Report to Planning applications committee

Date 5 June 2014

Report of Head of planning services

Subject 14/00509/F

2A, Kingston Square, Norwich, NR4 7PF

1tem 4(6)

SUMMARY

Description:	Installation of front and rear dormer windows at first floor level.
Reason for	Objections
consideration at	
Committee:	
Recommendation:	Approve
Ward:	Eaton
Contact Officer:	Lara Emerson - Planner (tel: 01603 212257)
Valid Date:	11th April 2014
Applicant:	Mr Wayne Biterlick
Agent:	Mr Nigel Hurrell

INTRODUCTION

The Site

Location and Context

- 1. The site is located on the north-eastern side of Kingston Square which lies between Unthank Road and Newmarket Road to the west of the city. The area is characterised by detached bungalows and two-storey residential dwellings set in generous plots.
- 2. The property is a chalet-style dwelling with a steeply pitched roof providing accommodation over two floors.

Constraints

There are no specific constraints on the site.

Planning History

No recent planning history.

Equality and Diversity Issues

There are no significant equality or diversity issues.

The Proposal

3. The proposal is for the installation of three dormer windows- two on the front roof slope and one on the rear roof slope at 2A Kingston Square as part of a wider

proposal to create additional internal living space. Materials are to match existing.

4. A single storey rear extension is also shown on the submitted plans but since it falls within permitted development rights, it will not be considered within this application.

Representations Received

5. Adjacent and neighbouring properties have been notified in writing. Two letters of representation have been received citing the issues as summarised in the table below.

6.

Issues Raised	Response
Rear dormer will lead to overlooking of rear habitable rooms at 18 Upton Close	Paragraph 11
The proposals are contrary to saved policy EP22	Paragraphs 9-11
The bricking up of the existing end window will have a detrimental impact on the outlook from the first floor of 2 Kingston Square	Paragraph 10
The dormers will lead to a loss of light to the first floor windows of 2 Kingston Square	Paragraph 9
The rear dormer should be moved to the south-east end, the dormers should be reduced in size and render should be applied to the first floor of the north-west elevation	The application must be considered as it stands

Consultation Responses

7. Consultee: NCC Natural Areas Officer

Date of response: 13/05/14

Comments: This property is located in an area that offers good bat habitat. Bats will use a variety of buildings, both old and modern, for roosting purposes but I consider that due to the type of construction of this property and the nature of the proposed works a specific bat survey is not required in this instance. However, the applicant should be advised that, in the unlikely event of roosting bats being encountered during the course of works, all activity in the immediate vicinity must cease and Natural England should be contacted for advice. If the property is used by bats at all, it would almost certainly be as a summer roost so if works were to be carried out between October – March inclusive it is highly unlikely that any bats would be present.

ASSESSMENT OF PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

Relevant Planning Policies

National Planning Policy Framework:

Statement 7 – Requiring good design

Relevant policies of the adopted Joint Core Strategy for Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk 2011:

Policy 2 – Promoting good design

Policy 12 – Remainder of Norwich area

Relevant saved policies of the adopted City of Norwich Replacement Local Plan 2004:

NE8 - Management of features of wildlife importance and biodiversity

HBE12 - High quality of design

EP22 - High standard of amenity for residential occupiers

Emerging DM Policies:

DM2 - Ensuring satisfactory living and working conditions

DM3 - Delivering high quality design

DM6 - Protecting and enhancing the natural environment

Policy Considerations

8. The most relevant policies are policies HBE12 and EP22 of the Replacement Local Plan 2004 which relate to design and residential amenity.

Impact on Living Conditions

Loss of Light

9. The front and rear dormers add minimally to the mass of the building and are not located at the edge of the roof. As such, only a marginal increase in overshadowing to side windows at 2 Kingston Square for a short period of the day can be expected.

Loss of Outlook

10. The proposals will have no impact on the outlook of neighbours.

Loss of Privacy

11. The proposals involve the bricking-up of an existing first-floor side-facing bedroom window which faces directly towards a first-floor window at 2 Kingston Square 5 metres away. Therefore, the privacy of the neighbouring property, 2 Kingston Square, is likely to significantly improve. The only windows proposed on the dormers face towards the front and the rear. 18 Upton Close is approximately 20m away from the proposals to the rear and views from the rear dormer would be at an angle. As such, the privacy of neighbours is sufficiently protected.

Design

Form, Height and Scale

12. The modest sized dormers will sit comfortably within the street scene, especially since the adjacent property, 2 Kingston Square, has a front dormer of similar design. The size and form of the proposals is appropriate to the dwelling and does not dominate the existing built form.

Materials

13. It is important for the materials to match those of the existing dwelling since the front dormers will be visible from the street. As such, a condition is recommended to this effect.

Protected Species

14. As advised by the council's Natural Areas Officer, the works have the potential to disrupt roosting bats. As such, an informative is recommended which advises the applicant not to carry out works between October – March and to seek advice if

bats are discovered.

Conclusions

15. The proposal is acceptable in terms of its impact on residential amenity. Subject to a condition ensuring that external materials match existing, the design is also considered to be acceptable. As such, the proposals accord with the relevant policies and the application should be approved.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To approve application number 14/00509/F for 2A Kingston Square and grant planning permission, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Standard 3 year time limit
- 2) In accordance with plans
- 3) Materials to match

Informative:

 The applicant is encouraged to carry out works between October – March to avoid disrupting roosting bats. In any case, if bats are discovered, the applicant should cease work and contact a qualified ecologist or Natural England for advice.



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Planning Application No 14/00509/F Site Address 2A Kingston Square

Scale 1:1,000





