on this matter are noted, the impact of this development upon the SHN is considered to be acceptable and compliant with the requirements of the Development Plan and NPPF in this regard.

- 3.10 The comments of Lichfield City Council regarding the resiting of the 40mph limit further to the south along Birmingham Road are noted. The applicant has indicated a willingness to seek, in liaison with the Highways Authority, to undertake these revisions, which will require approval of an amended Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). It should be noted that TROs are determined by the Highways Authority rather than the Local Planning Authority. Funding for this change to the TRO shall be secured via a Highway Works Agreement to be agreed between the applicant and Highways Authority. It is noted that the Highways Authority have requested that funding for this undertaking be secured by condition but given these works are covered by separate legislation specific to highway operations this is not considered to be appropriate.
- 3.11 Whilst the request of Shenstone Parish Council for alterations to the speed limits along Claypit Lane and around Aldershaw are noted, such mitigation measures have not been identified as reasonable or necessary by the Highways Authority and as such, will not form part of the recommended off-site highway works.

Car Parking

- 3.12 Appendix D of the Sustainable Design Supplementary Planning Document provides guidance on the Council's off street car parking requirements for new development. It states that for residential development there should be a maximum for 1 and 2 bedroom dwellings of 1 space (plus 1 further space for every 3 dwellings for visitors), for 3 and 4 bed dwellings, 2 spaces and 5 bed dwellings, 3 spaces.
- 3.13 The scheme either delivers the maximum provision required by the SPD or in some cases exceeds this provision. Thus a number of the 3 and 4 bedrooms dwellings within the site are served by three off street car parking spaces. The parking levels identified within this site are therefore considered to be acceptable, whilst they shall be retained for their specified use via the use of a condition, as recommended by the Highways Authority.
- 3.14 The parking bays within the site all comply in terms of scale, being 2.4m wide, with a depth of 4.8 metres, with the specifications identified within the abovementioned SPD and Manual for Streets Guidance. In addition, the garages spaces are of sufficient size, 3m by 6m, to also be considered as sufficiently large so as to accommodate a vehicle.
- 3.15 The off street car parking provision for the school and sports facility will be agreed via the respective reserved matters applications, although it is noted that unallocated parking is shown in the area to the front of the school. It is noted however that concerns have been raised by Lichfield City Council regarding the number of spaces to be created to serve the Country Park. There are no parking level targets identified within the abovementioned SPD for this type of facility and therefore the level of provision will have to be addressed based solely on likely usage. Whilst it is acknowledged that the area could become a well-used facility for both future and existing residents, it would not be appropriate, given the car park's location within the Green Belt, for this area to be larger than proposed, whilst given its sustainable location, users should be encouraged to walk or cycle to the site.
- 3.16 Local Plan Strategy Policies ST1 and ST2 state that the Council, when considering the appropriate level of off street car parking to serve a development, will have regard to the *"provision for alternative fuels including electric charging points"*. To address this point, a note to applicant to advise that they consider the implementation of Vehicle Recharging Points is recommended for the decision notice.
- 3.17 Given the sustainable location of the site, adjacent to established residential areas, the level of provision shown on the indicative site plan demonstrates that sufficient car parking can be provided to meet the likely future demands of the site. In addition, it should be noted

that the Highways Authority have requested a Framework Residential Travel Plan, in order to encourage future occupiers to use sustainable modes of transport, along with an appropriate monitoring sum, which shall be secured via a Section 106 agreement.

Cycle Parking

- 3.18 The Sustainable Design SPD identifies the minimum number of cycle parking spaces to be provided across the development to serve the various land uses. For residential development this is identified as being 1 space for 1 and 2 bedroom dwellings and 2 spaces for 3 or more bedrooms. The parking strategy submitted with the application demonstrates that much of the residential provision will be supplied within proposed garages, whilst non-garaged dwellings are to be provided with a shed. No details are yet available regarding cycle facilities for the Primary School or Sports facility. Therefore a condition is recommended to secure the submission and approval of such parking details to ensure the promotion of sustainable transport methods and the scheme's compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan and NPFF in this regard.

Pedestrian Connectivity

- 3.19 The application proposes to create a section of shared footway / cycleway on Birmingham Road, along the site's eastern boundary running south. Additionally, a new pedestrian refuge will be provided on Birmingham Road, to the south of the access to serve the development, for the benefit of pedestrians crossing to the existing southbound bus stop on the eastern side of the carriageway. The refuge will be secured via a Section 7 agreement between the applicant and the County Council specific to the commercial application, approved at the Committee Meeting on 4th June 2018 (our reference 17/00977/OUTMEI), whilst the footpath enhancement would be secured under the requirements of the off-site highway works agreement.
- 3.20 The applicant has provided robust evidence to demonstrate that this development will not have an adverse impact upon the surrounding local or strategic highway network, and given the sustainable location of the site it is advised that, the level of off street car parking that could be provided will be sufficient to meet the site's needs. Two of the new access points are considered appropriate, from a highway safety viewpoint, with the third more minor access to be given further consideration to ensure that it is acceptable. Overall, the site offers good pedestrian connectivity.

Lichfield Southern Bypass

- 3.21 Policy Lichfield 6 paragraph 10 identifies that development within the Lichfield South area will deliver improved *"access to the sites through the completion of the Lichfield Southern Bypass"*. Paragraph 13.27 of the explanatory text, which accompanies this Policy, advises that development within this area *"can contribute to the need for improved east-west connections through the southern part of Lichfield City. The completion of the Lichfield Southern Bypass will be required to achieve this and support the overall scale of development planned within south Lichfield"*.
- 3.22 The area designated to be safeguarded for the delivery of the canal falls outside of but immediately to the north of the site's boundaries. As such the development will have no impact upon the delivery of the canal or its protected route, although as noted above, consideration has been had within the character of the built form to ensure that the appearance of dwellings proposed along the site's northern boundary would appear suitable for a canal side location.

- 3.23 Given the above considerations it is concluded that from a highway safety, car parking and sustainable transport viewpoint, this application in this regard, is consistent with the requirements of the Development Plan and the thrust of the guidance in the NPPF.
4. Design and Impact on the Setting of Surrounding Listed Buildings
- 4.1 There are two Listed Buildings within the immediate area, near to the application site, namely the Grade II Listed Sandfields Lodge and Sandfields House, which are sited adjacent to the north west of the site, off Fossey Lane.
- 4.2 These dwellings, which historically formed Lichfield Asylum will be located approximately 130 metres from the nearest proposed dwelling within the application site. However the new roundabout junction will be 80m from Sandfields Lodge.
- 4.3 Whilst considering proposals which affect the setting of a listed building regard is to be made of S16 (2) and S66 (1) of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Area Act) 1990, which requires the Local Planning Authority to *"have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of a special architectural or historic interest which it possesses"*.
- 4.4 Paragraph 131 of the NPPF states that in determining planning applications, local planning authorities should take account of:
- the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
 - the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and
 - the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.
- 4.5 Paragraph 132 of the NPPF then goes on to say that when considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of a grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered.
- 4.6 The Council's Conservation Officer concurs with the conclusion of the EIA Addendum position paper that the development will cause less than substantial harm to the setting and significance of these listed buildings, due to the development impacting upon the building's setting.
- 4.7 Historic England's General Practice Advice recommends that where harm to a heritage asset arises, consideration should be given to screening options, in order to seek to reduce harm. The mitigation proposed by this scheme via the introduction of a landscaping scheme within the area adjacent to the roundabout junction, is acceptable in principle, to mitigate this harm towards the lower level of the 'less than substantial spectrum'. The suitability of the planting proposed within this location will be discussed further within the green infrastructure and landscaping section of this report.

- 4.8 Paragraph 134 of the NPPF states that *“where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use”*.
- 4.9 In terms of paragraph 134, the NPPG advises that public benefits can be *“anything that delivers economic, social or environmental progress as described in the NPPF (Paragraph 7)... benefits do not always have to be visible or accessible to the public in order to be genuine public benefits”*. Evidently this development will secure a large number of dwellings on an allocated site within the Local Plan Strategy and as such offers significant wider economic and social benefits, which will have to be weighed against the Listed Building harm impact arising from this development within the planning balance discussed within the conclusion of this report.

Design

- 4.10 Local Plan Strategy Core Policy 14 states that *“the District Council will seek to maintain local distinctiveness through the built environment in terms of buildings... and enhance the relationships and linkages between the built and natural environment”*. This Policy continues to state that the Council will protect and enhance the built environment and protect the skyline of Lichfield, which is characterised by the five spires and tree canopies. This requirement should thereafter inform the height, scale and layout of new development.
- 4.11 The NPPF (Section 7) advises that *“good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, is indivisible from good planning, and should contribute positively to making places better for people”*. The document continues to state that *“permission should be refused for development of poor design that fails to take the opportunities available for improving the character and quality of an area and the way it functions”*.
- 4.12 The NPPF also attaches great importance to the design of the built environment, which should contribute positively to making places better for people. As well as understanding and evaluating an area’s defining characteristics, it states that developments should:
- function well and add to the overall quality of the area;
 - establish a strong sense of place;
 - create and sustain an appropriate mix;
 - respond to local character and history, and reflect local surroundings and materials;
 - create safe and accessible environments; and
 - be visually attractive as a result of good architecture and appropriate landscaping.
- 4.13 Local Plan Strategy Policy BE1 advises that *“new development... should carefully respect the character of the surrounding area and development in terms of layout, size, scale, architectural design and public views”*. The Policy continues to expand on this point advising that good design should be informed by *“appreciation of context, as well as plan, scale, proportion and detail”*.
- 4.14 Policy 10 of the Lichfield Neighbourhood Plan, requires that *“views of Lichfield Cathedral from Lichfield City Centre should be incorporated into any development which could otherwise impact on these views”*.
- 4.15 The layout plan submitted with this application for the 1 FE Primary School and Sports facility areas is wholly indicative. The former will be produced in liaison with the Staffordshire County Council Education Authority, in due course, with details submitted via a reserved matters application. Exact details of the sports facility will also be progressed via a separate

reserved matters application. As such no further consideration to the visual impact of these elements of the proposal will be undertaken currently.

4.16 The dwellings proposed across the site are according to information contained within the Design & Access Statement submitted with this application, to be arranged within 7 character areas. The areas have been given the following designations:

- Main Boulevard – Structural, linear built form, containing buildings up to 2 ½ storey in height. Tree lined boulevards. Predominantly terraced built form. Generally formal in appearance.
- Green Route – Consistent building lines to create enclosure to public open space. Consistent roofscape with some dormers to punctuate. Maximum 2 storeys with low level hedge or timber rail to define public / private interface.
- Secondary Route - Structural, linear built form, containing buildings up to 2 ½ storey in height. Tree lined boulevards. Predominantly semi-detached built form. Generally formal in appearance.
- Birmingham Road – Consistent frontages, formal development enclosure with building up to 2 ½ storeys in height. Consistent roofscape utilising gables to book end terraces. Low hedgerow planting to frontages.
- Rural Edge – Lower density with larger setbacks and gaps between dwellings. Buildings up to 2 storeys in height, larger garden areas. Informal appearance, with varying roofscapes and built form. Generally longer rear gardens to respect adjacent Deanslade Farm occupants.
- Woodland Ridge – Lower density with larger setbacks and gaps between dwellings. Buildings up to 2 storeys in height, larger garden areas. Generally informal in appearance, offering a softer development.
- Canal Side Edge – Mix of formally set out detached and semi-detached dwellings and a short run of terraces, with a height of up to 2 ½ storeys. Buildings set back behind soft landscaping as interface to potential future canal reinstatement. Projections and recessions in frontages to add visual interest.

Layout

4.17 The scheme has been arranged with denser residential development located to the northern and eastern boundaries, with a looser pattern of residential development evident when moving south and west across the site. The Primary School site is located centrally within the development, whilst the sports provision is located to the south western edge. The country park will extend throughout the southern area of the site. The principle areas of Public Open Space are shown to run diagonally through the centre of the site, which will contain a total of 7 Local Areas of Play and 1 Neighbourhood Area of Play.

4.18 The layout of the proposed development demonstrates an understanding of landscape context, evidenced through the retention of the upper slopes of the site, adjacent to Harehurst Hill, free from development, thereby preserving the landscape setting and limiting the visual impact of the development within the surrounding area, as demonstrated within the submitted Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA). An appropriate contextual analysis is further evidenced through the creation of a central park route, which runs diagonally across the site, from its south eastern to north western corner, allowing views to and from Knowle Hill and into the wider countryside. In addition, the scheme includes a recognisable core surrounding the Primary School site, which aids in place making, whilst the internal streets have been aligned to facilitate views through the site towards the Country Park. In addition, the layout has been designed with areas of open space running down from the Country Park into the residential development, forming 'Green Fingers' which ensures integration of this area into the proposed built form.

- 4.19 As noted above, the density of development across the site, which overall equates to 37dph, has been varied to suit the surrounding built form context and future characteristics proposed for the site. Thus, densities are low to medium in the area around the existing Deanslade Farm complex to reflect the character of this location. Similarly the density adjacent to the proposed Country Park is of a low level, realising a visual transition from urban character to rural edge in this area.
- 4.20 The eastern site boundary of the site, which is defined by Birmingham Road has been designed to form a linear pattern of development to the highway. Dwellings within this area are sited to form a high density, which responds to the existing commercial edge created by the existing Travis Perkins and City Plumbing sites, along with the buildings to be erected following the grant of planning permission for the Land East of Birmingham Road site, reference 17/00977/OUTMEI.
- 4.21 The northern boundary, adjacent to Falkland Road and the land safeguarded for the future restored Lichfield and Hatherton Canal route, is also shown in a linear pattern, but has been offset somewhat to allow for landscaping and public access.
- 4.22 Dwellings sited along the site's western boundary with Claypit Lane have been sited so as to be set back away from the road, to aid to preserve the rural character of this area, which is considered to be an appropriate urban solution for this area of the site.

Scale

- 4.23 The development contains a mixture of 1, 2 and 2 ½ storey dwellings, along with the 3 storey apartment building, located to the north eastern edge of the site, which vary in height from between 5.4 metres and 11.3 metres.
- 4.24 The Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment submitted with this application has assessed the impact of a development within this site of up to 10.5 metres in height, via a visual and character assessment. The report advises that this development will have medium scale effects to character within approximately 500m of the site, given the topography of the area and the existing settlement of Lichfield. Beyond 500m the effects to character are likely to be small to negligible given the lack of intervisibility, existing context of built form and the minor alteration to the pattern and character of the wider landscape as a result of the developments.
- 4.25 Whilst the apartment building will be marginally larger than that considered within the LVIA, the conclusions of the report are such so as to ensure that any visual impact remains of only local significance and negligible in terms of wider landscape affect.
- 4.26 Given the above, the height of development proposed within the site is considered acceptable, whilst the variation in roof height evidenced throughout the site is reflective of the surrounding existing built form, also introducing visual interest to the roofscape. In addition, it is noted that the variation in roof height, along with the use of roof furniture, such as chimneys and dormer windows, will create visual interest and texture to the internal street scene views.

Appearance

- 4.27 The design of the dwellings exhibit features typical of the wider area, namely the Sandfields housing estate, which is located to the north west of the site and modern housing estates in general. As such, architectural detailing is evidenced through the use of small overhanging porches, which are the primary tool used to break up the elevation of the majority of dwellings, although brick headers and footers, string courses, bay and bow windows aid and

a variation in material utilised to provide elevational interest. A number of iterations of the house type pack proposed for this development have been submitted through the course of the determination of this application, following comments received from the Council's Urban Design Manager. It should be noted that these amendments have resulted in this consultee now offering no objection to the proposal on design grounds. Thus, the seven character zones proposed throughout the site and the varying detail of dwelling contained therein are considered to be visually acceptable.

- 4.28 Details of the materials palette to be used within the development have been submitted with this application. The latest bricks proposed to be used within the site are Ibstock Himley Worcester Mixture and the Ibstock Alderley Orange are acceptable for use within this development. In addition Weber Silver Pearl render is proposed for use, along with Weinerberger Cranbrook Red and the Ibstock Staffordshire Blue Slate Smooth bricks for detailing work (string courses etc.). The proposed roof tiles are Anthracite and Terracotta Russell Plain roof tiles. The suitability of these materials have been considered by the Council's Urban Design Manager who has determined that they are appropriate to their context and therefore acceptable for use within this development.
- 4.29 The applicant has also submitted details of the proposed fencing and walling scheme with the application. The siting of the fences have been appropriately positioned to ensure that they are visually subservient features within the street scene, whilst the majority of prominent boundary's, for instance those facing onto main routes through the site, are proposed to be constructed from brick to ensure that they remain of a high visual quality throughout the life of the development. The sole boundaries that should be constructed from brick due to their visual prominence, but are presently shown to be formed by a close boarded timber fence are located to the rear of plots 41 and 43-47 where they will be publically visible from the sports pitches. A condition to require the amendment of these boundary treatments is therefore recommended. Lastly to the southern perimeter of the site, 1.5m high metal estate railings are proposed, which will ensure an appropriately soft edge to the surrounding country park and rural edge.
- 4.30 Consequently, it is considered that the proposed housing and associated development would be satisfactorily assimilated into its surroundings and would not have a harmful impact in the wider landscape. Accordingly, it is considered that the application in this regard is consistent with the Development Plan and the thrust of the guidance in the NPPF.

5 Flood Risk and Drainage

- 5.1 The application site is located within Flood Zone 1, which is defined as having little or no risk of flooding from rivers or streams. Such zones generally comprise land assessed as having a less than 1 in 100 annual probability of river or sea flooding in any year.
- 5.2 Staffordshire County Council Flood Team have, following the submission of revised information during the application process, offered no objection to the development, subject to a condition requiring that surface water drainage be undertaken in accordance with the measures identified within the submitted Flood Risk Assessment, which includes the formation of two drainage ponds within the site.
- 5.3 Severn Trent Water have recommended a condition to secure details of foul drainage. Such a condition is considered to be reasonable and necessary and accordingly is recommended. Thus, subject to the abovementioned conditions, the development is considered to comply with the requirements of the Development Plan and NPPF in this regard.

Canal Restoration Route

- 5.4 Policy Lichfield 6 of the Local Plan Strategy advises that when developing the sites that comprise the Lichfield South area the developments should ensure the *“integration of the route for a restored Lichfield Canal into an integrated open space and green infrastructure network”*. No details of how this route should be delivered are provided within this document, rather, simply there is a requirement to safeguard the route.
- 5.5 The application site does not include any of the area safeguarded for the canal route, rather this runs immediately to the north of the site. As such no further consideration of this matter is required as part of this particular application.

6. Public Open Space, Green Infrastructure and Landscaping

- 6.1 The submitted block plan shows the main area of green infrastructure within the development itself running diagonally through the centre of the site from the south east to north western corner; along with small pocket parks dispersed through the development; which includes elements of both formal and informal public open space. There are a total of 7 LAPs and 1 NEAP proposed across the site, with details of the equipment to be installed within the parks supplied within the supporting documentation submitted for this application. No details of facilities within the Open Space such as benches or bins have yet been provided and will be secured under the provisions of the S106 agreement. The country park extends to 16.55ha and includes areas of tree planting, biodiversity enhancement areas, a Community Orchard and an off street car park for 18 vehicles. Lastly the remaining open space area to be considered is the sports facility shown to the western part of the site.
- 6.2 The open space areas proposed within the application site are in excess of 20 ha. The requirement as set out in Policy HSC1 of the Local Plan Strategy for amenity green space is 1.42ha/1000 population. The proposal for 475 dwellings would deliver an estimated population utilising data of average household estimates, which is 2.3 people per property of 1092 residents. This equates to a requirement of 1.55 ha and therefore the application site includes a significant green space over-provision.
- 6.3 The delivery of the Country Park facility within the site will be secured via the S106 agreement, as will its future maintenance by a maintenance management company. It is noted that Lichfield City Council has requested that the Park be completed prior to the first occupation of any of the dwellings. Such a requirement would be overly onerous for the applicant, given the financial implications of securing such, along with difficulties in accessing this area by vehicles. A suitable timeframe for delivery of the Park will therefore be secured as part of the phasing requirement proposed by condition 5.
- 6.4 Paragraph 118 of the NPPF advises that permission should be refused for development resulting in the loss of aged or veteran trees, unless the benefits of the development outweigh the harm. Core Policy 13 of the Local Plan Strategy also seeks to protect veteran trees, whilst Core Policy 14 seeks to ensure that there is no net loss to trees in conservation areas. Policy NR4 and the Trees, Landscaping and Development Supplementary Planning Document seek to ensure that trees are retained, unless their removal is necessary and appropriate mitigation is proposed. The SPD also seeks to ensure that a minimum 20% canopy cover is achieved on development sites.
- 6.5 A community orchard, which is shown to be located within the Country Park, immediately to the south of the built form, is proposed in lieu of allotments. The latter is a requirement for the site identified by Policy HSC1 of the Local Plan Strategy, which requires the following in terms of allotment provision for the SDA's in South Lichfield, *“New allotment space will be provided...at a minimum of 1 plot (150sqm) per 32 households. Allotments will be well*

maintained and well managed and will be designed so as not to have a detrimental visual impact upon the wider landscape. Depending upon location, in some circumstances this may require restrictions upon the number and type of buildings which can be erected to serve the site such as individual sheds”.

- 6.6 The orchard provision has been considered by the Council’s Spatial Policy and Delivery Team and Arboriculturalist who advise that following consideration of the Additional Landscape Information Note submitted by the applicant, it could be considered that the proposed alternative broadly offers a similar type of provision, which subject to appropriate future maintenance (to be secured via the S106 agreement) will offer wider community benefits. In addition, given the prominence of the orchard from Birmingham Road, this being a key entrance point into Lichfield, should this area have been used for allotments, there would have been the potential for such to detract from the character of the site.
- 6.7 The Council’s Arboriculturalist has discussed a number of iterations of the landscaping scheme with the applicant during the determination period. Whilst the landscaping scheme for both on and off plot is nearing approval, there remains elements of the latest considered submission that are inappropriate. As such, presently a condition will be required to ensure that a suitable landscaping scheme for the site along with the protection of trees and hedgerows are agreed and thereafter implemented in an appropriate timeframe.
- 6.8 The requirement for playing field facilities to be delivered within this site, required by Appendix I of the Local Plan Strategy, is proposed by the applicant to be met on-site, should the Council secure a user for the land.
- 6.9 Presently, following discussions between the Council’s Health & Well Being Manager and Sport England, it is envisioned that the facility will be utilised for football, with two adult pitches formed, along with a changing facility to contain two locker rooms and a social space. The cumulative cost of supplying these facilities will fall to the applicant, who, following the Council securing a club for the site, will either build the facility themselves or provide a sum to the Council to enable such to be built utilising a third party. Lastly, should no end user be identified to use the facility, then the S106 agreement should have a clause whereby a significant off-site contribution can be utilised by the Council to form facilities nearby. The acceptability of this agreement and the financial sums involved, have now been agreed, following extensive discussion between the applicant, Sport England and the Council’s consultees on this matter, including the Health & Wellbeing Manager.
- 6.10 Given that the sports facility will be utilised by a club its separation from the school is considered to be appropriate and therefore the request from the Lichfield City Council for these areas to be located together is considered unnecessary.
- 6.11 Given the above considerations, with reference to green infrastructure, this development is considered to comply with the requirements of the Development Plan and NPPF, in this regard.

7 Residential Amenity – Future and Existing Residents

- 7.1 The NPPF core planning principles include the requirement that planning should seek a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings. The Council’s Sustainable Design Supplementary Planning Document contains guidance detailing appropriate space around dwelling standards. These standards establish a minimum distance of 21 metres to separate principle habitable windows and that there should be at least 6 metres between a principal window and private neighbouring residential amenity space.

- 7.2 The SPD also requires that in order to prevent any overbearing impact upon residents, that there should be a minimum of 13 metres between the rear elevation and the blank wall of any proposed dwelling.
- 7.3 Finally the SPD identifies that for 1 or 2 bedroom dwellings a minimum garden size of 45m² should be provided, for 3 or 4 bed 65m² and for 5 bedroom dwellings 100m². All gardens should have a minimum length of 10m.
- 7.4 The layout, broadly complies with the requirements of the SPD, although there are some minor deficiencies noted across the development, with examples such as Plot 453, which contains a 3 Bedroom dwelling, but having a private garden area of 55 sqm. It should be noted in this case however the dwelling is also served by a driveway containing a garage and two car parking spaces. Plot 428 has a garden length of 9.6m, the separation distance between principle windows to the rear elevations of plots 419/420 to 412/413 is 20.2m, whilst plots 362/363 to 364/365 are also 20.2m.
- 7.5 Whilst it is not ideal for a new development to fall short of the space about dwelling guidelines, the deficiencies evidenced throughout the site, are all minimal. Furthermore future residents will be aware of the circumstances prior to moving into the site. Lastly it should be noted that the vast majority of the site is fully compliant with the abovementioned standards.
- 7.6 The layout of the scheme, given the above described circumstances will ensure an appropriate standard of living accommodation for future residents and therefore the development will comply with the requirements of the Development Plan and NPPF in this regard.

Contaminated Land

- 7.7 Paragraph 109 of the NPPF advises that *"the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability"*.
- 7.8 A Contaminated Land Survey has been submitted with the application which indicates low residual effect within the site from landfill gas. The report recommends that additional; assessment is undertaken in the affected areas and in the areas that were inaccessible at the time of the original investigation. Therefore it is recommended that a condition requiring the submission of further ground contamination investigatory work be included within the decision, along with the installation of any mitigation measures as necessary.

Lighting

- 7.9 A Lighting Assessment document has been submitted with this application in order to quantify baseline lighting within the vicinity of the proposed development and identify existing sensitive receptors and allow constraints of any proposals to be assessed at an early stage.
- 7.10 The Assessment and Environmental Health Manager both conclude that the lighting within the development has the potential to cause loss of amenity to future residents, due to lighting within the scheme, particularly around the sporting facilities. To address this matter, a condition requiring the submission and approval by the Local Planning Authority of a lighting scheme, for each phase of development, is recommended.

- 7.11 Thus, subject to compliance with the abovementioned condition, the development will accord with the requirements of the Development Plan and NPPF in this regard.

Noise

- 7.12 The applicant has submitted a Noise Assessment within the Environmental Statement, which considers noise impact upon both the amenity of existing and future residents and existing business uses. The report concludes that the dwellings proposed within the site will require some noise mitigation, primarily due to noise generated by traffic, details of which are recommended by the Council's Environmental Health Manager to be secured via condition. In addition, in order to ensure that the impact of construction activity upon existing and future residents is minimised, a Construction Environment Management Plan is also recommended by the aforementioned consultee.

Air Quality

- 7.13 The applicant has submitted information to demonstrate the impact of this development on air quality. The report advises that dust associated with construction should be controlled by way of a Construction Management Scheme details of which are recommended to be secured by condition. Much of the impact following completion of the development relates to the use of vehicles associated with the occupiers of the development and this will impact upon the Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) of Muckley Corner and A38 Fradley, though the impact will be in the range of 0 to 0.4%. Therefore the overall impact of the proposal on air quality is judged to be insignificant.
- 7.14 It is noted that Staffordshire Authorities including Lichfield are currently working on an Air Quality guide for developers. Whilst this document has yet to be introduced, in the interim, it is recommended that applicants consider the future use of electric vehicles by residents on the development and install appropriate infrastructure, which supports this in dwellings, especially in view of the fact that many will not use their garage to charge an electric vehicle. For instance consideration can be given to external driveway charging points. A note to applicant to this effect is therefore recommended.
- 7.15 Given the above assessment, it is considered that subject to the recommended conditions, the amenity of existing and future residents will be adequately protected and therefore the proposal will be compliant with the requirements of the Development Plan and NPPF in this regard.

8. Loss of Agricultural Land

- 8.1 The application site is currently in arable agricultural use.
- 8.2 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) system classifies land into five grades, with Grade 3 subdivided into Subgrades 3a and 3b. The best and most versatile land is defined as Grades 1, 2 and 3a by policy guidance (Annex 2 of NPPF). Grade 3b is moderate, Grade 4 is poor and Grade 5 is very poor.
- 8.3 Paragraph 112 of the NPPF states that *"Local planning authorities should take into account the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land. Where significant development of agricultural land is demonstrated to be necessary, local planning authorities should seek to use areas of poorer quality land in preference to that of a higher quality"*.
- 8.4 The Agricultural Land Classification document submitted with this application, details the below results analysis for soil samples taken from the site:

Grade	Description	Area (ha)
2	Very good quality	1.2
3a	Good quality	27.3
3b	Moderate quality	9.2

- 8.5 As such, whilst the site does contain a small area of very good quality soil, the majority is defined as being of good quality. Therefore the loss of this land from food production would not be of significant concern, but will have to be considered within the planning balance exercise.

9 Biodiversity

- 9.1 To comply with the guidance contained within Paragraphs 9, 108 and 118 of the NPPF and the Council's biodiversity duty as defined under section 40 of the NERC Act 2006, new development must demonstrate that it will not result in the loss of any biodiversity value of the site.
- 9.2 Due to the Local Planning Authorities obligation to "*reflect and where appropriate promote relevant EU obligations and statutory requirements*" (Paragraph 2 of NPPF) the applicant must display a net gain to biodiversity value, through development, as per the requirements of the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020. Furthermore, producing a measurable net-gain to biodiversity value is also made a requirement of all developments within Lichfield District under Policy NR3 of the Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy.
- 9.3 The applicant has submitted a Construction Environment Management Plan, Habitat Management Plan and an Ecological Baseline Report and Ecology Management Plan with the application, which have assessed the site's biodiversity value and its usage by protected species.
- 9.4 The Council's Ecologist advises that the development be undertaken in accordance with the recommendations of the Ecological Baseline Report and Ecology Management Plan, to ensure that there will be no impact upon protected species or their habitat to ensure compliance the abovementioned legislation and policies.
- 9.5 A positive ecological impact, specifically a habitat value uplift of 20% is required by Local Plan Strategy Policy NR3 and the Biodiversity and Development Supplementary Planning Document. A 23.6% habitat uplift will be achieved within this site, primarily through measures contained within the Country Park, along with the planting of the landscaping scheme. Such provision is recommended to be secured via the use of a condition to ensure that the development is undertaken in accordance within the requirements of the Construction Environment Management Plan and Habitat Management Plan. The net gain in biodiversity should be attributed appropriate material weight as per the guidance of Paragraph 188 of the NPPF. Subject to compliance with this condition the development accords with the requirements of the NPPF and Development Plan with regard to ecological considerations.
- 9.6 The agreed strategy for the Cannock Chase SAC is set out in Policy NR7 of the Council's Local Plan Strategy, which requires that before development is permitted, it must be demonstrated that in itself or in combination with other development it will not have an adverse effect whether direct or indirect upon the integrity of the Cannock Chase SAC having regard to avoidance or mitigation measures. In particular, dwellings within a 15km radius of any boundary of Cannock Chase SAC will be deemed to have an adverse impact on the SAC unless or until satisfactory avoidance and/or mitigation measures have been secured.

9.7 Subsequent to the adoption of the Local Plan Strategy, the Council adopted further guidance on 10 March 2015, acknowledging a 15km Zone of Influence and seeking financial contributions for the required mitigation from development within the 0-8km zone. This site lies within the 8 - 15 km zone and as such is not directly liable to financial mitigation.

10. Waste Management

10.1 Policy 1.2 of the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Joint Waste Local Plan, as supported by paragraph 8 of the National Planning Policy for Waste requires the better use of waste associated with non-waste related development, where all 'major development' proposals should:

- i. Use / Address waste as a resource;
- ii. Minimise waste as far as possible;
- iii. Demonstrate the use of sustainable design and construction techniques, i.e.: resource efficiency in terms of sourcing of materials, construction methods, and demolition;
- iv. Enable the building to be easily decommissioned or reused for a new purpose; and enable the future recycling of the building fabric to be used for its constituent material;
- v. Maximise on-site management of construction, demolition and excavation waste arising during construction;
- vi. Make provision for waste collection to facilitate, where practicable, separated waste collection systems; and,
- vii. Be supported by a site waste management / waste audit if the development is likely to generate significant volumes of waste.

10.2 The application is accompanied by a Waste Audit and Waste Management Strategy ('the Strategy'). In respect of ground modelling and earthworks/excavation calculations, it is stated that a net fill of approximately 33,000m³ (approximately 45,000 tonnes) will be required to level the site. Approximately 8,000m³ (approximately 12,000 tonnes) of construction waste is also estimated from the development. The Strategy sets out that waste minimisation would be part of the overall sustainable design of the project and up to 80% of construction waste could be designed out. Also a construction material recycling facility could be developed at the start of the project and used as a hub for storing used construction material and a centre for recycling for further use on the project.

10.3 The Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Joint Waste Local Plan contains the relevant waste planning policy considerations for the infill process identified for this development. Policy 1.4 (Use of Waste for landscaping, screening, engineering purposes or for the improvement of agricultural or forestry land) emphasises the importance of ensuring that the amount of material is reasonable and necessary and that the proposals are comprehensive, detailed, practicable and achievable within the proposed timescales. Policy 4.2 (Protection of environmental quality) identifies the matters that may be relevant to protect environmental quality, including the effects on people, local communities, and the highway network. Paragraph 6.4 provides a list of the type of matters that may be controlled by condition, which include a condition to define the duration of the development. Assuming an average HGV payload of 20-tonnes the fill required equates to a total of approximately 2,250 HGV loads or 4,500 two-way HGV movements. It is also important to limit the duration of temporary operations in order to minimise the effects on local amenity, the environment and the highway network.

10.4 Finally given the proposed Waste Management Strategy to design out up to 80% of construction waste, it would be appropriate to monitor progress of the fill operations, in addition to ongoing monitoring of waste materials generated and processed on site.

- 10.5 Having regard to the policies, guidance and observations referred to above, the application will be policy compliant, subject to the inclusion of a condition to define the duration of the infill operations and ongoing monitoring of waste materials generated and reused on site.

11. Archaeology

- 11.1 Paragraph 128 of the NPPF places a duty on Local Planning Authorities to “*require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets’ importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance*”.

- 11.2 The applicant has submitted an Archaeological Assessment with the application which has found no archaeological features or deposits within the site, whilst also concluding that there was low potential for any further archaeological remains to survive. This assessment has been supported by the Council’s Archaeologist and as such no condition to require the submission of any further information is required. Therefore the application complies with the requirements of the Development Plan and NPPF in this regard.

12. Planning Obligations including Education Provision

- 12.1 Under the provisions of Policy IP1 of the Local Plan Strategy major new developments are required to make provisions for social/community facilities as the need for which arises from the development and that are commensurate to the scale and nature of the proposals. Such provision can be by way of direct on-site provision and/or by a contribution made for the provision of facilities elsewhere. .

Education Provision

- 12.2 The site falls within the catchments of Christ Church CE (VC) Primary School, Lichfield and The Friary School, both of which are projected to be full for the foreseeable future. Given that the development is for 475 dwellings, it is likely to add 145 Primary School aged pupils, giving an education contribution requirement of £2,938,839, plus the land to be provided to form the on-site 1 FE Primary School. Education contributions for secondary school infrastructure will be sought through CIL contributions.
- 12.3 Other elements required to be included within the S106 are covered previously in this report.

13. Other Issues

- 13.1 The matters raised by Lichfield City Council have largely been discussed within the above report. The remaining concern regarding the request for additional bungalows to be supplied within the site, beyond the 7 proposed is noted. However, there is no policy requirement in the Local Plan to require further provision.
- 13.2 The concerns raised by residents have also been largely addressed within the above report. Of those that remain it is evident that any damage to existing property caused by construction activity would be a private matter between the applicant and landowner, whilst the need for a further pedestrian access crossing over Falkland Road (an existing crossing exists adjacent to the north western corner of the site), will have been considered by the Highway Authority and secured if considered to have been reasonable and necessary. Concerns regarding overlooking of existing property from the Country Park are noted, but a separation distance of approximately 450m from the edge of this new facility to existing

property ensures any impact would be wholly minimal in nature. The potential for residents to discard litter within the area, loss in value to property and the ability to gain access to mains gas and broadband are given very little planning weight in the determination of this application, given they are not material planning matters. Finally the request from the local Scouts Group to utilise the sports pavilion is noted and the request has been forwarded to the Council's Health & Wellbeing Manager to progress.

- 13.3 With reference to the comments raised by LARA, once more the majority of points have been considered within the above report, however it is noted that the requested provision of hedgehog friendly fencing, solar panel provision and gas boiler provision for each dwellings has not been secured as no there is no Planning Policy provision to secure the delivery of such.

14 Financial Considerations (including Community Infrastructure Levy)

- 14.1 This development is a CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) liable scheme set within an SDA zone, where the applicable rate of £14 per square metre. This will be payable in accordance with the Council's adopted CIL Instalments Policy, unless otherwise agreed.

- 14.2 The development would give rise to a number of economic benefits. For example, it would generate employment opportunities including for local companies, in the construction industry during construction. The development would also generate New Homes Bonus and Council Tax.

15. Human Rights

- 15.1 The proposals set out in the report are considered to be compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998. The proposals may interfere with neighbour's rights under Article 8 of Schedule 1 to the Human Rights Act, which provides that everyone has the right to respect for their private and family life, home and correspondence. Interference with this right can only be justified if it is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society. The potential interference here has been fully considered within the report and on balance is justified and proportionate in relation to the provisions of the policies of the Development Plan and National Policy in the NPPF.

Conclusion

The NPPF states that there are three dimensions to sustainable development, namely economic, social and environmental and that these should be considered collectively and weighed in the balance when assessing the suitability of development proposals. With reference to this scheme, economically the proposal will provide employment opportunities, through creating a development opportunity, whose future residents would support existing and proposed facilities within the area. Socially, the proposal would have little impact upon existing residents, whilst suitable conditions can secure the amenity of future residents within the site. In addition the scale of development is compliant with the requirements of the Council's Local Plan Strategy.

Environmentally the site is a key Strategic Development Allocation and occupies a location where any landscape harm will be localised. It is considered that adequate, high quality public open space will be provided on site to meet the needs of future and existing residents, whilst sports provision will be met on site to ensure the health and well-being of residents. The number of dwellings and mix proposed, will provide a suitable density of development to integrate into the character of the area, whilst also helping to meet the accommodation needs of the District. The development will cause less than substantial harm to the setting of two Grade II Listed Buildings, although the degree of harm has been partially mitigated through the introduction of appropriate landscaping to reduce

the intervisibility between the development and this site. In addition the scheme will remove a small area of very good soil from food production.

With regard to transport and highways, adequate information and detail has been included within the supporting information to demonstrate that sustainable travel choices are available in close proximity of the site. Acceptable details have been provided with regard to two of the three vehicular access points to ensure that the development can be safely and appropriately accessed, without undue harm to either the character and appearance of the area, existing or future residents or highway and pedestrian safety. The suitability of the third vehicular access will be addressed prior to the issuing of any decision notice to ensure that it is served by the requisite visibility splays. Furthermore, it has been demonstrated that the development will have an acceptable impact upon the Strategic Highway Network.

Subject to suitable conditions there will be no adverse impact on protected or priority species, whilst a positive biodiversity impact will be created within the site. With regard to drainage, residential amenity and the development's impact on the surrounding landscape, it is considered that adequate mitigation would be provided and that, subject to appropriate conditions, no material harm will be caused.

It is therefore considered that the principle of residential development is acceptable and that no other material planning considerations exist to warrant the refusal of the planning application. Thus, subject to conditions and the applicant entering into a Section 106 Agreement, it is considered that, the development is acceptable, and accordingly, the recommendation is one of approval.

LOCATION PLAN

18/00538/COU
14 Bloomsbury Way
Lichfield

Scale: 1:500

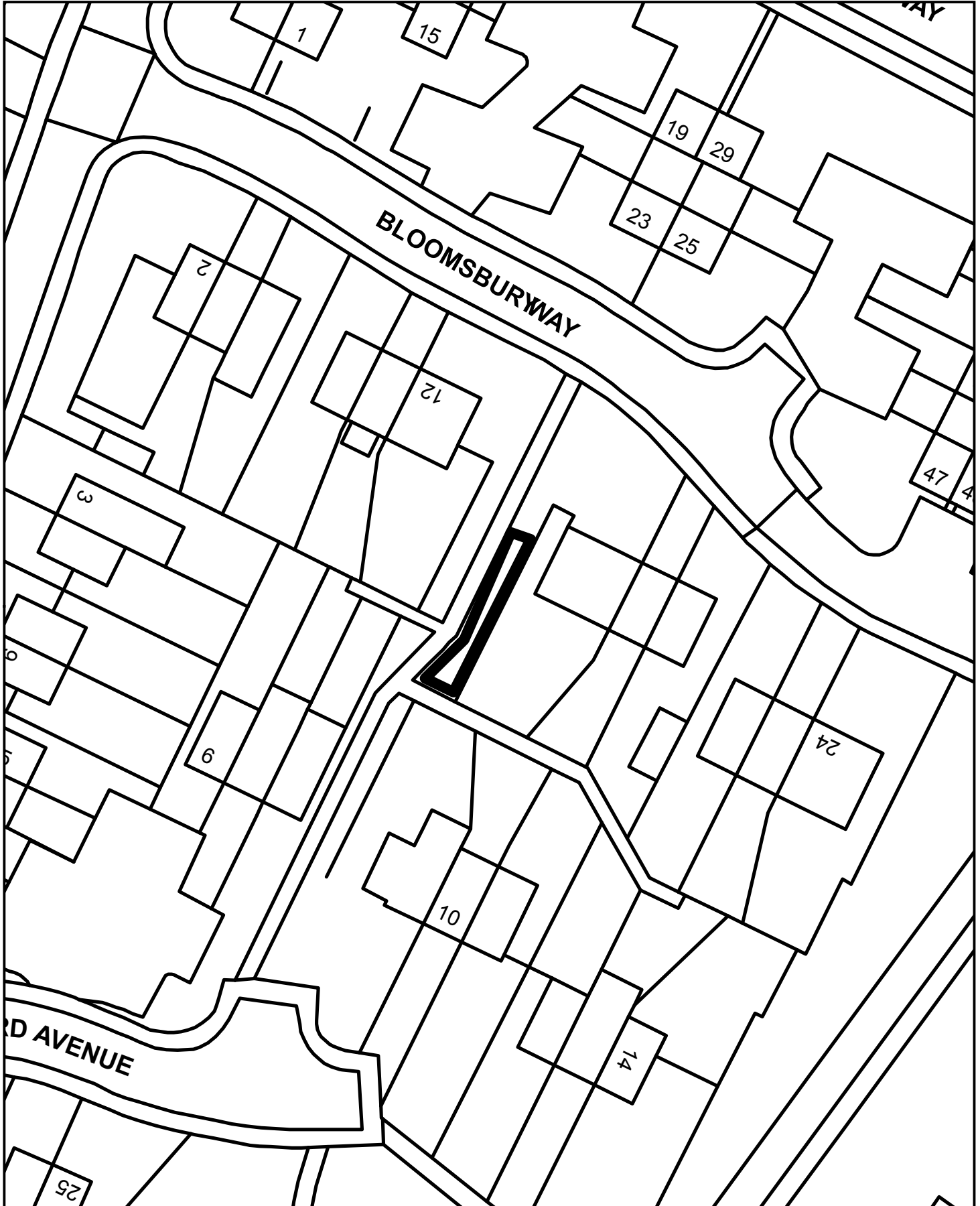
Dated: June 2018

Drawn By:

Drawing No:



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BLOCK PLAN

18/00538/COU
14 Bloomsbury Way
Lichfield

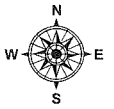
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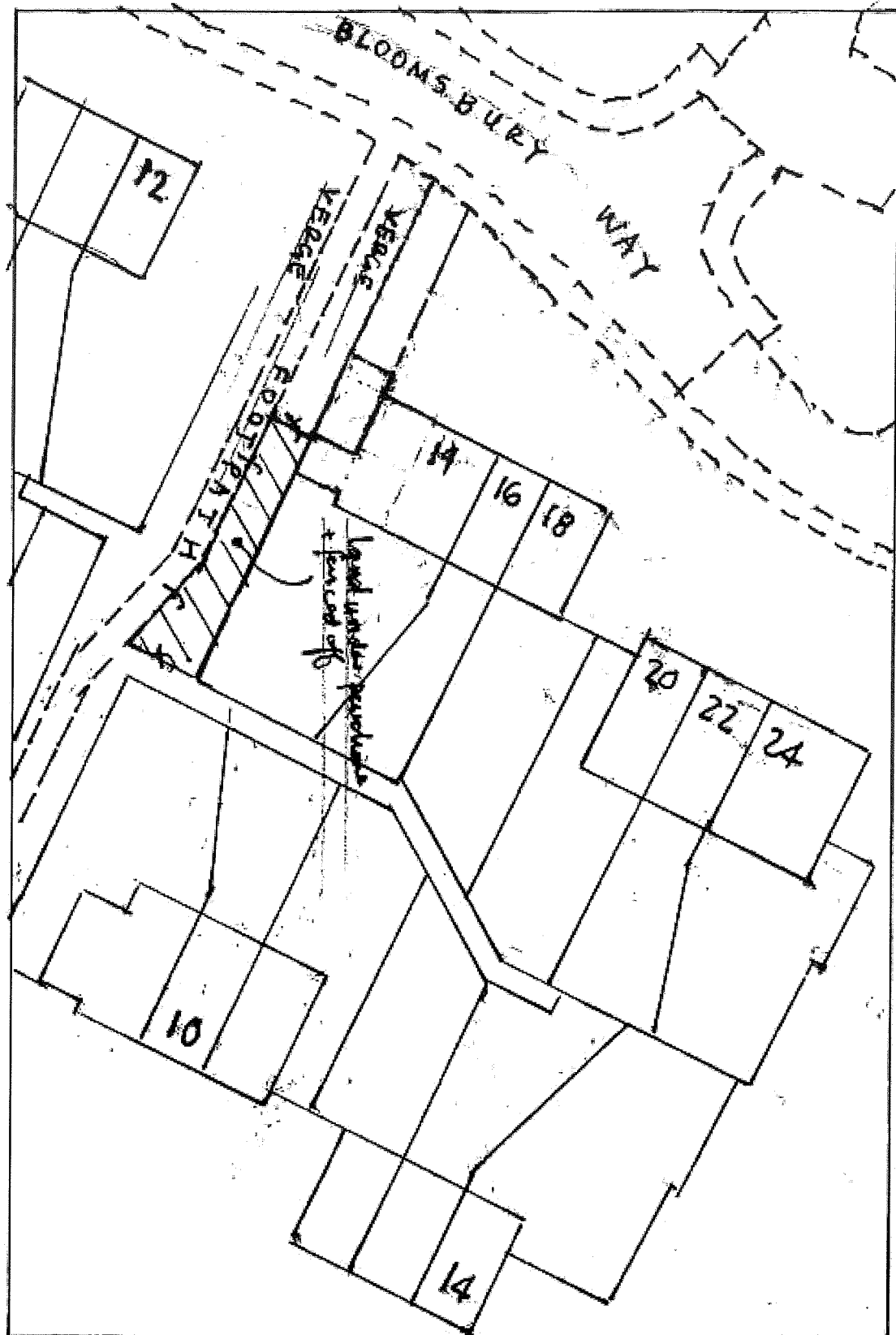
June 2018

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**CHANGE OF USE OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE TO FORM AN INCREASE IN THE GARDEN AREA OF THE ADJACENT PROPERTY, INCLUDING INSTALLATION OF NEW 2.0M HIGH BOUNDARY FENCE, DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BOUNDARY WALL, AND INSTALLATION OF NEW TIMBER GATE
14 BLOOMSBURY WAY, LICHFIELD
FOR MR D COBB**

Registered on 04/04/18

Parish: Lichfield

Note: This application is being reported to the Planning Committee as the land subject to the application is owned by Lichfield District Council.

RECOMMENDATION: Refuse

1. The boundary treatment, by virtue of its siting, height and proximity to the public footpath would result in an over-dominant and incongruous form of development which would create an inactive edge directly adjacent a public footpath. Furthermore, it would enclose and narrow the area around the public footpath, detracting from the character and appearance of the area to the detriment of the public amenity. The proposal would therefore be contrary to Core Policy 3 (Delivering Sustainable Development) and Policy BE1 (High Quality Development) of the Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy 2015; the Sustainable Design Supplementary Planning Document and Government Guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

PLANNING POLICY

Government Guidance

National Planning Policy Framework
National Planning Policy Guidance

Local Plan Strategy

Core Policy 2: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development
Core Policy 3: Delivering Sustainable Development
Core Policy 14: Our Built & Historic Environment
Policy BE1: High Quality Development
Policy NR3: Biodiversity, Protected Species & their Habitats
Policy NR4: Trees, Woodland & Hedgerows
Policy BE1: High Quality Development

Neighbourhood Plan

Lichfield City Neighbourhood Plan

Supplementary Planning Documents & Other

Sustainable Design SPD
Biodiversity & Development SPD
Trees, Landscaping & Development SPD

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY

16/00652/FUL - Single storey side extension to form store / workshop – Approved 21.07.16

04/01239/FUL - Two storey side extension to form study, lounge / dining room and bedrooms – Approved 06.01.05

CONSULTATIONS

Lichfield City Council – No objection (04.05.18)

Arboricultural Officer - The application proposes to remove one semi-mature lime tree that formally stood on public owned land. This tree was therefore intended as a public amenity and was a public asset. Whilst there is no objection to the enclosure of the land I consider that the continuation of tree cover to afford public amenity close to the public footpath is still desirable. Therefore if consent is granted, including the removal of the lime tree, I recommend that a condition is applied requiring the replacement planting within the rear garden of a small to medium-sized ornamental tree that may be more suitable as part of a small garden but is still sizeable enough to be visible from the public right-of-way and give some public amenity. Suitable species could be ornamental apples such as Malus 'Evereste', varieties of whitebeam such as Sorbus aria 'Majestica' or Himalayan birch (Betula jacquemontii). (15.05.18)

LDC Estate Manager - The applicant has approached LDC as the landowner regarding the purchase of the land. Any conveyance of the land will include a clause to ensure that the land is only used for private garden and cannot be built upon. (04.05.18)

Staffordshire County Council Highways - No objection subject to a condition to ensure that no part of the gate and fencing or its foundations, fixtures and fittings projects forward of the highway boundary. (08.05.18)

Staffordshire Police Architectural Liaison Officer – No response received.

LETTERS OF REPRESENTATION

None

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

The applicant has submitted a 'Further additional and supportive information' document

OBSERVATIONS

Site and Location

This application relates to an area of land to the northwest of 14 Bloomsbury Way, which is a semi-detached dwelling sited south of Bloomsbury Way in Lichfield. The site is a public footpath which is bound by a grassed area and brick walls. There is a lighting column and tree within the footpath. The site is surrounded by residential properties. No. 14 Bloomsbury Way has been previously extended with a two storey and single storey side extension. The dwelling has a drive to the front and garden to the rear which is bound by a brick wall and fencing to the rear.

Proposal

This application seeks to change the use of the public open space to the northwest boundary of the dwelling between the existing boundary wall and footpath to form residential curtilage in order to extend the garden of number 14 Bloomsbury Way. The land will be enclosed with a 2m high timber fence with a gate. The fence will be erected adjacent to the footpath. The existing boundary wall will be removed and the lime tree currently sited within the open space will also be removed.

Determining Issues

1. Policy / Principle of Development
2. Design and Appearance
3. Landscaping / Trees
4. Other Issues
5. Human Rights

1. Policy / Principle of Development

- 1.1 At the heart of the NPPF is the presumption in favour of sustainable development. For decision-taking, this means that proposals that accord with the development plan should be approved without delay. Also, the NPPF attaches great importance to design of the built environment and sets out that high quality and inclusive design should be applied to all development, including individual buildings, private spaces and wider area development schemes. It also states that development should respond to local character and history, and reflect the identity of local surroundings. This sentiment is echoed in Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy which requires development to respect the character of the surrounding area and development in terms of layout, size, scale, design and public views.
- 1.2 The proposal relates to an alteration to the curtilage and boundary of an existing residential property within a residential area of Lichfield. The principle of such development is generally acceptable within a residential area.
- 1.3 In terms of this application, the proposal seeks to change the use of incidental public open space to private residential garden. This public open space is not of high usable value as it is bound by the public footpath and boundary of the adjacent dwelling. It is considered that the loss of this public open space is acceptable in principle, subject to an acceptable design as discussed below. As such the principle of change of use is considered acceptable.

2. Design and Appearance

- 2.1 The NPPF attaches great importance to design of the built environment and sets out that high quality and inclusive design should be applied to all development, including individual buildings, private spaces and wider area development schemes. It also states that development should respond to local character and history, and reflect the identity of local surroundings. This sentiment is echoed in Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy which requires that extensions and alterations to existing buildings, to carefully respect the character of the surrounding area and development in terms of layout, size, scale, design and public views. The Policy states that new development should have a positive impact on the public realm and should have a positive impact upon public safety, including the latest 'designing out crime' principles. It also states that development should have a positive impact upon the natural environment and that hard and soft landscaping, including tree planting, is required.
- 2.2 The character of the surrounding area is formed by open frontages and footpaths within landscaped areas. The public realm comprises of numerous trees and boundaries consisting predominantly of brick walls. The proposed wooden boundary fence sited to the rear of the footpath and removal of landscape features would not be in keeping with the surrounding character of the area and would be to the detriment of the appearance and visual amenity of the public footpath. It is considered that by introducing a fence to the back of the footpath narrowing the public realm would result in an overbearing impact upon the footpath, which would reduce visibility and surveillance for users, which would conflict with principles of designing out crime. As such proposals would be contrary to Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy in this regard.

2.3 Whilst it is noted that the applicant has provided additional and supportive information which indicates a number of footpaths within the surrounding area which are bound by fences and walls, it is considered that as a result these footpaths lack surveillance and openness. Given such examples, it is not considered acceptable to enclose an existing relatively open footpath. As Members are aware existing situations should not create a precedent and all applications should be considered on its own merits.

3. Landscaping / Trees

3.1 The proposal includes the removal of an existing maturing lime tree which is within the public realm. Policy BE1 states that development should have a positive impact upon the natural environment and that hard and soft landscaping, including tree planting, is required. It is considered that the lime tree provides public amenity. However, the Arboricultural Officer has no objections to the scheme subject to the recommendation of a condition on any approval, which would require replacement planting of a suitable sized tree within the rear garden, which would be visible from the public footpath, in order to provide public amenity. As such the proposal therefore accords with the Development Plan and NPPF in this regard.

4. Other Issues

4.1 Staffordshire County Council Highways consider the proposal to be acceptable subject to a condition being imposed to ensure that no part of the gate and fencing or its foundations, fixtures and fittings projects forward onto the footpath boundary. Subject to this, the proposal therefore accords with the Development Plan and NPPF in this regard.

5. Human Rights

5.1 The proposals set out in the report are considered to be compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998. Article 1 of the first protocol may be of relevance as it provides for every natural and legal person to be entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of their possessions. However it is specifically stated that this right shall not impair the right of the state to enforce such laws as it deems necessary to control the use of property in accordance with the general interest. The interference likely to occur here has been fully assessed in this report. It is considered that any interference can be justified in the general interest, as defined by national planning policy and policies of the Development Plan, and is proportionate. The applicant has a right of appeal in accordance with Article 6.

Conclusion

The principle of the development is considered to be acceptable, however due to the design and appearance of the proposed physical works the development is not considered to be acceptable. The NPPF states that there are three dimensions to sustainable development, namely economic, social and environmental and that these should be considered collectively and weighed in the balance when assessing the suitability of development proposals. With reference to this scheme, economically the development will provide a small scale development project. However socially, this scheme would create an area of footpath with reduced visibility and surveillance to the detriment of footpath users. Lastly environmentally, this scheme would not be in keeping with the surrounding character of the area and would be to the detriment of the appearance and character of the public footpath. The scheme would narrow the public realm which would result in an overbearing impact upon the footpath.

As such the proposal is contrary to Policy BE1 of the Local Plan Strategy and is recommended for refusal.