

6 April 2023

Committee	Planning	
Date	Tuesday, 18 April 2023	
Time of Meeting	10:00 am	
Venue	Tewkesbury Borough Council Offices, Severn Room	

## ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE REQUESTED TO ATTEND

Agenda

#### 1. ANNOUNCEMENTS

When the continuous alarm sounds you must evacuate the building by the nearest available fire exit. Members and visitors should proceed to the visitors' car park at the front of the building and await further instructions (during office hours staff should proceed to their usual assembly point; outside of office hours proceed to the visitors' car park). Please do not reenter the building unless instructed to do so.

In the event of a fire any person with a disability should be assisted in leaving the building.

#### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

To receive apologies for absence and advise of any substitutions.

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pursuant to the adoption by the Council on 24 January 2023 of the Tewkesbury Borough Council Code of Conduct, effective from 1 February 2023, as set out in Minute No. CL.72, Members are invited to declare any interest they may have in the business set out on the Agenda to which the approved Code applies.

4.	MIN	IUTES	1 - 26
	Тоа	approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2023.	
5.		VELOPMENT CONTROL - APPLICATIONS TO THE BOROUGH UNCIL	
	(a)	22/00986/FUL - Land Opposite Village Hall, Main Road, Tirley	27 - 40
		<b>PROPOSAL:</b> Erection of a single storey self-build dwelling and associated works.	
		OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: Refuse.	
	(b)	22/00446/FUL - Land on the West Side of Willow Bank Road, Alderton	41 - 57
		<b>PROPOSAL:</b> Creation of new access to paddock (to allow field access whilst Severn Trent re-lay the existing sewage pipe and associated works using existing access).	
		OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: Permit.	
	(c)	22/00893/FUL - Astmans Farm Poultry Unit, Maisemore	58 - 67
		<b>PROPOSAL:</b> Erection of a general-purpose agricultural storage building.	
		OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: Permit.	
6.	CU	RRENT APPEALS AND APPEAL DECISIONS UPDATE	68 - 69
	То	consider current planning and enforcement appeals and Department	

Item

To consider current planning and enforcement appeals and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities appeal decisions.

## DATE OF NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY, 25 MAY 2023

## COUNCILLORS CONSTITUTING COMMITTEE

Councillors: K Berliner, R A Bird, G F Blackwell (Vice-Chair), R D East (Chair), M A Gore, D J Harwood, M L Jordan, E J MacTiernan, J R Mason, J P Mills, P W Ockelton, A S Reece, J K Smith, P E Smith, R J G Smith, P D Surman, R J E Vines, M J Williams and P N Workman

## Substitution Arrangements

The Council has a substitution procedure and any substitutions will be announced at the beginning of the meeting.

#### **Recording of Meetings**

In accordance with the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, please be aware that the proceedings of this meeting may be recorded and this may include recording of persons seated in the public gallery or speaking at the meeting. Please notify the Democratic Services Officer if you have any objections to this practice and the Chair will take reasonable steps to ensure that any request not to be recorded is complied with.

Any recording must take place in such a way as to ensure that the view of Councillors, Officers, the public and press is not obstructed. The use of flash photography and/or additional lighting will not be allowed unless this has been discussed and agreed in advance of the meeting.

# Agenda Item 4

## **TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

#### Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning Committee held at the Council Offices, Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury on Tuesday, 21 March 2023 commencing at 10:00 am

#### Present:

Chair Vice Chair Councillor R D East Councillor G F Blackwell

#### and Councillors:

K Berliner, R A Bird, M A Gore, D J Harwood, M L Jordan, J R Mason, J P Mills, P W Ockelton, J K Smith, P E Smith, R J G Smith, R J E Vines, M J Williams and P N Workman

#### also present:

Councillors C L J Carter and R J Stanley

#### PL.52 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 52.1 The evacuation procedure, as noted on the Agenda, was advised to those present.
- 52.2 The Committee observed a one minute silence to mark the death of Honorary Alderman Philip Awford.
- 52.3 The Chair gave a brief outline of the procedure for Planning Committee meetings, including public speaking.

#### PL.53 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

53.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E J MacTiernan, A S Reece and P D Surman. There were no substitutes for the meeting.

#### PL.54 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 54.1 The Committee's attention was drawn to the Tewkesbury Borough Code of Conduct which was adopted by the Council on 24 January 2023 and took effect on 1 February 2023.
- 54.2 The following declarations were made:

Councillor	Application No./Agenda Item	Nature of Interest (where disclosed)	Declared Action in respect of Disclosure
D J Harwood	Agenda Item 5a – 22/00251/APP – Phases 4 and 6, Land at Perrybrook, North Brockworth.	Is a Member of Brockworth Parish Council but does not participate in planning matters.	Would speak and vote.

J R Mason	Agenda Item 5e – 22/00609/FUL – Starvealls Cottage, Postlip, Winchcombe.	Is a Member of Winchcombe Town Council but does not participate in planning matters.	Would speak and vote.
J P Mills	Agenda Item 5a – 22/00251/APP – Phases 4 and 6, Land at Perrybrook, North Brockworth.	Is a Member of Brockworth Parish Council and attends its Planning Committee but does not discuss or vote on applications.	Would speak and vote.
R J E Vines	Agenda Item 5a – 22/00251/APP – Phases 4 and 6, Land at Perrybrook, North Brockworth.	Is a Gloucestershire County Councillor for the area.	Would speak and vote.
	Agenda Item 5d – 21/00868/FUL – Land Adjoining Blenheim Way, School Lane, Shurdington.		

54.3 There were no further declarations made on this occasion.

#### PL.55 MINUTES

55.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2023, copies of which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### PL.56 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL - APPLICATIONS TO THE BOROUGH COUNCIL

56.1 The objections to, support for, and observations upon the various applications as referred to in Appendix 1 attached to these Minutes were presented to the Committee and duly taken into consideration by Members prior to decisions being made on those applications.

#### 22/00251/APP - Phases 4 and 6, Land at Perrybrook, North Brockworth

56.2 This was an approval of reserved matters application (appearance, landscape, layout, scale) for Phases 4 and 6 comprising development of new homes, landscaping, open space and associated works pursuant to outline permission 12/01256/OUT. The Planning Committee had visited the application site on Friday 13 February 2023. The application had been deferred by the Planning Committee at its meeting on 21 February 2023 for concerns to be addressed in respect of construction traffic, design issues relating to neighbouring residential amenity to the east, the landscape buffer to the eastern boundary, the local play area/attenuation pond, the bridge over/redirection of the Public Right of Way, the Oak tree being removed for a parking space, the lack of connectivity to services/surrounding areas and the arrangements for cycling.

- 56.3 The Development Management Team Leader (East) drew attention to Page No. 35 of the Committee report in relation to construction traffic and explained that the report was correct in stating that this matter had been considered during the determination of the original outline permission resulting in the imposition of Condition 27 which required no development to take place until a construction environmental management plan was approved; however, he should also have included reference to Condition 14 of the outline permission which required a construction management statement to be provided. He advised that the conditions were relevant to the whole site, rather than a phased approach, and confirmed they had been satisfied and discharged. Since the last meeting, the applicant had redesigned the site layout to address the concerns raised by Members which included the gable of a building on Maple Drive which the applicant had now moved further to the west to provide a wider landscape buffer away from the boundary. With regard to the south-east of the site, concerns had been raised in relation to the impact of a gable end backing onto a dwelling and the Development Management Team Leader (East) explained that was based on the plan originally submitted with the application which had subsequently changed following negotiations with the developer to ensure a back to back relationship with neighbouring dwellings, as could be seen from the plan displayed today. In terms of the footpath redirection, the Development Management Team Leader (East) explained that the spine road had been agreed at outline stage and it was inevitable that it would need to cross the footpath which would run directly under the new bridge. The applicant had advised that significant work would be required to raise the bridge to achieve head height clearance, therefore, the proposal was to redirect the footpath.
- 56.4 The Chair invited a local resident speaking in objection to the proposal to address the Committee. The local resident explained he had not been aware of the proposed revisions prior to today so his speech had been written on the basis of the plans on the Council's website and, as of yesterday, no new documents had been posted in relation to this scheme. He wished to seek assurance that work would not commence to the southern phase of the development until the new roundabout on Valiant Way had been completed in order to ensure the minimum amount of disruption from construction traffic. Regarding plot numbers 353-368, it appeared the house had now been moved back approximately one metre which did not seem to address residents' concerns regarding the shadows that would be cast in the gardens in Maple Drive and the loss of light and amenity. He also wished to object to the fact that the so-called reinforced landscape edge between the new development and the existing houses in Ermin Park and Maple Drive was now so narrow it was completely ineffective, in places consisting only of a path and a minute patch of soil scarcely wide enough to plant anything in – he felt the landscape edge was still too narrow even with the revisions resulting in more of a path than an area for planting. In particular, he objected to the vary narrow planting beds at the back of his neighbour's house and behind 34 Westfield Road which was so narrow it would be impossible to maintain or prevent from filling up with brambles, nettles and unwanted nuisance trees.
- 56.5 The Chair invited the applicant's representative to address the Committee. The applicant's representative explained that the proposal built on the consented outline for permission for the site which formed part of the wider mixed use development of up to 1,500 homes granted in 2016. They had been working on the design of the development and preparation of an application for the past two years and, over this period, the scheme had been reworked multiple times to incorporate comments from the Council, consultees and professional bodies. The development had been designed, and would be delivered, in line with the consented outline permission, including construction traffic management. It was considered the application met all key requirements, as highlighted by the Officer recommendation for approval and the lack of objections from all professional consultees. Following the previous Committee meeting, they had looked to address the concerns raised and provide

clarity on some outstanding questions. Confirmation had been provided that the construction traffic management would run in line with the consented outline permission and access would initially be provided to Phase 4 through the existing Linden development site. Access into Phase 6 land would be provided via a new four arm roundabout on Valiant Way - this roundabout was approved at the outline planning stage and technical approval was expected in the next three months with works targeted to commence in September/October 2023 and completion in March/April 2024 at which point construction traffic would access via that entrance. Concerns had been raised by the residents of a property on Ermin Road specifically regarding a gable wall close to the boundary and the applicant's representative confirmed the development had been redesigned to take this into account so there was no longer a gable wall facing the property and there was now a distance of approximately 22 metres between their property and the closest new dwelling. Questions had also been raised around plot 355 and the landscape buffer and the applicant's representative confirmed this area had been redesigned to provide an enhanced landscape buffer which was set out in the latest plans and showed a 19.5 metre separation between the property and the nearest existing house; site wide landscaping would be managed and maintained by a management company. Additionally, the applicant's representative confirmed that the existing footpaths would remain, albeit the layout of one would be very slightly altered. County Highways had confirmed it was content the site provided appropriate cycling infrastructure and links to the wider sustainable travel network. Tree removal was in accordance with the consented outline permission which allowed for the removal of trees; however, T11, an English Oak in good condition, would be retained. T8 and T10, being dead and a category C respectively, would be removed. The applicant's representative hoped Members could see the hard work that had been put in collectively by the Council, professional bodies and residents over a considerable period of time and would feel able to permit the application in accordance with the Officer recommendation.

- 56.6 The Chair invited a local Ward Member to address the Committee. The local Ward Member indicated that he did not object to the development itself but to its negative impacts. In terms of the nature corridor, the outline planning permission prescribed that the footpath should go under the road uninterrupted and re-routing would impact on the much loved and well used nature corridor which was important to local residents. He felt that other options, such as a subway, should be explored. In terms of active travel options, the outline planning permission prescribed that routes be provided through the site which did not seem to be the case. He believed that the construction method statement agreed at the outline stage had been contradicted in terms of the route being taken by construction traffic to access the site and the conditions around deliveries and loading/unloading in a designated area within the site boundary.
- 56.7 The Chair indicated that the Officer recommendation was to approve the application and he sought a motion from the floor. It was proposed and seconded that the application be approved in accordance with the Officer recommendation. A Member indicated that he sat on another Committee for a different authority where concerns had been raised regarding houses being built directly on a footpath and he asked for confirmation that no houses were to be constructed along the existing footpath in this instance. In response, the Development Management Team Leader (East) clarified that that the footpath to the north ran across the road within the site and there were no dwellings in or around the footpath. A footpath diversion order would be required and any obstructions would be considered as part of those details. Another Member asked, as he had at the last meeting, for the capacity of the culvert given the water flow from the escarpment would travel to parts of his Ward which already experienced issues with flooding. He also asked for confirmation that the bridge would comply with the Equalities Act 2010 in terms of disabled access. In response, the Development Management Team Leader (East) advised that he did

not have any information regarding disability compliance or water flows; however, with regard to the latter, the Lead Local Flood Authority and the Environment Agency had been consulted on the proposals and had raised no objection. The Member understood that the roundabout would be in place by 2024 and, based on that timescale, he asked what the trajectory would be in terms of delivery of houses. The Development Management Team Leader (East) advised that an application for the roundabout had been submitted and Officers were working on the technical details with County Highways. In terms of Phase 7, there were two current applications which should be determined over the next couple of months with a view to work commencing in September and completion in Spring 2024. More conditions needed to be discharged in terms of the outline planning permission but work on Phase 4 would start later in the year before moving onto Phase 6. He clarified that the roundabout would predominately be used by construction traffic in Phase 4 but would also come into play in Phase 6.

56.8 A Member drew attention to Page No. 38 of the Committee report which stated that the footpath would run directly under the proposed new bridge and he had been pleased to note that the applicant had recognised that it would need to achieve head height clearance; however, the Committee report went on to say that the bridge would need to have a large span, at a higher level than the road and would require a central support in order to achieve this, therefore it was unlikely to be supported by the Environment Agency. He asked if this was assumed knowledge or if a proposal for a raised bridge had been priced and engineering details produced and put forward to the relevant authorities. He would like to see a plan for a raised bridge as he would prefer short term disruption from construction traffic if it meant the footpath could be retained in its current position. In terms of cycling routes and access, he noted that cycle sheds would be provided for houses without garages but he had been unable to find any information about cycle lanes connecting to other developments so questioned whether residents were expected to travel everywhere by car. The original plan put forward showed connectivity to the existing village but he could not see that on the new plans and asked if it would still be provided and whether it would be big enough for cyclists. In terms of construction traffic, he sought clarification as to the route for accessing Phase 4 of the site. In response, the Development Management Team Leader (East) advised that he did not have any information regarding costings for the bridge as that had not been submitted; the proposal put forward had been assessed and redirection of the footpath was considered acceptable. In terms of cycling, County Highways had confirmed the roads were compliant with the Gloucestershire Manual for Streets and, as the Member had correctly pointed out, there would be additional cycling storage provision for dwellings without garages. With regard to connectivity, there were connecting routes running through the site with a new bridge into the site in Phase 7 and the Development Management Team Leader (East) pointed out the connecting routes on the plan displayed. He confirmed that construction traffic would access via Court Road and into Phase 5 across into the northern phase until the roundabout had been constructed. Another Member pointed out that the construction management statement was for the whole site and this made no reference to construction traffic using Court Road. Construction traffic travelling through the village had already been opposed by the County Council which had objected on safety grounds and she asked why that seemed to have been disregarded by Planning Officers. The Development Management Team Leader (East) clarified that Condition 14 of the outline planning permission required a site wide construction management statement – construction traffic details were not required to be submitted as part of the statement. The Member disagreed and indicated that she believed there was an agreement to access via Valiant Way, Delta Way and Mill Lane but not Court Road and she did not see why construction vehicles should be allowed to travel through Brockworth. The Development Management Team Leader (East) reiterated there was no requirement for a construction management statement to be submitted for each phase of the

development. The construction management statement mentioned by the Member in terms of Phases 2 and 5 was submitted by Taylor Wimpey but had not been requested by the local authority and was specific to the parcel of land it was developing. Whilst the consultee comments had not been uploaded onto the Council's website, following discussions that had taken place prior to the meeting, he was able to confirm this had been agreed by County Highways. With regard to the Public Right of Way, the Member went on to question whether it was acceptable to plan a bridge obstructing a footpath without consulting residents. The Development Management Team Leader (East) advised that redirection of the footpath had to be considered by the County Council and members of the public would have an opportunity to object at that point; if it was not acceptable, the applicant would have to come back with a redesign of the bridge. In response to a query about why the redirection order had not yet been obtained, the Legal Adviser explained that it was likely to follow after the Committee had determined the planning application and, as one in connection with a planning application, would probably come to this Council rather than the County Council. In terms of the construction management statement, she confirmed this had been dealt with at the outline stage, and discharges already made in respect of that, and the Council would be at risk of costs at appeal should the application be refused on the basis of matters which had already been dealt with as part of the outline application, or the discharge of conditions relating to the outline permission. Members were required to determine the application before them in terms of the reserved matters of appearance, landscape, layout and scale only.

- 56.9 A Member drew attention to Page No. 52, Paragraph 8.41 of the Committee report, which set out that 425 of the affordable housing units would be 'general affordable housing' and 175 would be 'extra care affordable housing' and she asked for clarification as to the definitions of those affordable housing types. In response, the Development Management Team Leader (Northwest) explained that extra care houses were affordable homes with an element of additional care for residents where that need had been identified. In terms of general affordable housing, this was usually a split of affordable rented accommodation and shared ownership type products. Affordable housing was nuanced but she provided assurance that the Council's Housing Enabling Officer worked with the County Council and other agencies to ensure the correct mix of affordable housing was achieved for each development.
- 56.10 A Member felt that he could not stop the application from being permitted but he would be voting against the motion as he did not feel access had been appropriately dealt with and, in his view, the applicant could have worked harder to ensure the roundabout was in place in order to negate construction vehicles having to travel through existing development causing problems for residents. Furthermore, he was unhappy about the bridge and the lack of clarity as to whether it would be disability compliant so he asked for Officers to provide a response by email following the meeting along with the information he had requested regarding culverting and water flows.
- 56.11 Returning to the debate regarding the construction management statement, a Member asked for clarification as to why construction traffic was able to use Court Road if the construction management statement specifically referenced Mill Lane, Delta Way and Valiant Way. In response, the Development Management Team Leader (East) reiterated that the construction management statement had been submitted to satisfy Condition 14 of the outline planning permission which did not require construction traffic routing - there was no requirement for the developer to advise the Council which route construction vehicles would be taking into the site. More in-depth construction management statements had been submitted for Phases 2 and 5 which talked about the routes construction vehicles would take when they accessed and egressed those sites but the Council did not have any power to control whether vehicles were going into the site from residential areas. Another

Member raised concern as to why the County Highways objection did not seem to have been taken into account and so continued to be of the opinion that the construction management statement stated that construction traffic needed to access the site via Mille Lane, Valiant Way and Delta Way. In terms of connectivity, three accesses were shown on the masterplan - one on Maple Road, one off Maple Drive, one near Prince Albert Court and one at the back of Burford Court - which were no longer in the plans and she asked what had happened to them. The Development Management Team Leader (East) advised that the details had been indicatively included at the outline stage and there had been changes to the internal layout of the site over the passage of time. Officers had considered the application as it stood today and determined it was acceptable. The Member asked if it was possible to see a copy of the construction management statement which referenced Court Road and the Development Management Team Leader (East) indicated that Members could be provided with the information on the system for the construction management statement and the agreement with County Highways specific to Phases 2 and 5. The Legal Adviser reiterated that issues which had been dealt with at the outline stage/discharged in respect of the construction management statement could not be used as reasons to refuse the reserved matters application as they could not be defended on appeal.

56.12 Upon being put to the vote, it was

**RESOLVED** That the application be **APPROVED** in accordance with the Officer recommendation.

#### 21/01173/FUL - Land off Ruby Avenue, Bishop's Cleeve

- 56.13 This application was for residential development to erect 22 units with associated car parking (100% affordable). The Planning Committee visited the application site on Monday 20 March 2023.
- The Planning Officer advised that the application required a Committee 56.14 determination as it was for more than 10 residential units and as the Parish Council had objected to the proposal. It was noted that an additional objection had been received from the Parish Council the previous night raising concerns relating to amenity, parking issues, community development and overdevelopment. This application sought full planning permission for the erection of 22 affordable houses which would be secured through a Section 106 Agreement. The site was currently open land with an area of approximately 0.5 hectares. It was located within the settlement development limit of Bishop's Cleeve and had previously been granted planning permission as part of the Cleevelands mixed use development scheme. As part of the outline permission, the application had been approved for a High Street comprising four retail units. The outline consent contained a condition which required reserved matters to be submitted but no application of that nature had been advanced on this parcel of land. Planning permission had been granted on the site in 2020 for the erection of a Marston's family pub but that had not been implemented and no conditions had been discharged. Upon grant of consent, Marston's had concluded there was insufficient demand in the location to acquire and develop the public house following which it had instructed the site to be advertised on the open market. Marketing was subsequently carried out for a period of six months resulting in no bids. Policy RET7 of the Tewkesbury Borough Plan required the change of use of public houses to be marketed for a period of 18 months; however, in this case, the public house planning permission was neither implemented, nor operational, as per the retail units. Therefore the marketing exercises carried out by the applicant were considered to be acceptable. Although planning permission had been granted for community facilities, neither the retail or the pub schemes had been implemented for this site, therefore, in planning terms, the land effectively reverted back to its original use. The principle of residential

development on the site was acceptable in line with Policy RES2 as it was within a defined settlement boundary. Turning to the site layout, the site would be accessed mainly via a side street off Sapphire Road to the north. The proposed development would comprise a variety of dwellings with 10 apartments and 12 semi-detached houses. The development offered a range of accommodation providing for single occupancy and family accommodation. All properties were two storey, as shown on the elevation plans, which was in keeping with the size and scale of properties in the wider area. A question had been raised by Members on the site visit in relation to the provision of affordable housing in the wider area and the Planning Officer advised that Phases 1-5 had provided a total of 560 houses of which 224 were affordable houses and 336 were market houses and with the 22 unit there would be 42% and 58% respectively. The proposal provided public open space on the western boundary which totalled 967 square metres and the units would have rear/front gardens for private amenity space. All units met the nationally described space standards as set out in Policy DES1 and the Council's Housing Enabling Officer supported the proposed tenure of affordable housing mix. The Lead Local Flood Authority had no objections and County Highways and the Highways Agency had concluded that, subject to appropriate conditions, the application would not have an unacceptable impact on highway safety or congestion. In line with the policy in the Joint Core Strategy, the County Council had requested an education contribution of £177,000 which the applicant had claimed would make the scheme unviable. A financial viability assessment prepared by RCA Regeneration had been submitted to support that position and the Council had appointed Porter Planning Economics to independently review the assessment and scrutinise its underlying assumptions. The Council's independent assessor concluded that the proposed scheme would be unable to support a financial contribution and it was therefore recommended that the education contributions were not pursued on the grounds of the viability of the scheme in accordance with Policy INF7 of the Joint Core Strategy. In light of the proposal complying with the relevant national and local planning policies, and given all technical consultees supported the application, it was recommended that authority be delegated to the Development Manager to permit the application, subject to completion of a Section 106 Agreement.

56.15 The Chair invited a local resident speaking in objection to the proposal to address the Committee. The local resident indicated that the land had originally been designated for retail use – a community and social space for the residents of Cleevelands whilst providing local employment opportunities. The estate had developed into a good community, sharing concerns and helping each other in many ways. There was a need for a commercial outlet, such as a coffee bar, restaurant or licensed premises, to help community cohesion with space for social interaction and to make contact with neighbours. This was especially important to many who were still working from home and lacking contact with work colleagues having somewhere for face to face conversations was proven to ease mental health issues. Other objections included concerns about traffic congestion and she refuted what had been said by the Planning Officer. There was a particular fear regarding restricted access for emergency vehicles, especially in terms of being able to reach the care home. There was also a lack of visitor parking on the estate meaning roads were becoming congested and there was a genuine concern that extra houses would exacerbate those issues, particularly in this area which already saw a high volume of traffic for the medical centre and other associated buildings. In addition, residents were concerned about the high density of social housing already on the estate along with that planned for the neighbouring site on Nortenham Allotments. The local resident asked Members to consider the change of landscape, moving from a plan for a single storey building and car park to two storey housing thus losing the open space feel of the estate entrance. She believed that thinking should be in the interest of the local community and how this area could be developed in line with the original site development plan to provide social and community infrastructure which would benefit Bishop's Cleeve as a whole.

Development should be sustainable, reflecting not only current but future needs and supporting community and cultural wellbeing. She strongly urged Members that the retail use of the land be maintained.

- 56.16 The Chair invited the applicant's representative to address the Committee. The applicant's representative indicated that, as the Planning Officer had mentioned, Marston's Pubs successfully obtained planning approval for a family pub on this site but had withdrawn from the purchase in 2019. Marston's had recently put 61 freehold pubs up for sale following a review of their estate, highlighting that it wanted to maximise returns by focusing on existing core venues. As Members would have heard in the press, it was normal for three public houses to close each week highlighting the demise of what was once a vibrant industry. Following extensive marketing over several months without success, the landowner's agent had presented the site to Rooftop Housing Association which had recently completed housing on the adjacent land with a view to converting it to residential use. There were currently approximately 1,700 people on Tewkesbury Borough Council's housing register, of which, over 400 had expressed a preference to live in Bishop's Cleeve. Rooftop had experienced considerable demand for its shared ownership homes, not only in the village, but on the Cleevelands development. This new development of 22 one, two and three bedroom homes had the full support of the Council's Community Services team and would go some way towards meeting this housing need through the provision of 16 social rented and six shared ownership properties which would complement Rooftop's existing 30 homes on Cleevelands. The homes had been designed with the same principles in mind as the recently completed homes, and those on the wider Cleevelands development, including the same material, guality and sustainable features. The layout took account of several significant drainage easements which blighted the south-west corner of the site, allowing parking and green open space. Properties facing onto Sapphire Road had also been set back from the footpath to afford residents privacy from passers-by. Quality affordable housing was especially important in the current economic climate and Rooftop considered it had a responsibility to provide residents with homes that they could be proud to live in and which were environmentally sustainable, energy efficient and economical to run. These homes would achieve the highest Energy Performance Certificate rating of 'A' through a fabric-first approach and residents would be provided with rotary washing lines, water butts and compost bins within their private gardens. In addition, all properties would have secure bicycle storage, either through provision of communal bike racks or within individual garden sheds. Notwithstanding this, it was recognised that many residents would be car owners so all homes would be provided with allocated car parking and there would be a number of unallocated visitor spaces, giving a total number of parking spaces in excess of that required by County Highways within the guidance set out in the Gloucestershire Manual for Streets.
- 56.17 The Chair invited a local Ward Member to address the Committee. The local Ward Member indicated the site had been proposed and marketed as a community asset for the Cleevelands development, part of a High Street at the heart of the new community. Residents had expressed strong opposition demonstrating the importance of the community asset. Tewkesbury Borough Plan Policy COM1, Paragraph 9.23 set out that the Council sought to protect and maintain those assets, any loss should be exceptional and would need to be fully justified to the satisfaction of the Borough Council. The local Ward Member questioned what, if any, exceptional circumstances applied in this case to fully satisfy the Council; 9.24 set out that community assets could be made up of a range of facilities; 9.28 stated that where a community asset was not viable for one use, the first preference was to reuse the asset for another community facility use; 9.26 set out that proposals for the loss of community facilities would be required to prove there was no demand for the asset at the current time and in the future; 9.26 required applicants to seek involvement of the local community and, given the strong local objections and

community petition to save the asset gaining 300 signatories, he wondered how the applicant had worked with the community regarding loss of the asset; and 9.27 stated that the business or organisation would need to be marketed for 18 months at a realistic price, discussion should take place with community groups, Parish Councils and others and that grant funding should be explored - he questioned whether this had been done within the six months the asset had been marketed for. To summarise, the Tewkesbury Borough Plan deliberately set a high bar before losing community assets because once lost they were lost forever. The correct process was 18 months marketing, not six months, for any community asset, not just a pub, and working with the community to exhaust all options for community assets, including grant funding - only once those options were exhausted was policy to approve housing. In his view, this was a tick box marketing process and the housing application felt premature. It was a significant deviation from Policy COM1 and set a precedent which he felt would be a risk to other community assets in the borough. Setting this aside, the application did not meet the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework Chapter 8 Policy 92 "strong neighbourhood centres", "community cohesion" and "providing high quality public spaces" unless a strip of scrubland next to a pumping station and car park was considered high quality. Furthermore, he felt it was unlikely that the site had met the 10% biodiversity enhancement requirement. Chapter 12, of Gloucestershire Manual for Streets, "achieving well designed places", discouraged car parking courtyards because they tended to attract crime yet this site had a large unlit car park. Much of the site could not be built on, none of the surrounding development was planned with this housing in mind so the cramped application would sit awkwardly in the High Street. He urged Members to refuse the application at this time as it contradicted many areas of the National Planning Policy Framework and COM1 of the Tewkesbury Borough Plan.

56.18 The Chair indicated that the Officer recommendation was that authority be delegated to the Development Manager to permit the application, subject to any additional/amended planning conditions and the completion of a Section 106 Agreement to secure the provision of 100% affordable housing and a contribution of £73 per dwelling (£1,241 based on 22 dwellings) towards recycling and waste bin facilities, and he sought a motion from the floor. It was proposed and seconded that the application be refused on the basis that it failed to deliver a balanced community, lack of a contribution towards education and the unacceptable delivery of non-integrated affordable housing. The proposer of the motion thanked the Planning Officer for his detailed report: the site had considerable planning history and there were a lot of different factors relevant to this particular proposal which had been well set out to enable Members to make an informed decision. Whilst he could understand the reasoning behind the Officer recommendation he had come to a different conclusion and felt the application should be refused - he found it very difficult to reject an application for social housing from a developer which had already done a lot of good work in Bishop's Cleeve but the overriding issue for him was that the site had been designated for commercial use in the Secretary of State's decision on the original outline planning permission and he felt that should be maintained as far as possible. Whilst he understood the outline permission was not sacrosanct, commercial use was vitally important to the community and, if it could not be implemented in accordance with the plan, it would not create the right communities. There was a history of commercial land being designated in planning policies and applications which ultimately did not come forward and this had happened in Bishop's Cleeve over the years. The seconder of the motion was of the view that the proposal went against policy in terms of the density of affordable housing - in his opinion, social housing should be integrated into development sites as opposed to being clustered in one area. He agreed with the policy justification

put forward by the local Ward Member and was particularly unhappy that the developer did not feel able to commit to a contribution towards education as part of the Section 106 Agreement.

- 56.19 A Member indicated that, following the Planning Committee site visit, he had raised concern as to whether the site layout met the requirements in terms of the Council's waste vehicles being able to service the new properties and he asked the County Highways representative if the potential for on-street parking was taken into account when assessing distances. In response, the County Highways representative confirmed that was considered and, in terms of this site specifically, refuse collection would be from bin storage collection points so the refuse vehicles would not enter the site. With regard to marketing of the site which was discussed in the Committee report, a Member noted that Policy RET7 of the Tewkesbury Borough Plan required an 18 month marketing period and she asked what policy was being relied upon in terms of the justification for marketing this site for a much shorter period of six months, bearing in mind that this was likely to have taken place during lockdown when all public houses were closed. The Planning Officer clarified that the site was not for retail use - a reserved matters application had not been forthcoming therefore the outline planning permission had expired meaning the land reverted to its original use, as such, there were no retail or community facilities designation for this site. He advised that the site had been marketed between October 2019 and March 2020 which was prior to the COVID lockdown. The Member indicated that she would still like to know which policy was being relied upon in terms of six months being an acceptable marketing period. In terms of the masterplan for the site, she believed it had stated that this area was set aside for commercial use. The Legal Adviser recognised it was a complex situation and advised that the policy referenced and Policy COM1, referenced by the local Ward Member, related to existing community facilities, did not apply here. There was no policy in relation to an appropriate length of time to market this site which was an open piece of land. She appreciated the site had been outlined for retail use on the masterplan when the outline application had been determined and a reserved matters application could have been submitted on that basis; however, the time for that had now passed. Members therefore needed to determine the application based on the site being an open piece of land within the settlement boundary and apply planning policies to that.
- 56.20 A Member indicated that Page No. 79 of the Committee report suggested there was interest from a party to acquire the site for commercial use; she had asked for the detail on this and had been informed that would be provided today. The Development Management Team Leader (Northwest) advised that the reference was in an objection made by a third party and Officers had no detail in relation to that; she did not know if there had been any discussion about whether they wished to acquire the site from the existing owner. The Member guestioned if this was something which should have been followed up by Officers and whether a response was provided to objectors as standard. The Development Management Team Leader (Northwest) advised that objections were taken as read and reported to the Committee so were taken into account in forming a decision. No approach had been made over and above the objection that had been submitted. Delivery of development was dictated by market forces and the local planning authority did not get involved in that. In this case, the site had been marketed through commercial agents and there was no information to say there may be another party interested in taking it forward for commercial use.
- 56.21 Another Member drew attention to Page No. 78, Paragraph 4.6 of the Committee report, and noted that the response from the Lead Local Flood Authority stated that Severn Trent would be adopting the foul drainage and would therefore be responsible for future maintenance so he asked when that would happen. The

Planning Officer indicated that conditions required detailed design of waste management. The application had been reviewed by the Council's Flood Risk Management Engineer who had raised no objection to the proposal so it would be for Severn Trent and the developer to negotiate when it was put in place. The Member asked if it was possible to include a timeframe within the condition as he was concerned about the impact if it was not maintained on a regular basis. The Development Management Manager pointed out that proposed Condition 3 dealt with both foul and surface water drainage. Another Member indicated that he shared the concerns raised by the local resident speaking in objection to the proposal and he asked if the ratio of houses had been assessed as, in his opinion, an additional 22 affordable houses did not seem valuable enough in comparison to the provision of a community asset which would benefit a greater number of residents.

In terms of the refusal reasons put forward, the Legal Adviser sought clarification as 56.22 to whether the proposer and seconder of the motion wished to include Policy COM1 as this would be difficult to defend on appeal given there was no existing community facility on the site. The seconder of the motion indicated that he accepted the advice in terms of COM1 but he raised concern that the site had initially been identified as a local centre and permitting this application would set a dangerous precedent for other local centres. Whilst he considered the applicant to be an excellent social housing provider, he felt this was the wrong place for affordable housing as there was other social housing in the existing area and the Council had a policy in relation to integrated development and understood there should be no more than 16 affordable dwellings in one location. Another Member sought clarification in terms of the clustering plan as the previous application was asking for no more than 25 affordable houses. The Development Management Team Leader (Northwest) advised that affordable housing had been approved through the outline permission but that decision had lapsed which meant this site was effectively white land within a development boundary, as such, this scheme was not subject to the affordable housing plan that would have been submitted for the outline approval. Officers considered that the scheme would deliver an appropriate mix of housing and, whilst the Joint Core Strategy required a minimum of 40% affordable housing on residential developments, there was no maximum. Although this application was for 100% affordable housing, in the context of the whole site there would be 42% affordable housing which was just above the Joint Core Strategy minimum and Officers did not consider 100% affordable excessive in the context of that policy.

A Member asked who the landowner of the site was as he felt that was relevant to 56.23 the marketing of the site and he was advised that Officers did not have that information. The Member indicated that Officers had stated a number of times that this piece of land was open to any application because an application had not been forthcoming to fulfil the requirements of the original Secretary of State approved plan and he asked if this meant that part of the approved masterplan could be ignored and whether he was correct in thinking that, if a developer failed to bring forward a reserved matters application, they did not need to develop parts of the site they did not want to. The Development Management Manager advised that the original decision had been made in 2012, over 10 years ago, and there had been significant changes since that time. As set out in the Committee report, the site had been deemed appropriate for a range of uses including a medical centre, retail offer and a community centre. The opportunity for submitting a reserved matters application had expired in July 2016 and there had been further marketing since in terms of retail use. The masterplan was a material consideration but the weight it could be attributed given the change in context in planning terms and the various community facilities coming forward had been carefully considered in the Committee report. The Council's Housing Enabling Officer had assessed the application and there were no outstanding objections to the proposal in planning terms. The design had been considered in terms of creating an entry point into the overall development and the creation of a High Street and affordable housing was considered an appropriate use of the site. In terms of the policy position, he echoed the comments made earlier and the concerns regarding the need to avoid references to policies which related to existing community facilities. The proposer of the motion thanked the Development Management Manager for his response and accepted the point about the planning environment reasons. He reiterated that it was an excellent report detailing the planning context but both the planning and economic situation had changed since 2012. Low cost housing was needed but so were commercial premises and, ultimately, if this application was permitted, Bishop's Cleeve would lose land that had, in planning terms, been set aside for commercial activity over the years, pushing it further away from the community; that would be fine if it was a two way process and land which was designated for residential use could be used for commercial but that was not what happened in reality. In his view, it was important to maintain the overall concept of the masterplan i.e. a High Street.

- 56.24 A Member indicated that he had viewed the proposal in a positive light when reading the Committee report and he had been interested to hear the views expressed, particularly by the local Members. He would be abstaining from the vote but indicated that a refusal would allow an Inspector to make a decision at appeal based on the weight of the argument put forward. Another Member shared this view; as an advocate for social housing she recognised there was a need for affordable housing but she did not believe it should be allowed on any available piece of land. She felt the proposal would set a dangerous precedent for future development in the area she lived and she could not vote for it in the absence of an education contribution. She drew attention to Page No. 89, Paragraph 8.64 of the Committee report which stated that the applicant had indicated a willingness to enter into a legal agreement to secure the affordable housing provision but at this stage there was no such agreement in place – this appeared to be a contradiction and she could not support the application on that basis. The seconder of the motion appreciated the guidance from Officers and the information provided, however, he felt deviating from the masterplan due to being "timed out" would set a precedent for other applications coming forward. The site had been designated as a local centre and that was what he believed it should be. A Member indicated that he would be supporting the motion to refuse the application. He had been interested to hear from the local resident speaking in objection to the proposal with regard to the expectation of being part of a community and he felt a refusal would send a clear message to developers that infrastructure was needed as well as housing in order to create communities.
- 56.25 Upon being put to the vote, it was
  - **RESOLVED** That the application be **REFUSED** on the basis that it failed to deliver a balanced community, lack of a contribution towards education and the unacceptable delivery of non-integrated affordable housing.

#### 21/01013/FUL - Lunn Cottage, Aston Cross, Tewkesbury

- 56.26 This application was for the erection of 10 dwellings, garages, construction of internal estate road, formation of parking areas and gardens/amenity space.
- 56.27 The Senior Planning Officer advised that, in terms of the site location, access was located approximately 100 metres south of the junction between the B road north to Aston Cross and the A46 from Tewkesbury to the west. Access to the proposal through Queen's Head Close ran through the existing development which was approved in 2017 and the Tirle Brook was located at the south end of the site which was within Flood Zone 2//3 and would be public open space. The application was supported by all of the required assessments including trees, ecology, highways, transport, drainage and flooding. As set out in the Committee report, all of the

technical concerns in the original submission had been resolved, so there were now no consultee objections outstanding including the Parish Council which had a neutral position as set out in the Committee report. That said, there had been a number of public objections, principally in relation to highways and access provisions. The Senior Planning Officer advised that the application included provision for four affordable units and whilst these had not been secured via Section 106 Agreement, he had been asked to emphasise the applicant's willingness to enter into one should Members resolve to permit the application. He went on to advise that the application was outside of the Tewkesbury Town settlement boundary which included Ashchurch. Members would be aware that the borough currently had a housing land supply comfortably exceeding five years which enabled new housing development to be directed toward sustainable locations, for example, market towns, and sites within settlement boundaries of rural service centres and service villages. In the overall balance of harms and benefits, the proposed development was considered by Officers to be inappropriate in principle, being outside of the development boundary, furthermore, permitting the application would risk undermining the authority's ability to use the five year housing land supply as a means to directing housing to sustainable locations as part of a plan-led system. With that in mind, the Officer recommendation was to refuse the application as set out in the Committee report.

56.28 The Chair invited the applicant's representative to address the Committee. The applicant's representative indicated that the planning application before Members had been submitted on 9 August 2021 and the Council's planning portal still confirmed the determination deadline as being 16 December 2021; at that time, the Council had less than four years supply of housing land. The fact that it had taken another 15 months for the application to reach Committee was entirely due to the Planning Officers failing to deal with it in a timely manner and he assured Members he had made every effort to move the application forward as swiftly as possible. Therefore, for this application to come to Committee once the Council had decided it had a five year housing land supply – which the Committee would be aware was subject to challenge by other applicants – and for that to be the only reason for recommending refusal after all this time was quite unreasonable, not least because even if a five year supply existed, that was not a cap on development. A five year supply was a minimum, not a maximum, so there was no imperative to refuse this application and it should be considered on its merits. In that context, the applicant's representative confirmed that he was willing to enter into a Section 106 Agreement dealing with affordable housing and education contributions, therefore approval would secure the delivery of much needed affordable housing which was a significant benefit to those in need. As was clear from the Committee report, the application had generated few objections and the Urban Design Officer had commented that it made a logical extension to the adjoining recently developed site. as such, to recommend refusal only on the basis that the Council was now claiming it had a five year supply was illogical, unjustified and untimely. In the conclusions section of the Committee report, weighing the balance of benefits and harm, Paragraph 8.41 detailed a significant number of benefits to be derived from this development whilst Paragraph 8.42 set out that the only harm identified was the lack of a Section 106 Agreement to supply affordable housing. In reality, the Council would not enter into a Section 106 Agreement until planning permission was granted so it was a chicken and egg situation in terms of which came first. As had been confirmed, the applicant would be happy to enter into a Section 106 Agreement and the Community Infrastructure Levy paperwork had already been completed. Finally, the plans for the Tewkesbury Garden Town identified development all around the site including some 300 houses in the Severn Bends road, south of Pamington, outside of the current settlement boundary. It seemed

perverse to refuse this application in light of all these plans and the applicant's representative urged the Committee to permit the application which would provide a sustainable, well-designed and logical extension to this part of Aston Cross.

- 56.29 The Chair indicated that the Officer recommendation was to refuse the application and he sought a motion from the floor. A Member indicated that she had been expecting to see something on the plans in respect of the Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) and asked whether that should be included. She also asked for clarification as to whether surface water run off and its impacts had been assessed, given that the site was located within Flood Zones 2 and 3, whilst recognising that the Lead Local Flood Authority had stated there would be no impact. In response, the Senior Planning Officer advised that the development would connect to the mains system in terms of foul waste and surface water drainage. The southern half of the site was within Flood Zones 2 and 3 and the proposed attenuation basin would be underground which was why it was not shown on the plan. This had been assessed by the Lead Local Flood Authority and found to be acceptable, therefore, the drainage situation had been resolved and did not amount to a reason for refusal. It was subsequently proposed and seconded that the application be refused in accordance with the Officer recommendation.
- 56.30 A Member was surprised that no concern had been raised about air quality given the proximity to the A46 where traffic, including Heavy Goods Vehicles, often queued at the Aston Cross traffic lights backing up to Teddington Hands roundabout. The Senior Planning Officer confirmed that a report had been submitted with the application which had been assessed by the Environmental Health Officer who had raised no objection. In response to a query as to whether there was an identified need for houses outside of the development boundary in this area, the Development Management Team Leader (Northwest) advised that there was an identified need across the borough but proposals were assessed based on what was considered appropriate in the context of the development plan – there were some instances where the principle of development was considered acceptable but this was not one of those. Another Member expressed the view that the reasons for refusal were clear and the comments about the five year housing land supply should not detract from them. Upon being put to the vote, it was
  - **RESOLVED** That the application be **REFUSED** in accordance with the Officer recommendation.

#### 21/00868/FUL - Land Adjoining Blenheim Way, School Lane, Shurdington

- 56.31 This application was for erection of a single dwelling and associated access. The Planning Committee had visited the application site on Monday 20 March 2023. It was noted that the Officer recommendation was permit, rather than delegated permit as set out in the Committee report.
- 56.32 The Planning Officer indicated that an objection had been received the previous evening from the property at Phoenix Meadow, formerly New Haven, raising concerns in relation to amenity; however, the amended plans reducing the front garage element, making it single storey, were welcomed. The Planning Officer advised that the application site comprised a parcel of land to the western side of School Lane which lay between two dwellings – Blenheim Way to the south and Phoenix Meadow to the north. The eastern part of the site lay within the settlement boundary to Shurdington, with the remainder of the site being within the Green Belt. Planning permission was sought for the erection of a two storey detached dwelling and single storey front garage. The proposed dwelling would have a contemporary appearance and the proposed materials would comprise a mix of buff facing brick, zinc cladding, zinc roofing and grey aluminium windows. As mentioned, amended

plans had been submitted reducing the 1.5 storey garage to a single storey detached garage. A permission in principle application had been refused by the local planning authority as it was then considered that the proposed development for one dwelling would not constitute limited infilling in the village; however, the applicant had submitted an appeal and the Inspector had commented that the proposed dwelling would be flanked on either side by existing dwellings and would also face houses on the opposite side of the road, as a result, it would relate well to the existing pattern of development along the road, assimilating effectively with the wider streetscene and, given this surrounding context, it was considered that the proposed development would constitute infill development, as envisaged by the National Planning Policy Framework. Furthermore, in terms of design, the Inspector had noted that the dwelling would be set back from the road and had a ridge height appropriate for its setting as shown on the streetscene elevation. In terms of amenity, any side facing windows would be obscurely glazed and the first floor rear balcony had a privacy screen. The existing windows at Phoenix Meadow served non-habitable rooms such as a toilet, utility room and stairwell. There were no objections from County Highways, the Council's Flood Risk Management Engineer, the Environmental Health Officer or Severn Trent Water and the Planning Inspector considered a single dwelling would be appropriate in this location.

The Chair invited the applicant's agent to address the Committee. The applicant's 56.33 agent advised that, as set out in the Committee report, permission in principle had already been granted for this development. At appeal, the Inspector had agreed that the proposal would constitute infill in the Green Belt and would not be inappropriate, thus finding the site location to be suitable for a single residential dwelling. Given this decision, which remained extant, the principle of a new dwelling at the site had already been established so the main planning considerations for the application were related to design and visual amenity and impact on neighbouring properties. In terms of design, it was worth noting the Inspector's comments that the lane was distinctly residential in character, with a built-up frontage running along the substantive part of each side. The Inspector had stated that "given this location, the proposed dwelling would be flanked on either side by existing dwellings and would also face houses on the opposite side of the road. As a result, it would relate well to the existing pattern of development along the road, assimilating effectively with the wider streetscene. When viewed from the more open fields to the west, the proposal would also be read within the context of surrounding residential development, which would again allow it to integrate effectively within the existing built fabric of the village". He went on to conclude that an additional dwelling in this location would help form an effective transition between Phoenix Meadow and the ribbon of houses to the south. As acknowledged by Officers, the proposal had been sensitively designed and would sit comfortably within its surroundings, resulting in a visually attractive building that was sympathetic to the surrounding area. It was therefore of an appropriate design and would have an acceptable impact on the character and appearance of the streetscene. In terms of amenity, the Committee report was clear there would be no adverse impacts in terms of overlooking, loss of light or overbearing effects on the neighbouring property. The applicant's agent reiterated that the windows in the side elevation of the property to the north of the site served a ground floor utility room, a toilet and a stairwell so were not habitable rooms. As such, there could be no reasonable grounds to object to this application based on any alleged impact on these windows. In terms of drainage, no objections had been raised by the Flood Risk Management Engineer or Severn Trent Water in respect of the proposed surface water and foul drainage details. Regarding highway matters, County Highways raised no objection in terms of highway safety; however, the comments from residents regarding construction traffic had been acknowledged and, in direct response to this, alternative access to the site for construction traffic and materials could be obtained via the land to the rear of the site. There was also sufficient hardstanding for several vehicles, including Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs), away

from the highway at the farm off Church Lane, which the applicant had negotiated access to. This could form the basis of the construction environmental management plan which could be secured by condition.

- 56.34 The Chair indicated that the Officer recommendation was to permit the application and he sought a motion from the floor. It was proposed and seconded that the application be permitted in accordance with the Officer recommendation. A Member asked for clarification on the principles on which a permission in principle application must be determined and was informed that those applications must be assessed in terms of location, land use and amount only. Another Member noted that the Parish Council had previously raised concern in relation to traffic and access to the site; the applicant's agent had stated that the site could be accessed from the adjoining Church Farm and he asked if that had been confirmed. In response, the Planning Officer explained that the applicant had confirmed that the site could be accessed via the agricultural land during the construction phase in light of the objection from local residents and those details would be included in the construction environmental management plan which was required by proposed Condition 5, as outlined at Page No. 141 of the Committee report.
- 56.35 A Member expressed the view that the Committee should refuse the application in line with the previous decision on the permission in principle application as he did not feel the Inspector had come up with justifiable reasons regarding Green Belt use and flooding had also been mentioned in the Inspector's findings, as such he would be voting against the motion. Upon being put to the vote, it was
  - **RESOLVED** That the application be **PERMITTED** in accordance with the Officer recommendation.

#### 22/00609/FUL - Starvealls Cottage, Postlip, Winchcombe

- 56.36 This application was for construction of a replacement dwelling and associated works following demolition of existing dwelling and change of use of additional areas of land to residential garden.
- The Senior Planning Officer advised that this was a full application seeking the 56.37 erection of a replacement dwelling in addition to the enlargement of the existing residential curtilage, the purpose of which was to allow the inclusion of a historic byre, parking area and drainage features within that land. The Committee report explained the detailed planning history of the site which was particularly relevant to the application. Firstly, it was noteworthy that the application was a revised iteration of a previous similar application which also sought the erection of a replacement dwelling. The previous application had been considered by the Planning Committee in July 2021 when it had been recommended for permission; however, due to concerns raised by Members during the debate, the scheme was refused on landscape and heritage grounds. In response, the current revised application was accompanied by additional information to address and overcome Members' concerns. This had included a landscape and visual appraisal and a biodiversity metric; the landscape and visual appraisal summarised that the new dwelling would result in no material change to the landscape due to surrounding topography and intervening mature trees and vegetation between the viewer and public viewpoints from footpaths and roads. The additional landscaping measures would reduce the impact even further by introducing new trees, hedgerows and native planting within the site. The Council's Landscape Adviser concurred with the applicant that there would be an acceptable impact to the landscape. In terms of the biodiversity enhancements, the proposal included a biodiversity net gain of 104% which would comprise the provision of enhanced habitats; specifically, this would involve the creation of improved wildflower grassland, ponds, hedgerows and trees. The second important part of the planning history was a permitted development scheme; this fallback scheme demonstrated there was a reasonable

possibility that substantial extensions and alterations could be carried out to the existing dwelling as permitted development. The Council had no conditional control over these significant extensions which could be built out at any time. The third and final important part of the planning history was the access track which was permitted in 2013 and provided the dwelling with an existing lawful access which had also been implemented. Within the current application, Officers had identified a single harm i.e. the loss of a non-designated heritage asset; however, when weighed against the many benefits, the scheme as presented was considered to be, on balance, acceptable. As set out in the Committee report, the benefits of the scheme included the significant biodiversity net gains, the retention and restoration of the historic byre, landscaping enhancements, economic and employment benefits and betterment and conditional security in contrast to the permitted development fallback scheme. Although Officers were satisfied with the previous application and that the existing proposal met the relevant tests, it was considered the applicant had taken clear steps to address and overcome Members' previous concerns. Although ordinarily the Officer recommendation would have been to permit, given that the applicant had submitted an appeal against non-determination, the recommendation before Members today was minded to permit subject to conditions which included a condition on the Additional Representations Sheet, attached at Appendix 1, requested by the Conservation Officer to secure the archaeological recording of the building prior to its demolition. Officers had received an email from the applicant's agent last night, which was not included on the Additional Representations Sheet due to the time it was received, and Members were informed this raised no new information and did not impact the application or the Officer recommendation.

The Chair invited the applicant's agent to address the Committee. The applicant's 56.38 agent indicated that they were understandably disappointed when a similar scheme had been refused a couple of years ago but they had taken stock and looked carefully at how to address Members' concerns with a fresh application. As the Senior Planning Officer had advised, additional landscaping work had been undertaken to explain further the approach and significantly enhance the outcome. Biodiversity net gain was not required when the original application had been submitted and, whilst it was not yet a legal requirement, they had embraced it and achieved over 100% improvement to habitats and hedgerows. In addition, a greater understanding of the economic benefits of the scheme had been provided and ecology surveys and reports had been updated along with a flood risk assessment to ensure there would be no risk from the occasional existing surface water flow. The applicant's agent also noted that the Conservation Officer had referred to the incorrect test from the National Planning Policy Framework for assessing this type of asset – this had set the bar higher than it should have been and meant assessment of the application had come from the wrong starting point and could have affected the outcome. This had been carefully checked and clarified as part of the fresh application, explaining why, when assessed against the correct part of the National Planning Policy Framework, the proposal did not cause the harm the Conservation Officer felt it did. The applicant's agent pointed out that the Conservation Officer response made the same mistake again quoting the wrong part and thus the wrong test - this was clarified at Paragraph 8.29 of the Committee report. Paragraph 8.77 of the Committee report was clear in stating that the many benefits of the proposed development would clearly outweigh the harm. The Town Council objected to the proposal solely because of the precedent it was feared would be set but, as Members knew, each case was assessed on its own merits and the unusual circumstances here, with the very large extensions as a legitimate fallback, could not be repeated because the government had changed the regulations – the circumstances could not be repeated elsewhere but remained materially significant. The application had been submitted in May last year and the applicant's agent stressed they had tried hard to get feedback; they were acutely aware of the challenges the Planning team had faced but, with no response for

almost six months, and not knowing if or when they might get one, the applicant had made the difficult decision to appeal. The applicant's agent stressed this was not the desired approach and, following the decision today, he had been instructed to explore with Officers ways of averting the appeal if possible. Based on his statement, and the clarity and strength of the Officer report, he asked Members to support the Officer recommendation.

- 56.39 The Chair indicated that the Officer recommendation was minded to permit the application and he sought a motion from the floor. It was proposed and seconded that the Committee be minded to refuse the application on the basis that the proposed development, by reason of its bulk, mass and design would be an unsuitable addition in this prominent location and consequently would have an unacceptable impact on the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, furthermore, demolition of the existing building would result in a total loss of a nondesignated heritage asset and there were no public benefits which would outweigh the substantial harm caused as a result of the loss of this asset. The proposer of the motion drew attention to the refusal reasons for the previous application, set out at Pages No.150-151, Paragraph 3.2 of the report, and indicated that he did not feel anything had changed. With regard to the point about the public benefits, the Legal Adviser clarified that the National Planning Policy Framework test applied to the heritage asset was incorrect – the correct test in relation to a nondesignated heritage asset did not refer to public benefit therefore it would be appropriate to remove that reference from the refusal reasons and instead state that the harm would not be outweighed by 'the benefits', as opposed to 'public benefits'. The proposer and seconder of the motion confirmed they were happy to amend the motion on that basis.
- 56.40 Another Member indicated that, if this was being considered as a fresh application and the existing properties were not there, it would be an isolated development and applications would only be looked upon favourably for properties of exceptional design. As such, she asked whether Officers considered this to be an exceptional design which met that criterion. In response, the Senior Planning Officer advised that Policy RES9 was applicable to replacement dwellings and did not require properties to be assessed against the exceptional test, therefore, that assessment had not been undertaken at this stage. In response to a guery as to why a decision had not been reached on the current application within the statutory timeframe, the Development Management Manager advised that this was due to resource issues within the team, as had been referenced by the applicant's agent. It had been a particular focus for the last few months and there had been positive momentum to bring the application before Members today. A Member noted that the cinema room on the top floor had no windows but she was under the impression that all habitable rooms must have windows. The Legal Adviser explained that a cinema would not be classed as a habitable room. A Member sought clarification regarding the fallback position and was informed that it had already been lawfully implemented – the planning history showed that a lawful development certificate had been submitted for all applications which had been allowed on appeal. It was therefore a reasonable prospect that it could be built and there was case law which required that to be taken into consideration.
- 56.41 A Member indicated that he took a different view from the motion on the table and, should that fall, he would be happy to propose minded to permit in accordance with the Officer recommendation. Another Member shared this opinion as this was a replacement dwelling so the principle of development had already been established and a lot of effort had been put in by the applicant to address biodiversity etc. Upon being put to the vote, the motion that the Committee be minded to refuse the application was lost. It was subsequently proposed and seconded that the Committee be minded to permit the application in accordance with the Officer recommendation and, upon being taken to the vote, it was

# **RESOLVED** That the Committee be **MINDED TO PERMIT** the application in accordance with the Officer recommendation.

#### 22/00650/FUL - Truman's Farm, Manor Lane, Gotherington

- 56.42 This application was for residential development comprising 45 dwellings, creation of new access, public open space and other associated ancillary works.
- 56.43 The Development Management Team Leader (Northwest) advised that this was a full application seeking approval for a residential development of 45 dwellings which would comprise 18 affordable dwellings (40%) and 27 open market dwellings, including a mix of one and two storey and one to five bedroom dwellings. The application was the subject of a non-determination appeal which would be heard at an informal hearing in June and the Council must advise the Secretary of State of its view on the proposals by 4 April 2023. The site comprised two agricultural fields located at the eastern end of Gotherington on the southern side of Gretton Road and was adjoined to the west by existing residential development along Manor Lane, to the south by the Trumans Farm building complex and to the southeast by the Gloucestershire-Warwickshire Railway. It was located within the Special Landscape Area designated within the Tewkesbury Borough Plan and the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty was located on the other side of the railway embankment. The site was immediately adjacent to, but outside of, the residential development boundary of Gotherington, within the Tewkesbury Borough Plan and Gotherington Neighbourhood Development Plan. In terms of history, outline planning permission had previously been refused for 65 dwellings and dismissed at appeal in 2017 and a more recent application for 45 dwellings was refused in 2021. The main difference between the current and the dismissed scheme was the removal of the eastern block of development which resulted in a larger area of green open space to the east, including enhanced landscaping and a reduction in the number of accesses through the hedgerow onto Gretton Road. Members would be aware that the Council could currently demonstrate a housing land supply of 6.68 years so the tilted balance was not engaged in this case, therefore, the presumption was that the scheme should be delivered in accordance with the development plan. The key material issues had been carefully assessed as set out in the Committee report and, in the context of the current appeal, Members were asked to consider a recommendation of minded to refuse which, along with the Committee report, would be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate to inform the appeal. The putative reasons for refusal were that the proposed development did not meet the strategy for the distribution of development in Tewkesbury Borough; it would result in a cumulative development disproportionate in scale to the existing development that would fail to maintain or enhance the vitality of the village and would have a harmful impact on the social wellbeing of the local community, risking the erosion of community cohesion; the adverse impact of the development on the landscape of the Special Landscape Area and the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; and, the absence of planning obligations at the current time to secure affordable housing, community, outdoor recreation and sports facilities, education and provision of libraries infrastructure.
- 56.44 The Chair invited the representative from Gotherington Parish Council to address the Committee. The Parish Council representative indicated that an almost identical application for the site came before the Committee on 17 August 2021 which had been rejected by Members. Since that time, the five year housing land supply had increased from 4.35 to 6.68 years and the Tewkesbury Borough Plan had progressed from emerging to adopted – the Tewkesbury Borough Plan and the Gotherington Neighbourhood Development Plan now carried full weight. The Parish Council appreciated the hard work that Planning Officers and Members had put in to achieve such a strong planning position for the borough. In their significant response of 151 objections to the application, residents had highlighted a number of

concerns including traffic, the Malleson Road/A435 junction, access to doctors, impact on character and appearance, views from the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, flooding, foul water disposal and capacity of buildings and playing fields. The Parish Council would be voicing these concerns at the hearing on 13 June. As highlighted by the Planning Officer, the proposal conflicted with policies of the Joint Core Strategy, Tewkesbury Borough Plan and Gotherington Neighbourhood Development Plan and did not meet the strategy for the distribution of new development in Tewkesbury Borough. The Parish Council did not believe the site was an appropriate location for new residential development. As stated by the Planning Officer, the disaggregated requirement for Gotherington was 86 dwellings for the plan period 2021-31 and, if approved, this application would bring the number of consented dwellings to 190 at just over halfway through the plan period. In the foreword to the current National Planning Policy Framework stated that plans should deliver what they promised and to do other than accept the Officer recommendation would further break that promise.

- 56.45 The Chair invited a local resident speaking in objection to the proposal to address the Committee. The local resident indicated that the proposal occupied two Special Landscape Area fields adjacent to Nottingham Hill in the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The fields were a "valued landscape" and deserved protection in their own right – walkers, horse riders and cyclists could often be seen on Nottingham Hill and on weekends families also enjoyed its openness and tranguillity. The proposal was outside the built form on the eastern end of the linear village so new residents, far from facilities, would feel isolated. As the site was so remote, a playground had now been added to the public open space compromising the already tenuous plans to mitigate for wildlife. The mitigation strategy stated that increased risk caused by cats and dogs could result in potential dormouse mortality and population collapse but existing residents did not believe new residents would follow the advice to keep their cats in at night. It was difficult to imagine a more inappropriate location for a modern housing estate. The government's planning bill promised to safeguard Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, give more weight to local plans and remove the requirement for a rolling five year supply of housing land with the intention of curbing speculative development and planning by appeal. It was vital to protect farmland, the openness and tranguillity of the countryside and residents' mental health and the local resident urged Members to refuse this opportunistic and inappropriate proposal.
- 56.46 The Chair indicated that the Officer recommendation was minded to refuse and he sought a motion from the floor. It was proposed and seconded that the Committee be minded to refuse the application in accordance with the Officer recommendation. The proposer of the motion advised she had been Borough Councillor for the area when the original application had been received and she was glad to see the same reasons for refusal stood today. A Member questioned how the housing land supply and impact of the new calculation which had come into effect in December would be addressed at appeal. He was aware that not all of the justification would be included in the statement of common ground and he was concerned that the Council would lose control of the application if it lost the appeal. In response, the Development Management Team Leader (Northwest) advised that the Council would be defending its five year housing land supply position on several sites and was putting together a robust case – there had been no adverse Inspector decisions which had given Officers any reason to reconsider this position at the current time. The Member did not disagree and felt that Officers put up outstanding arguments at appeal but he referenced the Fiddington appeal when the Inspector had gone against that and he feared the developer would have free reign if that was to happen again in this case. The proposer of the motion pointed out that the Council did not have a five year housing land supply at the time of the Fiddington appeal but there was now a 6.68 year supply and Officers had provided a robust case so she did not see why an application should be allowed just because there was a risk of it

being overturned at appeal – that would put the village at risk and would not protect the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

56.47 Upon being put to the vote, it was

**RESOLVED** That the Committee be **MINDED TO REFUSE** the application in accordance with the Officer recommendation.

#### PL.57 CURRENT APPEALS AND APPEAL DECISIONS UPDATE

- 57.1 Attention was drawn to the current appeals and appeal decisions update, circulated at Page No. 215. Members were asked to consider the current planning and enforcement appeals received and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities appeal decisions issued.
- 57.2 Accordingly, it was

**RESOLVED** That the current appeals and appeal decisions update be **NOTED**.

The meeting closed at 1:08 pm

### Appendix 1

#### ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATIONS SHEET

Date: 21 March 2023

The following is a list of the additional representations received since the Planning Committee Agenda was published and includes background papers received up to and including the Monday before the meeting.

A general indication of the content is given but it may be necessary to elaborate at the meeting.

ltem No	
5a	22/00251/APP
	Phases 4 And 6, Land At Perrybrook, North Brockworth
	Late Representations
	Since the preparation of the Committee report, an additional letter of objection has been received. The details of this letter are summarised below:
	"I wish to make the following further comments on and objections to the proposals for the development of Perrybrook North stages 4 & 6.
	1) Can we have an assurance that work will not commence to this phase of the development until the new roundabout on Valliant Way is completed? Otherwise construction traffic will cause a great deal of nuisance to current residents of Brockworth.
	2) I wish to object to the close proximity of the gable ends of houses on the proposed development (plot numbers 353-368) to several existing houses in Maple Drive. These new houses will cast the gardens in Maple Drive into shadow and create severe loss of light and amenity.
	3) With reference to the attenuation basin in the landscaped area running north- south in south west part of the site, how will this be drained and maintained? A muddy dip full of weeds will look most unsightly.
	4) I wish to object to the fact that the so-called Re-inforced Landscape Edge between the new development and the existing houses in Ermin Park and Maple Drive has got so thin as to be completely ineffective. In places it consists only of a path and minute patch of soil scarcely wide to plant anything in. Why is the path intermittent, when this is currently a route regularly used by walkers? In particular I object to the very narrow planting beds at the back of my neighbour's house, 34 Westfield Road. How will access be provided to such a narrow area, to maintain it and so prevent it filling up with brambles, nettles and unwanted nuisance tree species such as ash and sycamore?
	5) What are Tewkesbury Borough's proposals for a pedestrian link between the new development and Westfield Avenue/Prince Albert Court, across the existing rough patch of grass (not owned by the current developer)? Who owns this patch of grass?
	6) A point of detail: I welcome the bulb plantings shown, but as a garden designer with 40 years experience, I strongly recommend that all the crocuses shown should be Crocus tommasinianus, as these survive well and multiply better than any other species".
	These comments have been considered and an update will be provided to

	Members within the Officer's introduction to the application. Notwithstanding these additional comments, the Officer recommendation remains as set out in the report to Committee.		
5b	21/01173/FUL		
	Land Off Ruby Avenue, Bishops Cleeve		
	Amended Condition 5		
	Condition 5 to read:		
	The development hereby approved shall be carried out in accordance the updated CEMP that was received by the LPA on 20.02.2023 and approved by the Highway Authority as confirmed in writing on 13.03.2023. The approved plan shall be adhered to throughout the demolition/construction period.		
	Reason: In the interests of safe operation of the adopted highway in the lead into development both during the demolition and construction phase of the development.		
	Para 8.52 to read:		
	The semi-detached properties (Plots 1-6, 17-22) would have rear private gardens ranging in size from 51.79sqm -75.72sqm which is considered to be acceptable. The flatted development at plots 7-12 would have amenity space in the form or front gardens. Each of these units would have Juliet Balconies. The flatted units at 13 and 14 would have private amenity space of 22.2sqm and 26.12sqm respectively. The flatted units at 15 and 16 would have an amenity space of 37sqm and units 7-12 would also have shared amenity space of 102sqm. The development also provides public open space at 969sqm in the south western corner of the site. The dwellings are therefore considered to be served by sufficient amenity space.		
	Para 8.58 to read:		
	2x2b4p 80.7sqm		
	Para 8.60 to read:		
	In terms of the tenure mix, the following is proposed:		
	- 6 units will be for shared ownership (Plots 1-6: six 1-bedroomed maisonettes, four 2-bedroom maisonettes, two 2-bedroom houses and four 3-bedroom houses)		
	- 16 units will be for social rent (Plots 7-22: four 2-bedroom houses and two 3- bedroom houses)		
	Para 8.65 - 8.70 to read:		
	JCS Policy INF2 (2) (iv) requires new development to incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) where appropriate to manage surface water drainage. Policy INF6 also requires that the infrastructure requirements generated by a proposal are met, including by adequate on and off site infrastructure.		
	The site is partially in flood zone 2 according to the Flood Maps for Planning. The Flood Risk Assessment (S11479-JNP-XX-XX-RP-C-0001-P01; August 2021) states that modelling carried out in 2010 for the planning application for the wider development site shows that the site should actually be considered in flood zone 1.		
	The applicant provided updates to the site layout plan in order to address concerns raised by the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) in relation to surface water management and climate change. The FFL of the dwellings has been raised so that it's above the predicted flood level and it has been shown that the proposed residential site has a lower impermeable area than the previous site		

layout design so it can be accommodated in the wider drainage network it discharging into. Simulations of the drainage have been provided that sho will be no flooding in the 1 in 30 year 1 in 100 year rainfall events plus 409 alimete abage. Finally, it is confirmed that the drainage will be put up for	is	
climate change. Finally, it is confirmed that the drainage will be put up for by Severn Trent Water who will be responsible for future maintenance.	w there % for	
The LLFA has no further objections to the proposal and do not require any conditions.	/	
The development is therefore considered satisfactory with regard to flood drainage subject to a condition to ensure the implementation of the development in accordance with the approved drainage scheme.		
Para 10.1 to read:		
In the absence of policies in the NPPF which would provide a clear reasor refusal, it is not considered the harms of the development would significan demonstrably outweigh the benefits set out above. It is therefore recomm that authority be DELEGATED to the Development Management Manage PERMIT the application subject to any additional/amended planning condi- and the completion of a section 106 legal agreement to secure the following	ntly and ended r to itions;	
- The provision of 100% affordable housing.		
- A contribution of £73 per dwelling, (£1,241 based on 22 dwellings), towa recycling and waste bin facilities.	rds	
Additional Consultations		
Since writing the Committee report, an additional 81 objections have been received from members of the public. These new objections raise no new concerns that have not previously been raised by objectors or consultees, objection to loss of open space.		
Officer Update		
The proposed scheme provides 969sqm of public open space. Furthermore are public open spaces provided across the wider area and the Council cu- has a number of planning applications under consideration for a LEAP and provision of sports pitches. Therefore, all objections have been addressed out in the main Committee report.	urrently d the	
5e 22/00609/FUL		
Starvealls Cottage, Postlip, Winchcombe		
The Conservation Officer has requested that the following condition be att the event that Members resolve 'delegated permit':	ached in	
No demolition shall take place until a programme of archaeological buildin recording work including a Written Scheme of Investigation followed by a f report has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authorit writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of the pair of cottages w to be recorded to a standard equivalent to a Level 2 (descriptive record) a specified by Historic England in its publication Understanding Historic Buil Guide to Good Recording Practice (2016).	final ty in hich are s	
Reason: In the interests of the historic environment. This condition is require be pre-commencement as archaeological building recording work is require to the loss of the historic buildings.		

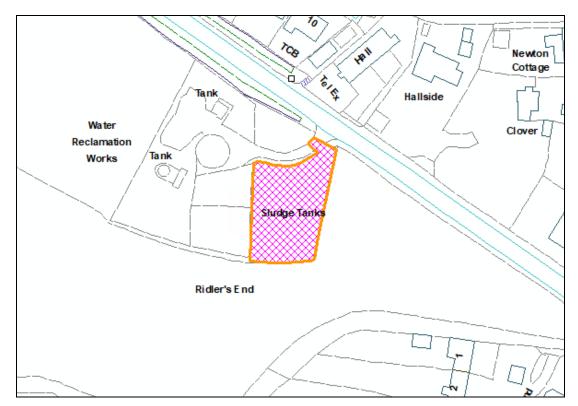
5f	22/00650/FUL
	Trumans Farm , Manor Lane, Gotherington
	There is an error in Paragraph 7.2 of the Committee Report. This should state:
	The Development Plan currently comprises the Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy 2011-2031 (JCS) (adopted December 2017),Tewkesbury Borough Plan to 2011-2031 (adopted June 2022) and a number of 'made' Neighbourhood Development Plans. Of relevance to this application is the Gotherington Neighbourhood Plan (GNP) 2011-2031 (Made September 2017)

# Agenda Item 5a

Date	18 April 2023	
Case Officer	Sarah Barnes	
Application No.	22/00986/FUL	
Site Location	Land Opposite Village Hall, Main Road, Tirley.	
Proposal	Erection of a single storey self-build dwelling and associated works.	
Ward	Highnam With Haw Bridge	
Parish	Tirley	
Appendices	Revised site location plan Block Plan Proposed Elevations / Proposed floor plan Access plan	
Reason for Referral to Committee		
Recommendation	Refuse	

## **Planning Committee**

### Site Location



#### 1. The Proposal

Full application details are available to view online at: http://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=RHSN 4RQDLLO00

- **1.1** The current application is for a single storey self build detached dwelling. It would create three bedrooms plus an ensuite, a bathroom, lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility and an integral twin bay garage (**See plans**).
- **1.2** The proposal would also entail the formation/alterations of an access to the B4213 and the laying of a driveway and turning facilities.

#### 2. Site Description

- **2.1** This application relates to 'Land opposite the village hall', a somewhat rectangular shaped parcel of land about 0.09ha in total area which is set to the south of the main B4213 road in Tirley. The site would be accessed from the north via an existing access.
- **2.2** The area itself is an existing paddock bound by mature vegetation/trees along the front (north) and has an existing field access at its northern corner.
- **2.3** The site is located within Flood Zone 1 as defined by the Environment Agency, indicating the lowest probability of risk for surface water flooding.
- **2.4** The site is located outside of any defined settlement boundary and outside of the built-up area of Tirley. The core of the built-up part of the village lies to the northern side of the B4213, whereas this site is located on the south side where development is sparse.
- **2.5** The application site comprises an un-developed parcel of land which contributes to the semi-rural character and setting of Tirley.
- **2.6** The site is not affected by any constraints or landscape designations however it is located adjacent to a sewage works.

#### 3. Relevant Planning History

Application Number	Proposal	Decision	Decision Date
19/01195/FUL	Erection of a single storey front extension, 2no. single storey side extension and raising the existing pitched roof ridge height	PER	06.02.2020
04/01224/OUT	Outline application for the erection of a detached bungalow, double garage and means of access.	REF	08.11.2004
06/00524/OUT	Outline application for the erection of a detached bungalow with attached double garage - Revised Scheme.	REF	28.07.2006

#### 4. Consultation Responses

Full copies of all the consultation responses are available online at <a href="https://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/">https://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/</a>.

- **4.1** Tirley Parish Council agreed to support this application as it was felt that it would enhance the village.
- **4.2** Gloucestershire Highways Officer objects to the proposal
- **4.3** Gloucestershire Highways Officer initially objected to the proposal, however following the submission of further information, no objections are raised in relation to visibility subject to the appropriate conditions being attached. However, still objects on sustainability grounds.
- **4.4** Drainage Officer insufficient information has been provided.
- **4.5** Environmental Health Officer Observations awaited.

#### 5. Third Party Comments/Observations

Full copies of all the representation responses are available online at <u>https://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/</u>.

- **5.1** The application has been publicised through the posting of a site notice for a period of 21 days and neighbour notification letters.
- **5.2** One letter of support and one letter of general comment has been received from local residents. The general comments are summarised as follows:
  - Concerns raised about the proposed access.
  - Traffic calming measure would need to be addressed.

#### 6. Relevant Planning Policies and Considerations

#### 6.1 <u>Statutory Duty</u>

Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise

The following planning guidance and policies are relevant to the consideration of this application:

#### 6.2 National guidance

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)

#### 6.3 <u>Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy (JCS) – Adopted 11</u> December 2017

- Policy SD3
- Policy SD4
- Policy SD6
- Policy SD9
- Policy SD10
- Policy SD11
- Policy SD14
- Policy INF1
- Policy INF2

#### 6.4 <u>Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011-2031 (TBLP) – Adopted 8 June 2022</u>

- Policy RES4
- Policy RES5
- 6.5 Neighbourhood Plan

None

#### 7. Policy Context

- 7.1 Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that proposals be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Section 70 (2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 provides that the Local Planning Authority shall have regard to the provisions of the Development Plan, so far as material to the application, and to any other material considerations.
- **7.2** The Development Plan currently comprises the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) (2017), saved policies of the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011-2031 (June 2022) (TBLP), and a number of 'made' Neighbourhood Development Plans.
- 7.3 The relevant policies are set out in the appropriate sections of this report.
- **7.4** Other material policy considerations include national planning guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 and its associated Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), the National Design Guide (NDG) and National Model Design Code.

#### 8. Evaluation

#### Principle of development

8.1 Policy SP2 of the JCS sets out the strategy for the distribution of new development across the JCS area. Policy SD10 of the JCS specifies that, within the JCS area, new housing will be planned in order to deliver the scale and distribution of housing development set out in Policies SP1 and SP2. It states that, on sites that are not allocated (including the site the subject of this application), housing development and conversions to dwellings will be permitted on previously-developed land in the existing built-up areas of Gloucester City, the Principal Urban Area of Cheltenham and Tewkesbury town, rural service centres and service villages except where otherwise restricted by policies within district plans.

- **8.2** Tirley is not identified as a "Service Village" within table SP2c "Settlement Hierarchy" of the JCS. Criterion (vi) of Policy SP2 confirm that on sites that are not allocated within the plan for development, Policy SD10 will apply to proposals for residential development. Criterion 4 (ii) of Policy SD10 'Residential Development' of the JCS sets out that on sites that are neither allocated or previously-developed land, housing development will be permitted where it is infilling within the existing built up areas of Tewkesbury Borough's towns and villages, except where otherwise restricted by policies within District plans. The JCS defines "infill development" as the development of an under-developed plot well related to existing built development.
- **8.3** Policy RES4 of the Local Plan states that very small-scale residential development within and adjacent to the built-up area of other rural settlements will be acceptable in principle, providing the proposal meets a number of exceptions including that the proposal is of an appropriate scale relative to the size and function of the settlement, it does not have an adverse cumulative impact on the settlement, it complements the form of the settlement, and does not result in coalescence of the settlements.
- 8.4 The application site is not allocated in the local plan and lies outside of the built-up area of Tirley. Criteria 4(ii) of JCS Policy SD10 sets out that housing development on other sites (those not allocated within the plan or comprising previously developed land) will be permitted where 'It is infilling within the existing built-up areas' of, (and amongst other areas), Tewkesbury Borough's villages (except where otherwise restricted by policies within district plans). The supporting commentary states that 'For the purposes of this policy (4 ii), infill development means the development of an under-developed plot well related to existing built development.'
- **8.5** For the purpose of Policy RES4 and the application of Policy SD10 of the JCS, the Council considers the built-up area of the settlement to be its continuous built form as it existed at the start of the plan period and excluding:

a) individual buildings or groups of dispersed buildings which are clearly detached from the continuous built-up area of the settlement;

b) gardens, paddocks and other undeveloped land within the curtilage of buildings on the edge of the settlement where land relates more to the surrounding countryside than to the built-up area of the settlement.

- **8.6** The application site is un-developed and contributes to the semi-rural character and setting of Tirley. The site is located outside of any defined settlement boundary and outside of the built-up area of Tirley which lies to the northern side of the B4213 and to the north of the site.
- **8.7** The core of the built-up part of the village lies to the northern side of the road, with very sparse development on the southern side of the road which is in contrast to the northern side of the road is rural in character.
- **8.8** In view of the separation form any other nearby residential development, it's considered that the proposal would not constitute 'infill' development, the nearest dwelling on this side of the road being some 70 metres to the north-east or any other form of appropriate development within the open countryside and would therefore fail to comply with Policy SD10 of the JCS and Policies RES3 and RES4 of the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan.

#### Design and Visual amenity

- **8.9** Paragraph 126 of the NPPF set out that the creation of high quality, beautiful and sustainable buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve. Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, creates better places in which to live and work and helps make development acceptable to communities.
- **8.10** JCS Policy SD4 provides that new development should respond positively to, and respect the character of, the site and its surroundings, enhancing local distinctiveness, and addressing the urban structure and grain of the locality in terms of street pattern, layout, mass and form. It should be of a scale, type, density and materials appropriate to the site and its setting.
- **8.11** Criterion 6 of Policy SD10 'Residential Development' of the JCS states the residential development should seek to achieve maximum density compatible with good design, the protection of heritage assets, local amenity, the character and quality of the local environment, and the safety and convenience of the local and strategic road network. Policy RES4 of the TBP sets out that new development should complement the form of the settlement and is well related to existing buildings within the settlement.
- **8.12** While there is a mix of housing sizes and types in the locality there is no one prevailing architectural type. However it is considered that the proposed single storey bungalow would be utilitarian in its design and would lack character and design quality. The appearance and fenestration on the front elevation in-particular, would be poor with an elongated a-symmetrical design, with no real focal point / entrance and, proportions and orientation which would flank onto the street, which would not reflect the grain of the settlement.
- **8.13** The site is currently screened by dense vegetation along the northern boundary which the applicant intends to retain. The proposals would lead to harm to the character of the area through the formation of a new driveway, parking area. Furthermore, in order to achieve required access and visibility splays to the site access, some of the vegetation would need to be reduced in height which would give rise to views of the site and the proposed dwelling and associated domestic paraphernalia.
- **8.14** As se out above, development on the southern side of the B4213 is very sparse so adding a new dwelling to an area that is currently un-developed would impact on and be harmful to the existing character of Tirley. Areas of land such as this contribute to the semi-rural character and setting of Tirley and it is considered important to safeguard such areas. The proposal would therefore conflict with the NPPF which seeks to achieve high quality design and beautiful places, JCS Policies SD4 and SD10 and TBP Policy RES4.

#### Residential amenity

- **8.15** JCS Policies SD4 and SD14 require development to enhance comfort, convenience and enjoyment through assessment of the opportunities for light, privacy and external space. Development should have no detrimental impact on the amenity of existing or new residents or occupants.
- **8.16** The nearest dwelling on this side of the road is about 70 metres away to the southeast. Similarly, there are dwellings on the opposite side of the road but given the distance of about 35 metres there would be no undue harm to the living conditions enjoyed by the occupiers of those nearby residential properties.

**8.17** The application site is located adjacent to a sewage works, which given the nature of the operation has potential to impact living conditions of the future occupiers of any dwelling on this site. The advice of the Council's Environmental Health Officer has been sought and **an update will be provided at committee**.

#### Highway Matters

- **8.18** Policy INF1 'Transport Network' states that developers should provide safe and accessible connections to the transport network to enable travel choice for residents and commuters.
- **8.19** The Local Highways Authority have been consulted and they have advised that the site is in a rural community and there would be limitations to the choice of transport modes available for future occupiers. Besides the bus stops, and the village hall on the immediate opposite side of the road fronting the site, there are no additional services or facilities within reasonable walking distances to the site.
- **8.20** In terms of safe and suitable vehicular access to this site, the B4213 is subject to a design speed of 40mph at the vicinity of the site. This would result in a desirable minimum visibility splay of 101 metres. A desktop assessment confirms this is not achievable to the east from the site access without resorting to land outside the public highway and the applicant's control.
- **8.21** The highway officer considers that the site would be car dominated and would fail to address or be accessible via sustainable transport. These matters cannot be mitigated. Tools such as a travel plan cannot address the harm due to the lack of transport choices available to support it.
- **8.22** In response to the concerns raised from highways, the applicant submitted a transport statement. The report covers the issues of visibility and sustainability. It is inferred from the highways officer comments that an acceptable visibility splay specification for the site is a 101metre y-distance by a 2.4 metre x-distance. The Highways Officer has indicated that the acceptable visibility splay would encroach on the neighbour's property.
- **8.23** The applicant has discussed this issue with the neighbouring landowner, and it has been advised that an easement agreement would be entered into, permitting the applicant to take a view across the neighbour's land in perpetuity of the proposed development. It is proposed that a Grampian-style condition could be used to require the applicant to demonstrate the necessary control over the area hatched green on the submitted access plans prior to commencing the building works. The remaining obstruction to the visibility splay result from vegetation overgrowing the highway verge. This vegetation could be reduced and cut back so as to achieve acceptable visibility from this existing access.
- **8.24** The Highways Officer was reconsulted and has reviewed the submitted transport statement, and whilst he would not object in principle to the suggested Grampian style condition, the Highway Authority however maintain their objection on sustainability grounds given the limited facilities in Tirley and reliance on car borne transport.
- **8.25** It is therefore considered that highways visibility concerns could be adequately addressed by way of a condition. The highway objections with regards to sustainability of the sites location would need to be balanced against TBP policies RES3 and RES4 which support development in other rural settlements subject to specific requirements.

#### Drainage

- **8.26** JCS Policy INF2 sets out that development proposals must avoid areas at risk of flooding. Proposals must not increase the level of risk to the safety or occupiers of a site, the local community or the wider environment either on the site or elsewhere.
- **8.27** The site falls within Flood Zone 1 as shown on the Environment Agency's indicative flood map indicating that it has a low probability of river or sea flooding. The EA's updated Flood Map for Surface Water identifies part of the site as having either a very low or low risk of surface water flooding.
- **8.28** The Drainage Officer has assessed the proposal and has advised that whilst he does not object to the proposals in principle, the applicant has not submitted enough information for him to fully assess the proposal. Further information has therefore been requested from the applicant.
- **8.29** At the time of writing the information is awaited and **an update will be provided at committee**.

#### Landscape

- **8.30** The Framework states that planning decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural environment by recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside. Policy SD6 of the JCS echoes these requirements.
- **8.31** As set out above, the application site is on undeveloped land located outside of the built-up area to Tirley. The application site is in a prominent and conspicuous location on the southern side of the B4213 and it is considered that the site presently contributes to the openness setting and rural character of the locality.
- **8.32** It is considered that the development of this site would result in an unacceptable encroachment into the rural landscape which would harm the character of the area by virtue of the urbanising effects of a new dwelling, enlarged access, driveway and hardstanding and associated domestic paraphernalia.

#### Five Year Housing Supply

- **8.33** The NPPF states that applications for planning permission be determined in accordance with the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
- **8.34** Under Paragraph 74 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Local Planning Authorities are required to identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide a minimum of five years' worth of housing against their housing requirement set out in adopted strategic policies.
- **8.35** The adopted JCS became five years old on 11th December 2022, therefore as required by paragraph 74 of the NPPF the Council's 5-year housing land supply position was reconsidered, based on the standard method of calculation.
- **8.36** As a result of the move to the standard method TBC moved to a single district approach. This has resulted in the addition of the JCS allocations within the boundary of Tewkesbury Borough, where deemed deliverable, which had previously been attributed to meet the housing needs of Gloucester City Council under Policy SP2 of the JCS.

**8.37** On 7th March 2023, the Council's Interim Five Year Housing Land Supply Statement was published which sets out the position on the five-year housing land supply for Tewkesbury Borough as of 11th December 2022 (five years since the adoption of the JCS) and covers the five-year period between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2027. The Interim Statement confirms that, when set against local housing need for Tewkesbury Borough calculated by the standard method, plus a 5% buffer, the Council can demonstrate a five-year housing land supply of 6.68 years. It is therefore advised that, as the Council can demonstrate a five-year supply of deliverable housing sites, the presumption in favour of sustainable development (or "tilted balance") is not engaged in this case

#### Self Build

- **8.38** The applicant has stated that this would be a self-build dwelling. NPPF, Paragraph 62 states that 'the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies including, but not limited to, those who require affordable housing, families with children, older people, students, people with disabilities, service families, travellers, people who rent their homes and people wishing to commission or build their own homes.'
- **8.39** Under section 1 of the Self Build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015, local authorities are required to keep a register of those seeking to acquire serviced plots in the area for their own self-build and custom house building. They are also subject to duties under sections 2 and 2A of the Act to have regard to this and to give enough suitable development permissions to meet the identified demand. Self and custom-build properties could provide market or affordable housing.
- **8.40** Whilst the proposal is promoted as a self-build dwelling, and is a benefit of the scheme, this would not however outweigh the conflict with the relevant planning policies identified above.

#### 9. Conclusion

**9.1** Overall, it is considered that the application site is not an appropriate location for new residential development and would conflict with Policies SP2 and SD10 of the Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy 2011-2031 (2017) and Policies RES3 and RES4 of the Tewkesbury Borough Plan 2011-2031 (2022).

#### 10. Recommendation

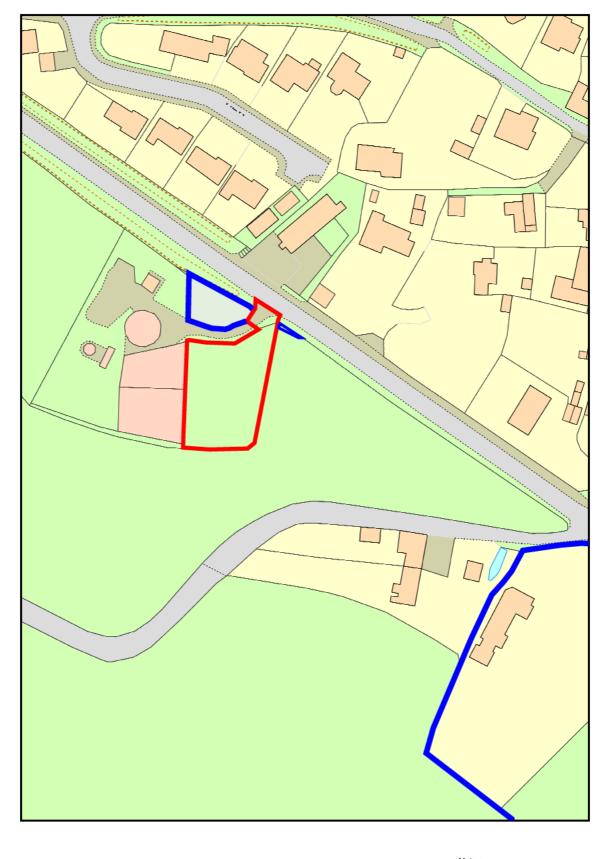
**10.1** Given the above, the application is recommended for **refusal**.

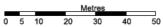
#### 11. Recommended Reasons for Refusal

1 The proposed development conflicts with policies SP1, SP2, SD6 and SD10 of the Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy 2011 - 2031 (December 2017) and Policies of RES3 and RES4 of the Tewkesbury Borough Plan 2011 - 2031 (June 2022) and the National Planning Policy Framework in that the proposed development does not meet the strategy for the distribution of new development in Tewkesbury Borough. Furthermore, the application site is not an appropriate location for new residential development and the proposal would result in a poor-quality development which would result in a significant intrusion into the rural landscape which would harm the intrinsic character and appearance of the locality.

#### 12. Informatives

1 In accordance with the requirements of the NPPF the Local Planning Authority has sought to determine the application in a positive and proactive manner by offering pre-application advice, publishing guidance to assist the applicant, and publishing the to the Council's website relevant information received during the consideration of the application thus enabling the applicant to be kept informed as to how the case was proceeding.





 Map Information

 Scale:
 1: 1250

 Date:
 28/07/2022

 Reference:
 Tirley

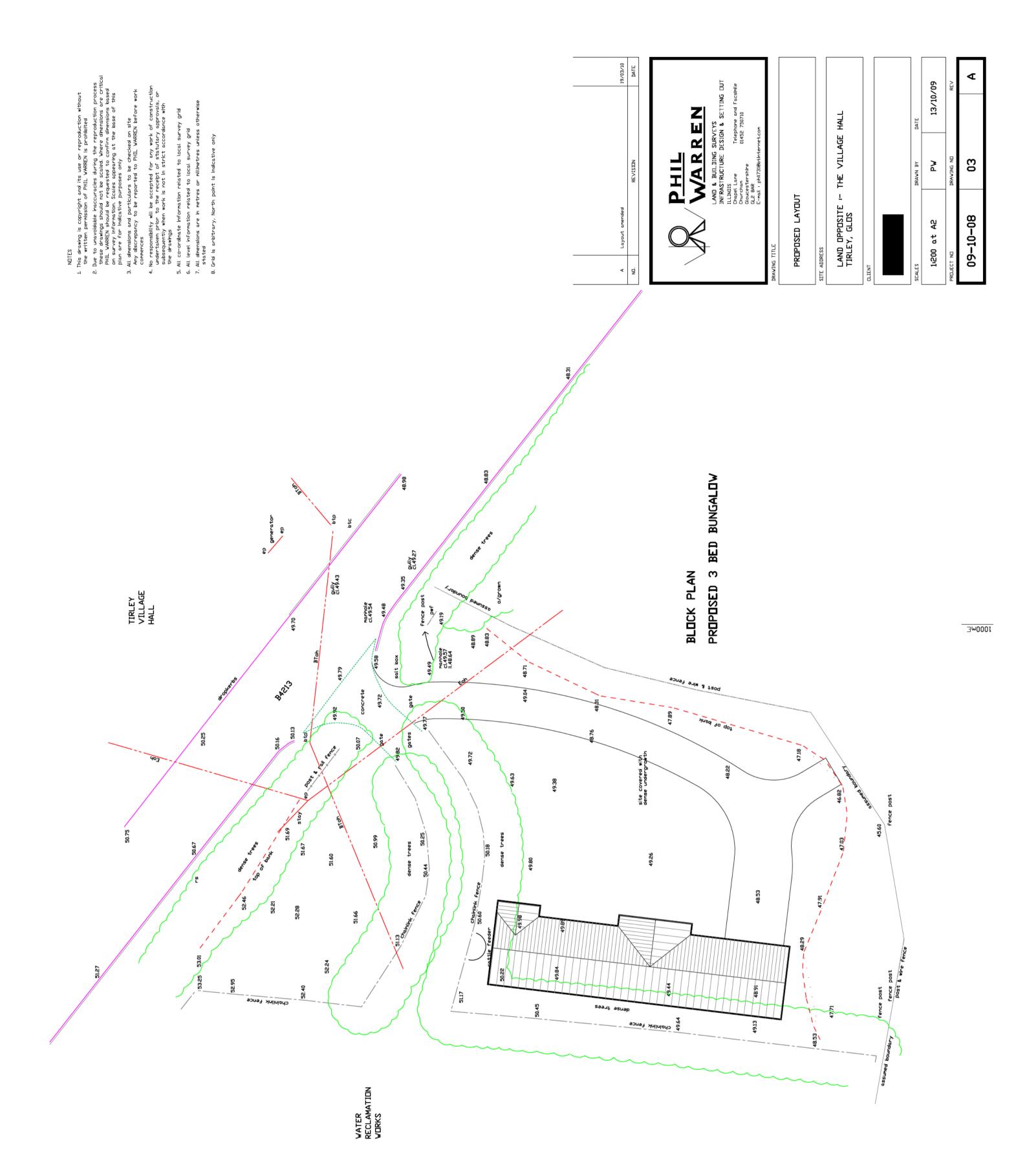
 Order No:
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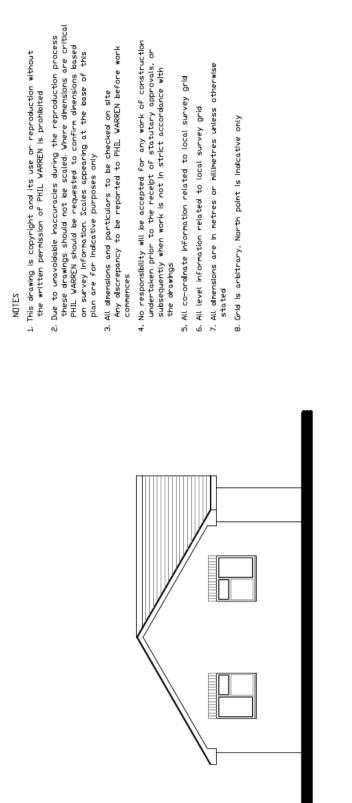


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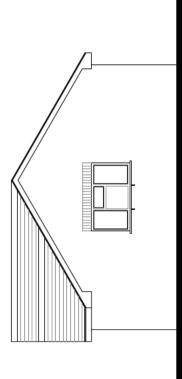
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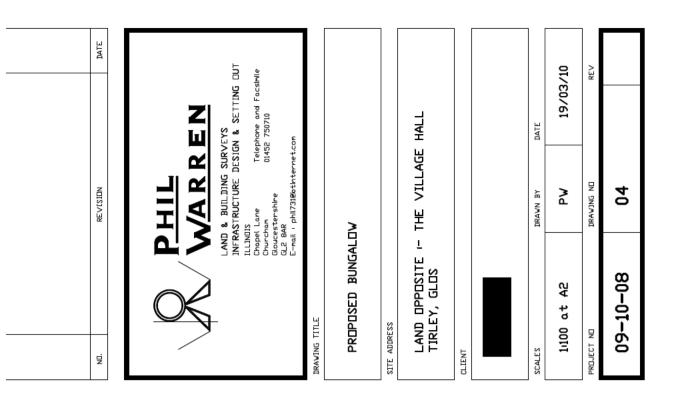
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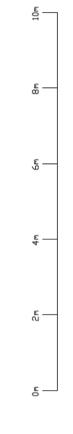


## SIDE ELEVATION

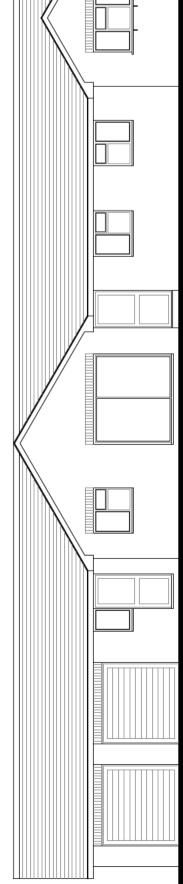


SIDE ELEVATION

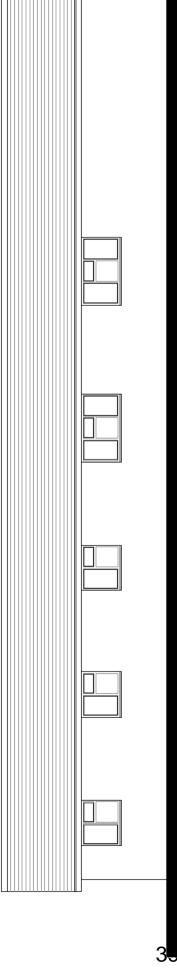




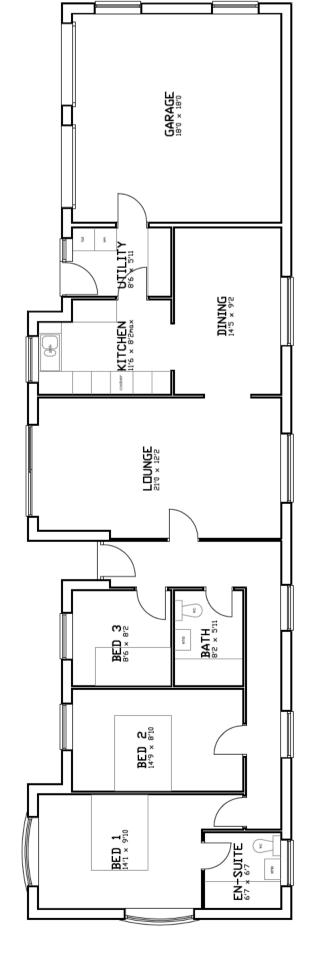




# FRONT ELEVATION

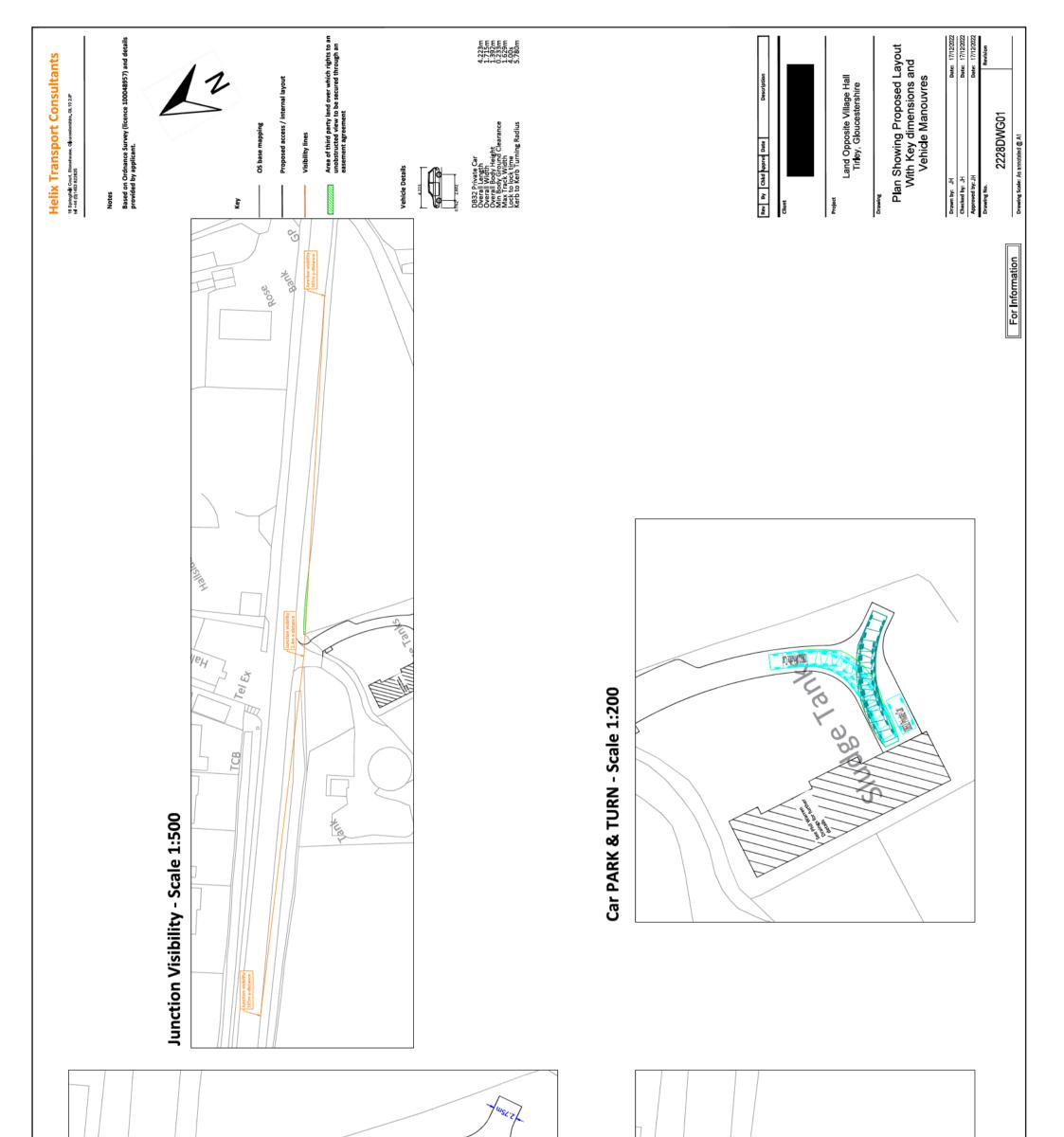


# REAR ELEVATION



### FLOOR PLAN





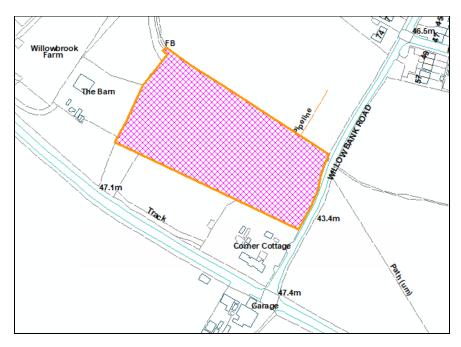


### Agenda Item 5b

#### **Planning Committee**

Date	18 April 2023					
Date	18 April 2023					
Case Officer	Chloe Buckingham					
Application No.	22/00446/FUL					
Site Location	Land On The West Side Of Willow Bank Road, Alderton					
Proposal	Creation of new access to paddock (to allow field access whilst Severn Trent re-lay the existing sewage pipe and associated works using existing access).					
Ward	Winchcombe					
Parish	Alderton					
Appendices	Vegetation Removal and New Access					
	Access and Visibility Assessment					
	Proposed Site Plan					
	Existing Site Plan					
	Existing Topographical Survey x2					
	Site Location Plan					
Reason for Referral	Parish Objection					
to Committee						
Recommendation	Permit					

#### Site Location



#### 1. The Proposal

Full application details are available to view online at: https://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications

- **1.1** The proposal would create a new field access further south of the existing access along Willow Bank Road. This would require the removal of approximately 60 metres of hedgerow along the boundary of the site bordering Willow Bank Road. The new access would be constructed from tarmac and stone chipping. A new hedgerow is proposed to be planted beyond the visibility sight lines.
- **1.2** The purpose of the proposed access is to carry out works required by Severn Trent. The existing access would be stopped up and a hedgerow is proposed to be replanted across the existing access point. It is intended that the new access would then be used as a permanent agricultural access after the works by Severn Trent are completed.

#### 2. Site Description

- **2.1** This application relates to a field which is currently used as a paddock to the south east of Willow Brook Farm and adjacent to Willow Bank Road, located approximately 150m south of the village of Alderton. The field lies adjacent to properties and a further paddock to the south, and open fields to the west and north. The surrounding landscape predominantly comprises arable farmland and pasture, bounded by hedgerows with scattered hedgerow trees.
- **2.2** This area of land is located within Flood Zone 2 and 3 (as identified by the Environment Agency Flood Map) and is within a 'Special Landscape Area'.

Application Number	Proposal	Decision	Decision Date
T.7774	Erection of a detached private car garage. Extension to existing dwelling to provide a porch and lounge over. Installation of a dormer window. Construction of a new vehicular access.	PERMIT	19.04.1984
T.7399	Extension to existing dwelling house to provide an entrance hall with bathroom over.	PERMIT	17.06.1981
T.7399/A	Erection of a detached double private car garage.	PERMIT	12.04.1983
94/00777/FUL	Alterations and two storey extension to provide enlarged living accommodation	PERMIT	25.08.1994

#### 3. Relevant Planning History

#### 4. Consultation Responses

Full copies of all the consultation responses are available online at <a href="https://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/">https://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/</a>.

**4.1** Alderton Parish Council: Objection:

Applicants seek to argue need based on the existing access being in the flood plain. The existing access has virtually no flood issues. The proposed access requires significant engineering works to land levels and demonstrably impacts upon the landscape and visual character of this area which is a rural lane leading into the village. We respectfully conclude that the harm caused to the special landscape area clearly and demonstrably outweigh any benefits.

- **4.2** Highways No objection subject to one condition and an informative.
- **4.3** Drainage The Council is currently seeking clarification of the previous drainage response and and update shall be provided at committee.
- **4.4** Ecology No objection subject to one condition.

#### 5. Third Party Comments/Observations

Full copies of all the representation responses are available online at <u>https://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/</u>.

- **5.1** The application has been publicised through sending neighbour notifications (sent to the properties known as 'Corner Cottage' and 'The Barn' on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022)
- **5.2** Third Party Comments: two letters of representation have been received from one correspondent raising the following Planning Matters:
  - Loss of hedgerow.
  - Harm to landscape.
  - No need or justification for the access.
  - No neighbour notifications received or site notice put up.
  - The works have been completed.
  - There is no significant flooding of the existing access.
  - The existing gateway is sufficient for agricultural purposes.
  - Lots of soil to be removed.

#### 6. Relevant Planning Policies and Considerations

#### 6.1 <u>Statutory Duty</u>

Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The following planning guidance and policies are relevant to the consideration of this application:

#### 6.2 National guidance

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG).

#### 6.3 <u>Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy (JCS) – Adopted 11</u> December 2017

SD4 (Design Requirements) SD6 Landscape SD9 (Biodiversity and Geodiversity) SD14 (Health and Environmental Quality) INF1 (Transport Network) INF2 (Flood Risk Management) INF3 (Green Infrastructure)

#### 6.4 <u>Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011-2031 (TBLP) – Adopted 8 June 2022</u>

LAN1 Special Landscape Areas LAN2 Landscape Character NAT1 Biodiversity, Geodiversity and Important Natural Features NAT2 The Water Environment NAT3 Green Infrastructure- Building with Nature ENV2 Flood Risk and Water Management

6.5 Alderton Neighbourhood Plan 2011-2031 (adopted July 2018)

Policy LE1 Biodiversity and Geodiversity

#### 6.6 <u>Wildlife legislation context:</u>

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 Protection of Badgers Act 1992

#### 7. Policy Context

- **7.1** Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that proposals be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Section 70 (2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 provides that the Local Planning Authority shall have regard to the provisions of the Development Plan, so far as material to the application, and to any other material considerations.
- **7.2** The Development Plan currently comprises the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) (2017), saved policies of the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011-2031 (June 2022) (TBLP), and a number of 'made' Neighbourhood Development Plans.
- 7.3 The relevant policies are set out in the appropriate sections of this report.
- **7.4** Other material policy considerations include national planning guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 and its associated Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), the National Design Guide (NDG) and National Model Design Code.

#### 8. Evaluation

#### Principle of development

- **8.1** The principle of creating a new access to an existing paddock is considered acceptable subject to compliance with all relevant policies.
- **8.2** The agent has confirmed that the purpose of the proposed development is to provide a separate access whilst the pipe relaying works are being undertaken and to allow the efficient use of the agricultural land thereafter. The submitted documents show that the new pipeline will be 10 metres closer to the road. The applicant has explained that there are a group of silver birch trees on the site, close to the existing access and the location of the pipeline in proximity to these trees will make it difficult to manoeuvre modern agricultural machinery onto the site and public highway. The applicant has also confirmed that the existing access lies in the flood plain and the relocation offers an improvement to the existing position. There is no planning issue with the principle of the proposed development when considering the relevant planning policy context.

#### Highways

- **8.3** Policy INF1 of the JCS sets out that permission shall only be granted where the impact of development is not considered to be severe. It further states that safe and efficient access to the highway network should be provided for all transport means.
- **8.4** The applicant has confirmed that the access is to be permanent. The Highway Authority has been consulted on the application and raise no objections to the proposals. Officers agree that there would not be either an unacceptable or severe highway safety impact as a result of the new access, subject to a condition to ensure that prior to first use of the proposed access the existing access (other than that intended to serve the development) shall be permanently closed. Subject to this condition, the scheme is considered compliant with policy INF1.

#### Landscape and Visual Amenity

- **8.5** Policy SD6 of the Joint Core Strategy confirms that development will seek to protect the landscape for its own intrinsic beauty and for its benefit to economic, environmental and social well-being.
- **8.6** Policy LAN1 states that applications for new development within Special Landscape Areas, as identified on the Policies Map, will be permitted providing:
  - The proposal would not cause harm to those features of the landscape character which are of significance;
  - The proposal maintains the quality of the natural and built environment and its visual attractiveness;
  - All reasonable opportunities for the enhancement of landscape character and the local environment are sought. Where a proposal would result in harm to the Special Landscape Area having regard to the above criteria, this harm should be weighed against the need for, and benefits from, the proposed development. Proposals causing harm to the Special Landscape Area will only be permitted where the benefits from the development would clearly and demonstrably outweigh the identified harm.
- **8.7** Policy LAN2 states that new developments must, through sensitive design, siting, and landscaping, be appropriate to, and integrated into, their existing landscape setting.
- **8.8** The proposal would create a new access further south of the existing access and this would require the removal of a length of hedgerow along the boundary with Willow Bank Road. The new access would be constructed from tarmac and stone chipping. Whilst the loss of this hedgerow is regrettable, the ecology report has confirmed this hedgerow is or poor quality. The ecology report has also recommended a condition, considered reasonable and necessary to both compensate for the loss of part of the hedgerow and improve the management and appearance of the retained hedgerow, which is currently tall and thin. This would incorporate planting the gaps with new suitable hedgerow shrubs. Therefore, a condition is proposed to be attached to the permission to ensure such planting is carried out. Subject to this condition, the scheme is considered to have an acceptable impact on the landscape in compliance with policies SD6, LAN1 and LAN2.
- **8.9** The Parish Council have commented that the location of the access is at a point where there are significant ground level differences with rising land on the site and concern that significant engineering works would be required to implement the proposed development. The submitted plans and surveys show the existing and proposed levels and confirmation has been received from the applicant that there would be no change in levels. The proposed boundary treatment would be hedging and stock fencing, plus a field gate which is considered to be an appropriate arrangement in-keeping with the rural location within the Special Landscape Area. There are therefore no landscape or visual amenity concerns relating to this proposed development.

#### Ecology

- **8.10** Policy SD9 (Biodiversity and Geodiversity) specifies that the protection and enhancement of the biodiversity and geological resource of the JCS will be achieved by encouraging new development to contribute positively to biodiversity and geodiversity whilst linking with wider networks of green infrastructure. In this respect, Policy NAT1 of the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan 2011-2031 explains that proposals that will conserve, restore and enhance, biodiversity will be permitted.
- **8.11** Policy LE1 of the Alderton Neighbourhood Plan states that proposals in the Parish which require planning consent, with limited exceptions, will be required to:
  - 1. Assess the impact of new development or changes in land use on internationally and nationally recognised biodiversity and geodiversity sites in the Parish;
  - 2. Provide a full ecological survey to accompany any planning application that seeks to change, remove or in any way affect Priority Habitats such as brooks, ponds, hedgerows, old woodland or orchards;
  - 3. Create or contribute towards new green spaces in line with Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust's best practice guidelines;
  - 4. Provide landscaping and structural planting around new developments that includes species found in or around the site to sustain species disturbed by development;
  - 5. Incorporate dark corridors and bat roosts in new development where there is evidence of existing bat colonies, in accordance with guidelines from Bat Mitigation Guidelines (IN136) by Natural England;
  - 6. Protect veteran ash trees to assist with the production of humid wood mould which is the habitat of the violet click beetle.
- **8.12** The original scheme was accompanied by an Ecological Report which summarised that less than 10 metres of hedgerow would need to be removed. However, it was considered that the amount of hedgerow that would need to be removed would be approximately 60 metres to provide appropriate visibility splays. Therefore, the Ecological Assessment Update (Swift Ecology, March 2023) was submitted to assess the effect of this updated position. The Council's Ecology Advisor has been reconsulted on the update and, following their response, officers agree that the proposals to compensate for the loss of hedgerow by enhancing the retained sections of hedgerow and planting a new hedgerow behind the line of the visibility splay would be acceptable. A condition is also proposed to ensure that all works adhere to the mitigation and compensation detailed in the Ecological Assessment Update.
- **8.13** The Council's ecologist has highlighted that the hedgerow is species poor and does not qualify as an important hedgerow. There are no potential roost features suitable for bats in the impacted area and removal of this hedgerow is unlikely to significantly impact foraging bats. Furthermore, although the hedgerow is considered sub-optimal for dormouse, they cannot be fully discounted, therefore mitigation has been recommended. In addition, it is considered that the hedgerow offers opportunities for nesting birds and suitable mitigation is recommended. There are no recorded ponds within 500m of the site and the hedgerow offers low suitability for amphibians during their terrestrial phase.

- **8.14** Officers agree that there is very low risk of any significant wildlife protection issues being raised by creation of a new field access, but sensitive hedgerow management and compensatory planting is proposed by condition.
- **8.15** Suitable mitigation has been recommended within the ecology report and there are no objections subject to a condition to ensure that all works shall strictly adhere to details provided within the Ecological Assessment Update. This includes, but is not limited to, sensitive timing of work, planting additional boundary hedgerow and managing the existing hedgerow to provide higher ecological value. Subject to the conditions mentioned, the scheme is considered to be complaint with policy SD9 of the JCS, policy NAT1 of the TBLP and policy LE1 of the NP.

#### Drainage

- **8.16** Policy INF2 of the JCS and Policy ENV2 of the Local Plan sets out that development proposals must avoid areas at risk of flooding. Proposals must not increase the level of risk to the safety or occupiers of a site, the local community or the wider environment either on the site or elsewhere.
- **8.17** The Council is seeking clarification and further consultation with the drainage engineer and **an update shall be provided for Members at committee.** Severn Trent are undertaking statutory works locally and this forms part of the basis for the new field access point.

#### **Residential Amenity**

- **8.18** Policy SD14 of the JCS requires that new development must cause no harm to local amenity including the amenity of neighbouring occupants or unacceptable levels of noise, water, light, or soil pollution, or odour.
- **8.19** Due to the nature of the works being small scale, for a new access to be created further south of the existing access, and considering the distances neighbouring dwellings are from the new access, there are not considered to be any significant residential amenity impacts for neighbouring dwellings resulting from the scheme. The proposal is therefore considered compliant with policy SD14.

#### 9. Conclusion

**9.1** For the reasons set out above it is recommended that planning permission is granted.

#### 10. Recommendation

**10.1** Subject to the conditions as mentioned within the report, the scheme is considered acceptable and should be **permitted**.

#### 11. Conditions

**1** The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this consent.

Reason: Required to be imposed by Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

- 2 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following plan references:
  - Vegetation Removal (SK02 Rev A) and New Access (20171-002) received 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023.
  - Access and Visibility Assessment (CTP-20-1232-SK01A) received 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023.
  - Proposed Site Plan (20171- 002 Rev A) received 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022.
  - Existing Site Plan (20171-001) and Existing Topographical Survey (20465 1/2 and 20465 2/2) received 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022.
  - Site Location Plan received 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

except where these may be modified by any other conditions attached to this permission.

Reason: To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the approved plans.

3 The vehicular access hereby permitted shall not be brought into use until the existing vehicular access to the site (other than that intended to serve the development) has been permanently closed in accordance with details to be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure adequate highway safety in accordance with policy INF1 of the Joint Core Strategy (2017).

4 All works are to strictly adhere to the mitigation detailed within Ecological Assessment Update (Swift Ecology, March 2023) including, but not limited to, sensitive timing of works and planting of additional boundary hedgerow and managing the existing hedgerow to provide higher ecological value.

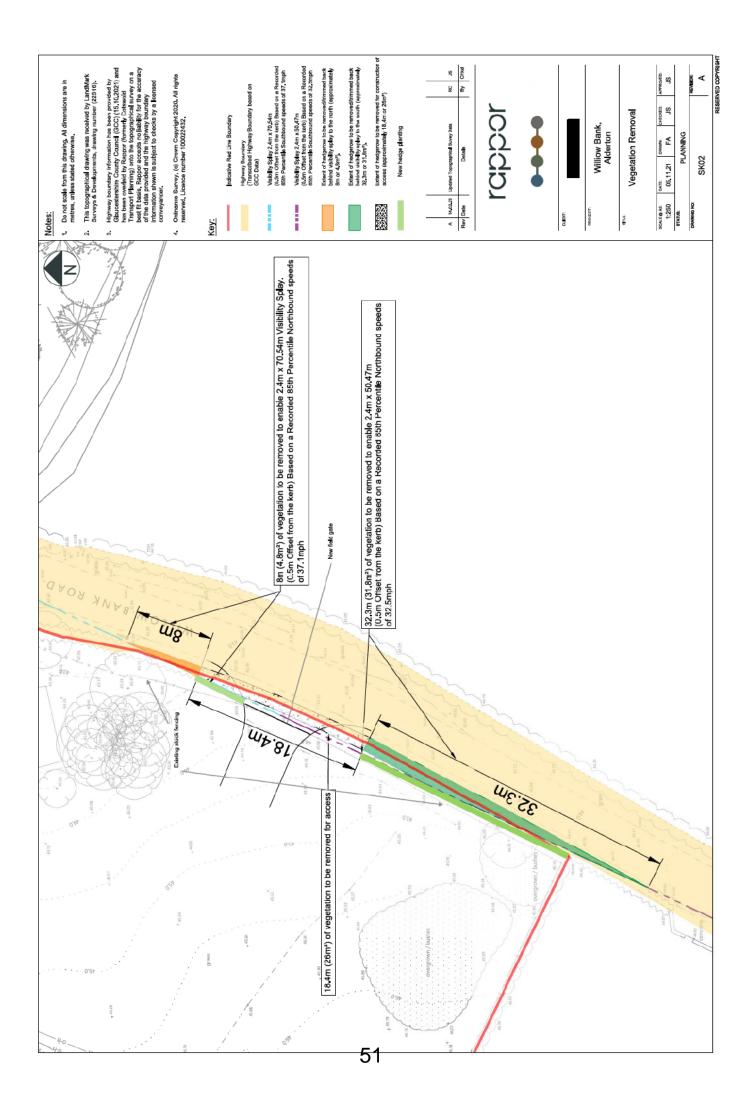
Reason: To ensure there is no adverse ecological impacts in compliance with policies SD9 and INF3 of the JCS 2011-2031 and policies NAT1 and NAT3 of the TBLP 2011-2031.

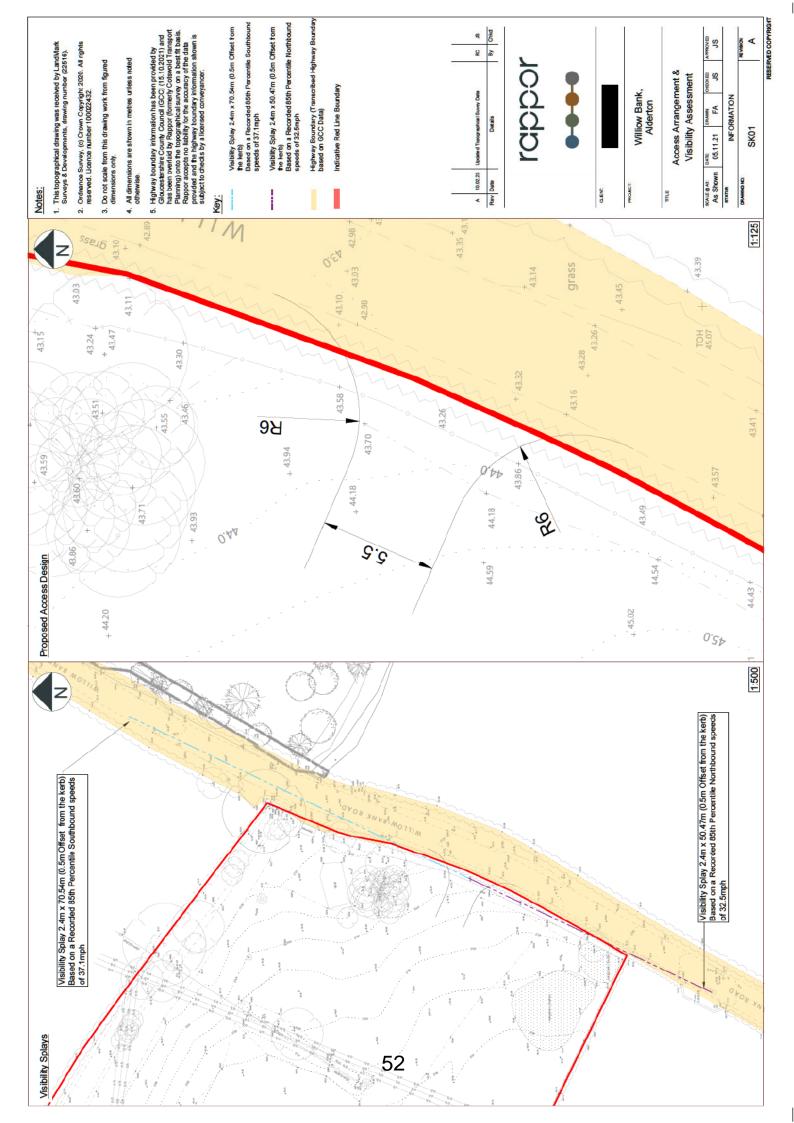
5 All planting comprised in the approved details of tree/hedgerow planting shall be carried out in the first planting season following the completion of the development. Any trees or hedgerows, which within a period of 5 years from the completion of the development die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species, unless the Local Planning Authority gives written consent to any variation. If any trees or hedgerows fail more than once they shall continue to be replaced on an annual basis until the end of the 5 year period.

Reason: To ensure adequate provision for trees/hedgerows, in the interests of visual amenity and the character and appearance of the area.

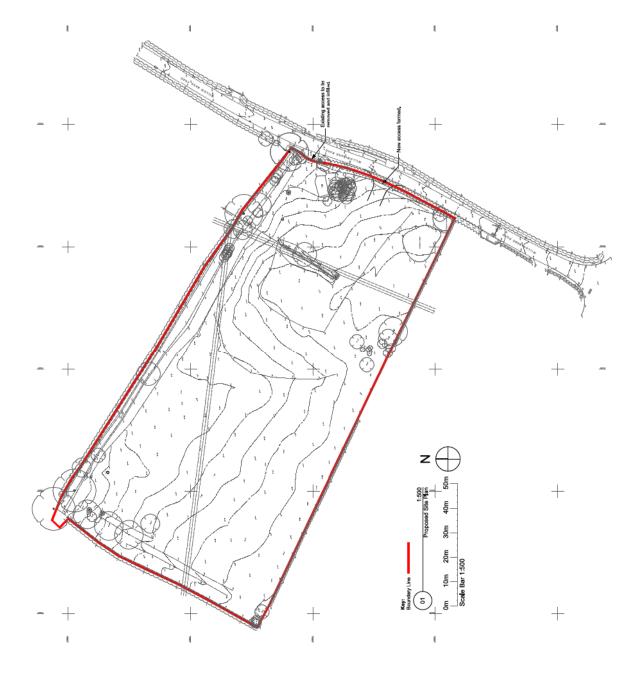
#### 12. Informatives

- 1 In accordance with the requirements of the NPPF the Local Planning Authority has sought to determine the application in a positive and proactive manner by offering pre-application advice, publishing guidance to assist the applicant, and publishing the to the Council's website relevant information received during the consideration of the application thus enabling the applicant to be kept informed as to how the case was proceeding.
- 2 The Local Highway Authority has no objection to the scheme subject to the applicant obtaining a Section 184 Licence. The construction of a new access will require the extension of a verge and/or footway crossing from the carriageway under the Highways Act 1980- Section 184 and the applicant is required to obtain the permission of Gloucestershire Highways on 08000 514 514 or highways@gloucestershire.gov.uk before commencing any works on the highway. Full details can be found at <u>www.gloucestershire.gov.uk</u>
- 3 If, at any point during the course of implementing works associated with this development, a dormouse or dormouse nest is discovered within or in close proximity to the affected hedgerow, all work must stop immediately, and the advice of a suitably qualified ecologist should be sought. A licence from Natural England may be required before work can recommence.



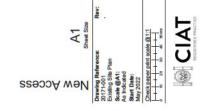


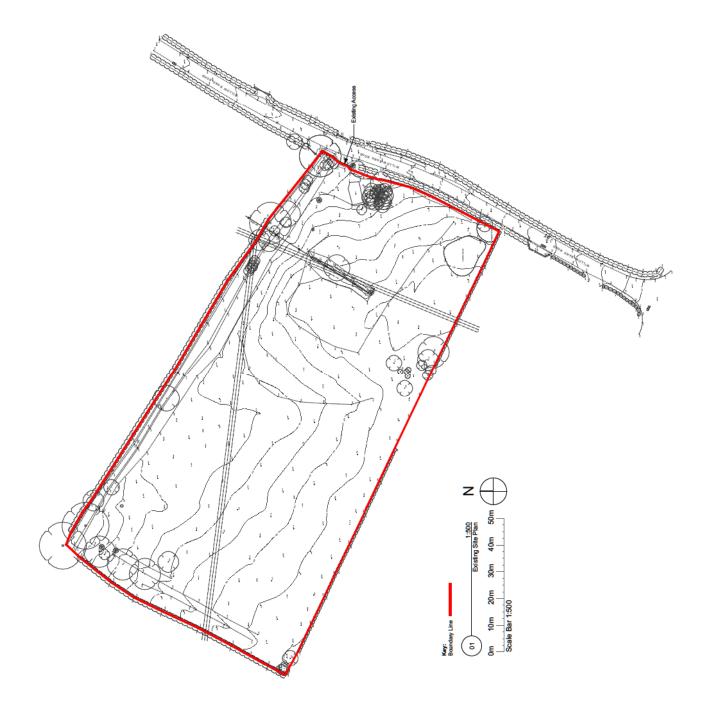


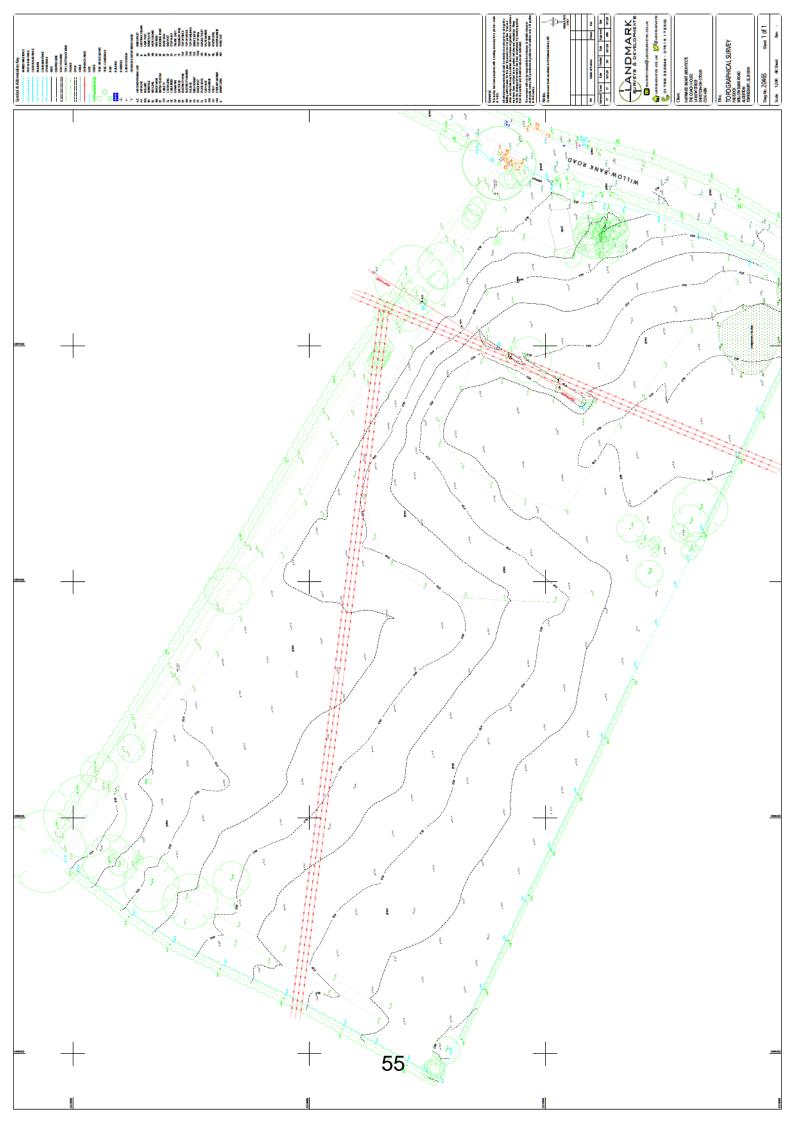


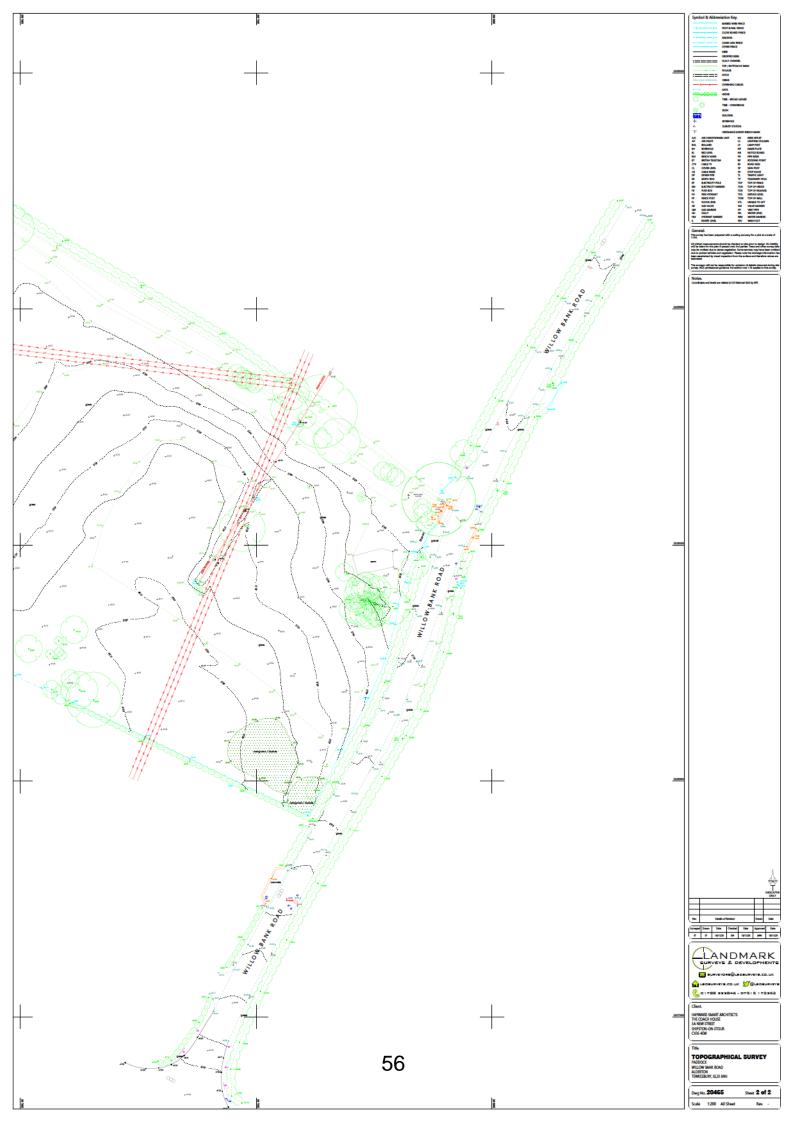


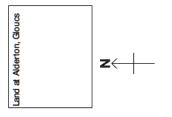
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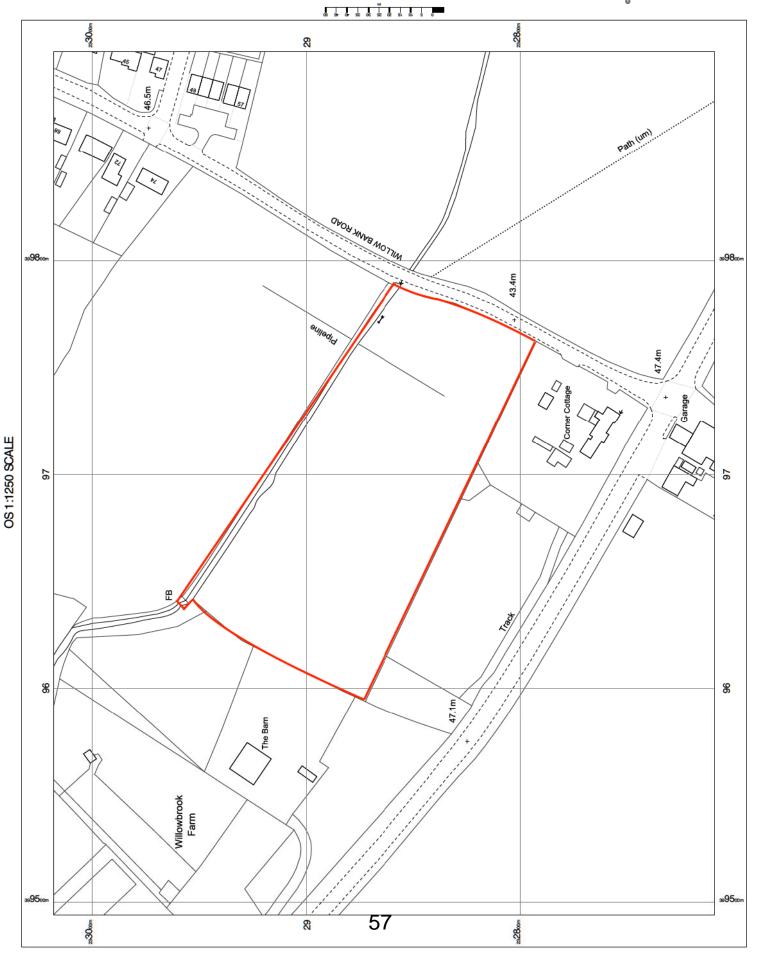






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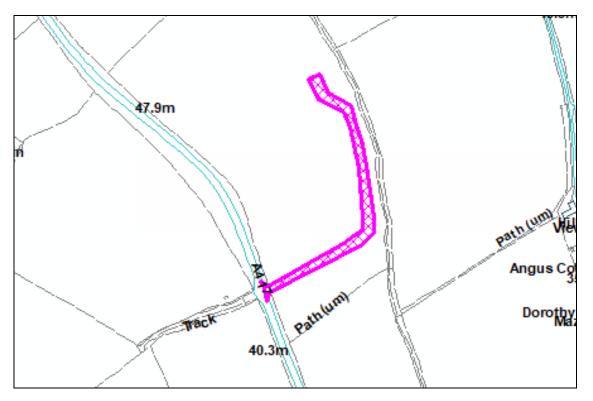


### Agenda Item 5c

Date	18 April 2023				
Case Officer	Bob Ristic				
Application No.	22/00893/FUL				
Site Location	Astmans Farm Poultry Unit, Maisemore				
Proposal	Erection of a general-purpose agricultural storage building.				
Ward	Highnam With Haw Bridge				
Parish	Maisemore				
Appendices	Site location plan Site layout plan Proposed plans				
Reason for Referral to Committee	The application requires a Committee determination as the development is connected to a serving Member of the Council.				
Recommendation	Permit				

#### **Planning Committee**

#### Site Location



#### 1. The Proposal

Full application details are available to view online at: http://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=RG4X2 EQDL8R00

- **1.1** The application seeks planning permission for a general-purpose agricultural storage building pertaining to the adjacent livestock units at the site as shown on the Proposed Layout Plan.
- **1.2** The proposed building would measure 18 metres in length, 10 metres in width and an overall height of 5.97 metres as shown on the Proposed Plans.
- **1.3** The building would be of a steel frame construction, with the walls comprising concrete panels with a polyester coated steel (olive green) profile sheeting above. The roof would also be clad with polyester coated steel (olive green) profile sheeting above. This would match the adjacent building.

#### 2. Site Description

- **2.1** The application site is located to the east of the A417, approximately 700 metres northwest of the Settlement Boundary to Maisemore and 300 metres south east of Overton Farm. The site comprises a broadly rectangular parcel of land within the northern part of a larger field parcel as shown on the Location Plan.
- **2.2** The site slopes down to the south east and lies within Flood Zone 1. A public footpath EMA11 runs along the southern part of the site and footpath EMA 25 runs along the eastern boundary of the site, adjacent to a watercourse.
- **2.3** The site presently comprises two poultry units and associated infrastructure, and planning permission was granted last year (22/00167/FUL) for a further two units and associated works.

Application Number	Proposal	Decision	Decision Date
18/01162/FUL	Erection of 2 No. agricultural buildings for poultry rearing with associated infrastructure and new highway access.	PER	19.06.2019
19/00104/CONDIS	Application for approval of details subject to conditions 3 (building materials), 4 (surfacing materials), 17 (drainage details), 19 (external lighting), of the planning application ref number 18/01162/FUL	DISCHA	05.03.2020
21/00870/FUL	Erection of 2 No. additional poultry houses and associated infrastructure on existing poultry farm.	WDN	11.02.2022

#### 3. Relevant Planning History

22/00167/FUL	Erection of 2 No. additional poultry houses with	PER	22.07.2022
	air scrubbing units and associated infrastructure		
	on established poultry farm (resubmission of		
	21/00870/FUL)		

#### 4. Consultation Responses

Full copies of all the consultation responses are available online at <u>https://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/</u>.

- **4.1** Maisemore Parish Council No objection
- 4.2 Gloucestershire Highways No objections
- **4.3** Environmental Health officer No objections

#### 5. Third Party Comments/Observations

Full copies of all the representation responses are available online at <a href="https://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/">https://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/</a>.

- **5.1** The application has been publicised through the posting of a site notice for a period of 21 days.
- 5.2 No public representations have been received.

#### 6. Relevant Planning Policies and Considerations

6.1 <u>Statutory Duty</u>

Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise

The following planning guidance and policies are relevant to the consideration of this application:

6.2 National guidance

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)

#### 6.3 <u>Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy (JCS) – Adopted 11</u> December 2017

- Policy SD1 Employment Except Retail Development
- Policy SD6 Landscape
- Policy SD14 Health and Environmental Quality
- Policy INF1 Transport Network
- Policy INF2 Flood Risk Management

#### 6.4 <u>Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011-2031 (TBLP) – Adopted 8 June 2022</u>

- Policy AGR1 Agricultural development
- Policy AGR2 Agricultural Diversification
- Policy LAN2 Landscape Character
- Policy NAT2 The Water Environment
- Policy ENV2 Flood Risk and Water Management
- TRAC9 Parking Provision

#### 6.5 Neighbourhood Plan

None

#### 7. Policy Context

- 7.1 Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that proposals be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Section 70 (2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 provides that the Local Planning Authority shall have regard to the provisions of the Development Plan, so far as material to the application, and to any other material considerations.
- **7.2** The Development Plan currently comprises the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) (2017), saved policies of the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011-2031 (June 2022) (TBLP), and a number of 'made' Neighbourhood Development Plans.
- 7.3 The relevant policies are set out in the appropriate sections of this report.
- **7.4** Other material policy considerations include national planning guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 and its associated Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), the National Design Guide (NDG) and National Model Design Code.

#### 8. Evaluation

#### Principle of development

**8.1** Paragraph 81 of the NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt. Significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development. In respect to the rural economy paragraph 84 of the NPPF states that planning decisions should, inter alia, enable:

a) the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed new buildings;

b) the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses

- **8.2** Policy SD1 of the JCS sets out that employment related development will be supported where it is located within or adjacent to a settlement or existing employment area and is of an appropriate scale and character; and farm diversification projects which are of an appropriate scale and use. Policy AGR1 of the Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan (TBP) sets out that new agricultural development including intensive and industrial scale agricultural operations will be permitted provided that the development is reasonably necessary, is well sited in relation to existing structures and landscaping, is sympathetic in design and there are no adverse impacts. Furthermore, policy AGR2 supports agricultural diversification.
- **8.3** It is considered that principle of the proposed agricultural storage building in this location and in association with an existing enterprise is acceptable subject to other material planning considerations discussed below.

#### Landscape impact, layout and design

- **8.4** Policy SD6 of the JCS states that development will seek to protect landscape character for its own intrinsic beauty and for its benefit to economic, environmental and social well-being. Proposals will have regard to local distinctiveness and historic character of different landscapes and proposals are required to demonstrate how the development will protect landscape character and avoid detrimental effects on types, patterns and features which make a significant contribution to the character, history and setting of a settlement area.
- **8.5** Policy AGR1 of the Local Plan requires that proposals for the erection of agricultural buildings should be well sited in relation to existing buildings, ancillary structures and works and landscape features in order to minimise adverse impact on the visual amenity of the locality. Furthermore, that the proposed development should be sympathetically designed in terms of height, mass materials, colour and landscaping where appropriate.
- **8.6** The application site is a sloping field in agricultural use, set within an undulating landscape which is defined by hedgerow field boundaries and the A417 is a dominant feature in the surrounding landscape.
- **8.7** The proposed building would be set adjacent to an existing biomass building which is of a similar appearance and scale and in the context of the wider site comprising substantial poultry sheds and ancillary infrastructure. The proposed design and materials including the use of olive green profiled metal walling and roofing would help the building assimilate into the landscape and would reflect the material and colour of existing buildings at the site.
- **8.8** It is considered that the proposed building would be of an acceptable appearance and would be appropriately sited to minimise the impact on the landscape.

#### Access and highway safety

- **8.9** Policy INF1 of the JCS requires developers to provide safe and accessible connections to the transport network and all proposals should provide for safe and efficient access to the highway network.
- **8.10** The proposed development would be accessed via the existing site access located to the southwest of the existing development. The County Highways officer has reviewed the proposal and raises no objections. The proposal would not have a severe impact on the operation of the highway network and would not give rise to highway safety issues.

#### Residential amenity

- **8.11** Policy SD14 of the JCS states that development must cause no unacceptable harm to local amenity including the amenity of neighbouring residents and result in no unacceptable levels of air, noise, water, light or soil pollution.
- **8.12** The building is proposed for agricultural storage and is set a significant distance away from residential properties. Considering the siting and proposed use, the development would not result in any adverse impacts upon the living conditions of nearby residents.

#### Drainage and flood risk

- 8.13 Policy INF2 of the JCS seeks to prevent development that would be at risk of flooding. Proposals must avoid areas at risk of flooding and must not increase the level of risk to the safety of occupiers of a site and that the risk of flooding should be minimised by providing resilience and taking into account climate change. For sites of strategic scale, the cumulative impact of the proposed development on flood risk in relation to existing settlements, communities or allocated sites must be assessed and effectively mitigated. It also requires new development to incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) where appropriate to manage surface water drainage. This is reflected in Policy ENV2 of the TBP.
- **8.14** The application sets out how rainwater would be captured and conveyed to the existing attenuation basin. Accordingly, the proposal would not result in an increased risk of flooding within the site or elsewhere and proposed measures would prevent contamination of waters.

#### 9. Conclusion

**9.1** The proposal would provide an agricultural building for storage in connection with the existing enterprise at the site and would accord with the requirements of Policy AGR1 and AGR2 of the Tewkesbury Borough Plan. Furthermore, the proposal would have an acceptable impact on the landscape, highway safety and drainage and would not result in any identified harms.

#### 10. Recommendation

**10.1** For the reasons set out above it is recommended that the application be **permitted**.

#### 11. Conditions

1 The works hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this consent.

Reason: Required to be imposed by Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

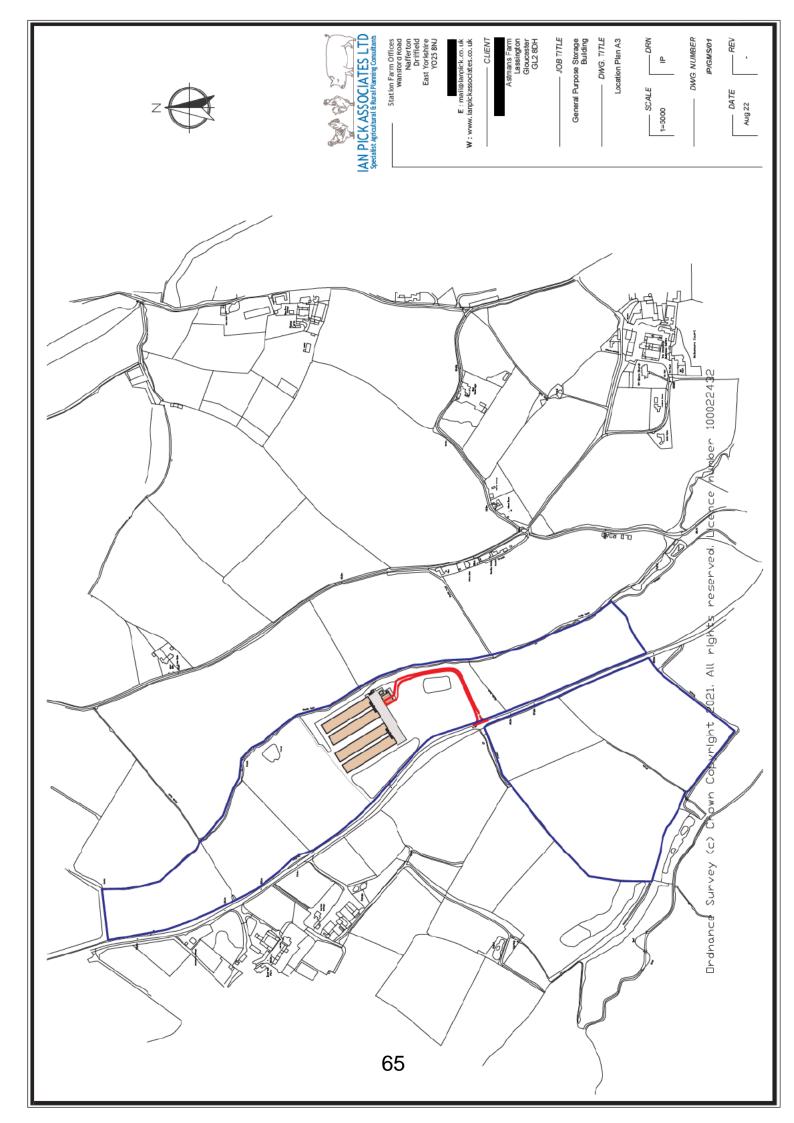
- 2 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following documents:
  - Site Plan A1
  - Elevations A1

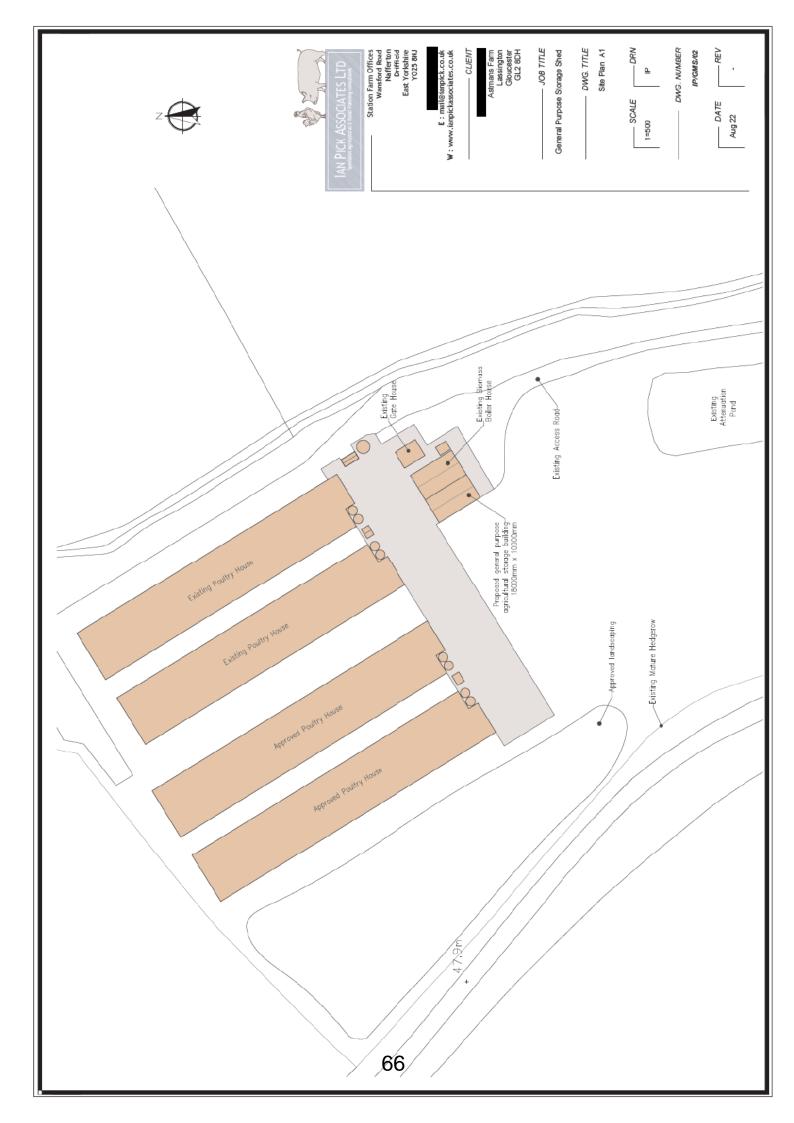
Except where these may be modified by any other conditions attached to this permission.

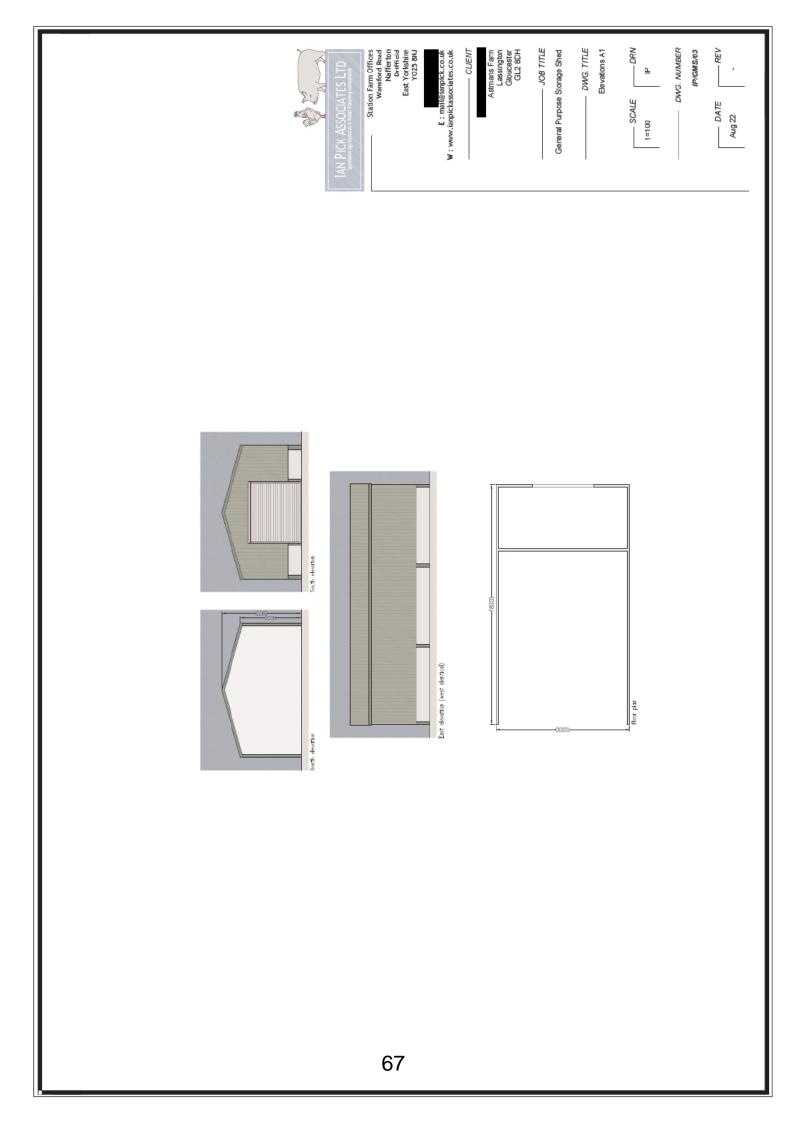
Reason: To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the approved plans.

#### 12. Informatives

1 In accordance with the requirements of the NPPF the Local Planning Authority has sought to determine the application in a positive and proactive manner by offering pre-application advice, publishing guidance to assist the applicant, and publishing the to the Council's website relevant information received during the consideration of the application thus enabling the applicant to be kept informed as to how the case was proceeding.







#### PLANNING APPEALS RECEIVED (06/03/2023 – 31/03/2023)

Appeal Start Date	TBC Planning Number	Inspectorate Number	Proposal	Site Address	Appeal Procedure
08-Mar-23	22/00759/FUL	APP/G1630/W/22/3313854	The demolition of the existing property and development of a replacement dwelling following the approval of appeal reference APP/G1630/D/21/3277456	Sunset Sunset Lane Southam	Written Representation
08-Mar-23	22/00609/FUL	APP/G1630/W/22/3311442	Construction of replacement dwelling and associated works, following demolition of existing dwelling. Change of use of additional areas of land to residential garden	Starvealls Cottage Postlip Winchcombe	Written Representation

#### PLANNING APPEALS DECIDED (06/03/2023 – 31/03/2023)

Decision Date	Appeal Decision	TBC Planning Number	Inspectorate Number	Proposal	Site Address			
10-Mar-23	Allowed, planning permission granted and notice quashed	21/00225/ENFC	APP/G1630/C/22/3302337	Enforcement notice to remove a rear extension.	111 Moorfield Road Brockworth Gloucester			
14-Mar-23	Appeal Dismissed and Planning refused	21/00960/FUL	APP/G1630/W/22/3307174	Demolition of the existing dwelling and erection of 4 dwellings with associated car parking and access road.	Siwa Gretton Fields Gretton			

Appeal Decision Date	Appeal Decision	TBC Planning Number	Inspectorate Number	Proposal	Site Address		
16-Mar-2023	Appeal allowed and Planning permitted	21/00630/FUL	APP/G1630/W/22/3308688	Erection of a single detached dwelling and vehicular access	Land Between Southrise And Kerrs Hill Bushcombe Lane Woodmancote		
24-Mar-2023	Appeal Dismissed and Planning refused		APP/G1630/W/21/3284820	Outline application for up to 55 dwellings and detailed access from Hill End Road, with all other matters reserved.	Part Parcel 0025 Hillend Twyning		
<b>රා</b> 27 <b>ශ</b> 1ar-2023	Appeal Dismissed and Planning refused		APP/G1630/W/22/3305190	Erection of 1no. detached dwelling and double garage.	1 Long Eights Northway Tewkesbury		