



Planning Applications Committee

10:30 to 10:55

12 October 2023

Present: Councillors Driver (chair), Sands (M) (vice chair), Calvert, Champion, Hoechner, Lubbock, Peek, Price, Prinsley and Sands (S)

Apologies: Councillors Stutely, Thomas (Va) and Thomas (Vi) and Young

1. Declarations of interests

Councillor Lubbock, Eaton ward councillor, asked that it be noted that she had not been approached about Application no 22/00855/F The Cedars, Norwich, NR2 2EE, (item 3, below) and did not have a predetermined view.

2. Minutes

RESOLVED to approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 10 August 2023.

3. Application no 22/00855/F The Cedars, Norwich, NR2 2EE

Proposal: Installation of 3no. mobility scooter stores to house 16no. mobility scooters, arranged in two blocks of 6no. to the northwest of the site and one block of 4no. stores to the east of the site.

The development management team leader presented the report with the aid of plans and slides.

The development management team leader referred to the report and the presentation and answered members' questions. Members were advised that the stores would provide storage for mobility scooters with charging facilities, and would be accessible to residents' accommodation. The stores were manufactured specifically for mobility scooter storage and provided sufficient room for access by people with restricted mobility.

During discussion a member commented on the appearance of the green metal storage units and considered that the aesthetics of the units could be improved. Members were advised that in policy terms there were no requirement for the applicant to install electric charging points at the car park adjacent to one of the

storage units, or to require solar panels and green roofs, as part of this application. It would be unreasonable to refuse the application on these grounds.

The chair moved and the vice chair seconded the recommendations to approve the application as set out in the report.

During discussion, a member acknowledged that there was an issue of vehicles being parked on pavements hindering access to people with mobility issues across the city, but parking on pavements was not relevant to this application.

Members continued their discussion on their suggestion that the applicant should consider the installation of solar panels or green roofs on the storage units. Councillor Lubbock moved and Councillor Price seconded that the chair writes on behalf of the committee to ask the applicant to consider it. Councillor Sands (M) commented on the unsuitability of solar panels on one of these units which was under trees and expressed concern that the light structure of the units would not be suitable to support solar panels or green roofs. Councillor Lubbock said that she considered that it was worth asking the applicant and pointed out that structures could be adapted. On being put to the vote with 7 members voting in favour (Councillors Hoechner, Champion, Lubbock, Calvert, Price, Peek and Sands (S)), 1 member voting against (Councillor Sands (M) for the reasons stated above) and 2 members abstaining (Councillors Driver and Prinsley) the amendment was carried.

The chair then moved the recommendations as amended.

RESOLVED, unanimously, to:

- (1) approve application 22/00855/F - The Cedars, Norwich, NR2 2EE and grant planning permission subject to the following conditions:
 1. Standard time limit;
 2. In accordance with plans;
 3. Works in accordance with Operations on site shall take place in complete accordance with the approved Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA), Tree Protection Plan (TPP) and Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS).

- (2) ask the chair to write on behalf of the committee to the applicants (Broadland Housing Association) to request that the installation of solar panel or green roofs on the mobility scooter storage units is considered at this location.

CHAIR