

#### Planning applications committee

Date: Thursday, 14 October 2021

Time: 10:00

**Venue: Council Chamber, City Hall** 

Members of the public, agents and applicants, ward councillors and other interested parties must notify the committee officer if they wish to attend this meeting by 10:00 on the day before the committee meeting, please. Numbers are restricted due to social distancing arrangements. The meeting will be live streamed on the council's YouTube channel.

#### Committee members:

**Councillors:** 

Driver (chair)

Button (vice chair)

Bogelein

Champion

**Everett** 

Giles

Grahame Lubbock

Maxwell

Peek

Sands (M)

Stutely

Thomas (Va)

For further information please

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#### Information for members of the public

Members of the public and the media have the right to attend meetings of full council, the cabinet and committees except where confidential information or exempt information is likely to be disclosed, and the meeting is therefore held in private.

For information about attending or speaking at meetings, please contact the committee officer above or refer to the council's website



If you would like this agenda in an alternative format, such as a larger or smaller font, audio or Braille, or in a different language, please contact the committee officer above.

#### Agenda

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#### 1 Apologies

To receive apologies for absence

#### 2 Declarations of interest

(Please note that it is the responsibility of individual members to declare an interest prior to the item if they arrive late for the meeting)

3 Minutes 5 - 10

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2021

#### 4 Planning applications

Please note that members of the public, who have responded to the planning consultations, and applicants and agents wishing to speak at the meeting for item 4 above are required to notify the committee officer by 10:00 on the day before the meeting.

Further information on planning applications can be obtained from the council's website:

http://planning.norwich.gov.uk/online-applications/

#### Please note:

- The formal business of the committee will commence at 10:00.
- The committee may have a comfort break after two hours of the meeting commencing.
- Please note that refreshments will not be provided. Water is available

 The committee will adjourn for lunch at a convenient point between 13:00 and 14:00 if there is any remaining business.

	Summary of planning applications for consideration	11 - 12
	Standing duties	13 - 14
4(a)	Application no 21/01073/RM - Three Score Site Land South of Clover Hill Road Norwich	15 - 44
4(b)	Application no 21/00682/F - 170 Unthank Road, Norwich, NR2 2AB	45 - 58

Date of publication: Wednesday, 06 October 2021



**MINUTES** 

#### Planning applications committee

10:00 to 12:05 9 September 2021

Present: Councillors Driver (chair), Button (vice chair), Bogelein, Champion,

Everett, Grahame, Giles, Lubbock, Maxwell, Peek, Sands (M) and

Stutely

Apologies: Councillor Thomas (Va)

#### 1. Declarations of interests

Councillor Driver declared an other interest in item 3 (below) Application no 21/00182/F - 20 Cowgate, Norwich, NR3 1SY, in that he was a member of Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) but has had no involvement in this application or the disposal of the site.

Councillors Stutely and Button declared that in relation to item 4 (below) Application no 21/00737/F - 24 - 28 Prince of Wales Road, Norwich, NR1 1LG, they were not predetermined but it should be noted that they had served on the licensing subcommittee (6 August) where a licensing application for the premises had been considered.

#### 2. Minutes

**RESOLVED** to approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 12 August 2021.

#### 3. Application no 21/00182/F - 20 Cowgate, Norwich, NR3 1SY

(Councillor Driver had declared an interest in this item.)

The senior planner (case officer) presented the report with the aid of plans and slides. A supplementary report of updates to reports had been circulated before the meeting and published on the council's website. The head of planning and regulatory services had a declaration of interest in respect of the consultancy submitting this application and therefore the report had been prepared and presented in the name of the executive director of development and city services and not as stated at the top of the report and should be corrected. The supplementary report also contains the

further consultation comments from the council's design and conservation officer who recommended an additional condition to secure heritage interpretation of the public house on this site. The applicant had also submitted revised plans, which were included in the presentation.

(The chair used his discretion to allow the agent to address the committee, as notice had been given that a ward councillor was to speak in objection to the application but who was no longer available to do so.)

The agent spoke in support of the planning application. There had been no viable proposals for community use of the public house in five years or during the six months moratorium period that the site was on the market for sale. The proposal provided much needed one and two bedroomed housing and would reflect the character of the area prior to the First World War. The dwellings exceeded the minimum space standard by 20 per cent and residents would have access to a communal courtyard and bin spaces. The development was car free and complied with local and national planning policies. There had been no objections from the statutory consultees.

The senior planner, together with the planning team leader, referred to the report and the presentation and answered members' questions. Members were advised that the ground floor front doors that opened straight on to the street had an element of pastiche and therefore wider doors for wheelchair access had not been considered. A proportion of the ground floor flats would meet accessibility standards. The committee noted that the public house had been an asset of community value and that the correct process had been followed when the site had been marketed for sale. The Campaign for Real Ale had not put together a bid to purchase the site during the six-month moratorium period. Social registered landlords operated in the area and might be interested in taking on the three affordable units. Members also sought further information about the historic character of the area, which had been bombed during the Second World War, and post war development, including the Roy's supermarket. In reply to a question, the senior planner explained that the applicant would be required to reduce water usage to 110 litres per person per day by using measures such as the installation of water flow regulators fitted to showers, together with a fabric first approach to construction that helped improve energy efficiency. The committee also noted that the disabled parking bays displaced by this development had previously served a medical practice that had since relocated. The applicant would need to look for alternative parking provision for this bay and bear the cost of the associated traffic regulation order. Members were advised that Blue Badge users could park on double yellow lines or park in Magdalen Street carpark where they would get one hour free for each hour purchased.

In reply to a member's question relating to Councillor Osborn's objections regarding overlooking and loss of privacy to the historic cottages opposite the site on Cowgate, the senior planner referred to the presentation slides and said that it was considered acceptable because of the distance (10 metres) and the yards were small and used for bin storage rather than as gardens. The terraces that sat back 24 metres from this development were too far distant to be overlooked from the proposed development. The amenity space for the proposed development would be overshadowed by the Roy's building but this was not unusual in this densely developed area of the city. All the proposed flats were dual aspect.

A member referred to the additional condition proposed by the design and conservation officer and asked how the heritage interpretation would be carried out. The senior planner said that the public house had been modernised over the years and there was very little of heritage merit internally. It was thought that there were windows above the two entrances of the public house with stained glass windows of a tankard which could be used in the new development to commemorate the former use of the site as a public house. Appropriate heritage interpretation would need to be agreed with the applicant and the design and conservation officer.

Members were also advised that there would be no loss of trees on the site.

The chair moved and the vice chair seconded the recommendations, as set out in the report, and the additional condition relating to heritage interpretation, as set out in the supplementary report.

Discussion ensued members in which members commented that the determination of this application was finely balanced.

Councillor Bogelein explained that she would be voting against the application because of the negative impact that the proposed development would have on the streetscene, character of the area and existing residents.

Councillor Lubbock welcomed that the proposal was for a car free development; had three affordable housing units; would block out the negative aspects of the Roy's supermarket building, and would have an active frontage, but was disappointed that the opportunity to lift the area had been missed with a less dense scheme that included soft landscaping and vegetation. She also considered that better water conservation measures should have been included such as grey water collection, to avoid the need to retrofit in the future.

Members regretted the loss of the public house, which had also served as a music venue, but noted that there were other public houses in the near vicinity. A member welcomed the use of the historic building line and that the proposal followed the traditional buildings in the area.

In reply to a member's question, the senior planner explained that the affordable housing element was proportionate to the number of dwellings provided on the site. The number of dwellings had been reduced from 23 to 15 and therefore there had been a reduction in the correspondent number of affordable units. The planning team leader explained that this development was policy compliant and that the vacant building credit applied because of the demolition of the public house.

**RESOLVED**, with 8 members voting in favour (Councillors Driver, Button, Sands, Giles, Everett, Peek, Maxwell and Stutely), 2 members voting against (Councillors Bogelein and Lubbock) and 2 members abstaining from voting (Councillors Grahame and Champion), to approve application no. 21/00182/F - 20 Cowgate, Norwich, NR3 1SY and grant planning permission subject to the completion of a satisfactory legal agreement to include provision of affordable housing and subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Standard time limit;
- 2. In accordance with plans;

- 3. Materials to be agreed;
- 4. Landscaping scheme to be agreed;
- 5. Scheme for on-site foul drainage works to be agreed;
- 6. Surface water drainage scheme to be agreed;
- 7. Arboricultural supervision within RPA;
- 8. Arboricultural works to facilitate development;
- 9. Works in accordance with submitted tree documents;
- 10. Archaeological investigations to be agreed;
- 11. 10% energy requirement measures to be agreed;
- 12. Water efficiency measures to be agreed;
- 13. Integrated swift boxes to be installed and made available for use prior to first occupation;
- 14. Off site highways works (footway reconstruction to Cowgate and Peacock Street, no-entry restriction signage reconfigured, drop crossing for refuse access and reinstatement of parking signage and line as necessary) to be agreed;
- 15. All highway works to roads and footways to be carried out before final occupation:
- 16. No overhanging/obstruction of highway land (by gutters/facias/ gates/doors or ground floor windows);
- 17. Scheme for parking of cycles and storage of bins (including any management arrangements for presenting bins to the edge of the site for collection) to be agreed;
- 18. Details of on-site construction worker parking to be agreed;
- 19. Construction traffic management plan (CTMP) including construction traffic access route to be agreed;
- 20. During construction all traffic to comply with CTMP;
- 21. Traffic Regulation Order for amending waiting restrictions (to facilitate relocation of disabled parking if feasible) on Cowgate to be promoted:
- 22. Heritage interpretation on the site to be agreed.

#### Informatives:

- 1. Noise nuisance investigations with mitigation in place.
- 2. Construction working hours
- 3. Works to public highway require agreement with Norfolk County Council.
- 4. New dwellings no on-street parking permit entitlement.
- 5. Extant waiting restrictions and traffic management require further assessment.
- 6. Protected species awareness.

# 4. Application no 21/00737/F - 24 - 28 Prince of Wales Road, Norwich, NR1 1LG

(Councillors Stutely and Button declared an interest in this item.)

The planner (case officer) presented the report with the aid of plans and slides.

Councillor Price, Thorpe Hamlet ward councillor, spoke on behalf of residents who objected to the proposal and said that it would have a cumulative impact and, in line with government advice, should be taken seriously. He questioned the ability to enforce the conditions to mitigate the noise and the validity of the noise assessment, suggesting that this application would open up a roof and create a new noise

problem to the residents at the rear, in the Cathedral Close and St Faiths Road. Midnight was too late for residents.

The agent addressed the committee and commented on the noise assessment which had been provided by an acoustic expert. Public protection and the planners did not object to the planning application subject to the proposed conditions. The licensing subcommittee had issued conditions. Prince of Wales Road was nearer to the residents at the rear of the property. The acoustician considered that there would be no noise disturbance to the residents at the rear of the property.

During discussion, the planner, the public protection officer and the planning team leader, answered members' questions and referred to the report and presentation. Members noted that the proposed conditions were in line with the licensing subcommittee's conditions and that the premises licence could be subject to review. Members were advised that the discouragement of smoking was outside the scope of this application to provide an outside space where smoking could be permitted.

Members asked questions about the acoustic modelling and were advised that the software used was for a beer garden with a penalty applied due to the anticipated use of the space. It was anticipated that the space would be used in the daytime. Discussion ensued in which the public protection officer explained the reasons for imposing the condition to prevent the use of amplified music on the second floor after midnight and that the effect of this would reduce the Lombard effect, where people raised their voices to compensate loud background noise. In addition, by not selling alcohol after midnight, the number of people using the space would be reduced thus lessening any noise impact, though it was noted that customers could take drinks out to the space after midnight. The use of a sound limiter would ensure that amplified music was not too loud. Members were advised that loud talking could reach 98 decibels and that whilst this could not be controlled the other measures would limit the noise impact. The public protection officer admitted that the noise modelling was not perfect but that with this caveat and the proposed conditions, noise from the premises would be 1 to 2 decibels below the World Health Organisation (WHO) standard at night and before 23:00 well below that level.

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

During discussion a member pointed out that the committee needed to take into account the impact of the proposed roof top bar on the amenity of local residents and that it was a separate process to the licensing regulations. Several members expressed concern about the impact of noise and emissions from people smoking on residential amenity. Other members considered that the management of the premises would be responsible for the management of this space and ensure compliance with the conditions. The structure of the second floor would have high walls surrounding it and an overhanging roof which would absorb and contain noise. A member commented that the roof top space would be preferable to smoking on the street outside the premises.

Members were advised that environmental protection had assessed the application and with mitigation it would conform with WHO standards.

**RESOLVED**, with 7 members voting in favour (Councillors Driver, Button, Giles, Peek, Maxwell, Lubbock and Stutely), 4 members voting against (Councillors Bogelein, Sands, Everett and Grahame) and 1 member abstaining (Councillor Champion), to approve application no. 21/00737/F - 24 - 28 Prince of Wales Road Norwich NR1 1LG and grant planning permission subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Standard time limit;
- 2. In accordance with plans;
- 3. No sale of alcohol on the second floor after midnight;
- 4. No amplified music on the second floor after midnight;
- 5. Sound limiter to be applied for amplified music played on the second floor.
- 6. Terrace doors to be kept closed except for entry and exit.

**CHAIR** 

#### 14 October 2021

Item No.	Case number	Location	Case officer	Proposal	Reason for consideration at committee	Recommendation
4(a)	21/01073/RM	Three Score Site, Land off Clover Hill Road	Sarah Hinchcliffe		At the discretion of the Head of Planning and Regulatory Services	Approve
4(b)	21/00682/F	170 Unthank Road Norwich NR2 2AB	Katherine Brumpton	Subdivision of existing dwelling into 2no 2 bedroom dwellings and associated works	Objections	Approve

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#### STANDING DUTIES

In assessing the merits of the proposals and reaching the recommendation made for each application, due regard has been given to the following duties and in determining the applications the members of the committee will also have due regard to these duties.

#### **Equality Act 2010**

It is unlawful to discriminate against, harass or victimise a person when providing a service or when exercising a public function. Prohibited conduct includes direct discrimination, indirect discrimination, harassment and victimisation and discrimination arising from a disability (treating a person unfavourably as a result of their disability, not because of the disability itself).

Direct discrimination occurs where the reason for a person being treated less favourably than another is because of a protected characteristic.

The act notes the protected characteristics of: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

The introduction of the general equality duties under this Act in April 2011 requires that the council must in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by this Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.

The relevant protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation.

The council must in the exercise of its functions have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination against someone due to their marriage or civil partnership status but the other aims of advancing equality and fostering good relations do not apply.

#### Crime and Disorder Act, 1998 (S17)

(1) Without prejudice to any other obligation imposed on it, it shall be the duty of each authority to which this section applies to exercise its

- various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area.
- This section applies to a local authority, a joint authority, a police authority, a National Park authority and the Broads Authority.

#### Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006 (S40)

(1) Every public authority must, on exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.

#### **Planning Act 2008 (S183)**

(1) Every Planning Authority should have regard to the desirability of achieving good design

# Human Rights Act 1998 – this incorporates the rights of the European Convention on Human Rights into UK Law Article 8 – Right to Respect for Private and Family Life

- (1) Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence.
- (2) There shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of his right except such as in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the rights and freedoms of others.
- (3) A local authority is prohibited from acting in a way which is incompatible with any of the human rights described by the European Convention on Human Rights unless legislation makes this unavoidable.
- (4) Article 8 is a qualified right and where interference of the right can be justified there will be no breach of Article 8.

Item

Report to Planning applications committee

14 October 2021

Report of Head of Planning and Regulatory Services

Application no 21/01073/RM - Three Score Site Land Subject

South of Clover Hill Road Norwich

Reason At the discretion of the Head of Planning and Regulatory

for referral Services

Ward:	Bowthorpe
Case officer	Sarah Hinchcliffe - sarahhinchcliffe@norwich.gov.uk
Applicant	Norwich City Council

Development proposal					
Reserved Matters for erection of 76 dwellings and associated works, including					
temporary construction co	empound, in connection with	h application 12/00703/O			
as varied by 15/01230/VC	as varied by 15/01230/VC.				
Representations					
Object Comment Support					
0 0 0					

Main issues	Key considerations
<ol> <li>Principle of development</li> </ol>	Outline planning permission and
	parameters plans
<ol><li>Consideration of the</li></ol>	Access (including parking)
reserved matters	
<ol><li>Consideration of the</li></ol>	Layout, scale, external appearance
reserved matters	
<ol><li>Consideration of the</li></ol>	Landscaping (incorporating open space,
reserved matters	trees and biodiversity)
5. Amenity	Existing and proposed occupiers
Expiry date	22 October 2021
Recommendation	Approve



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Planning Application No

Site Address

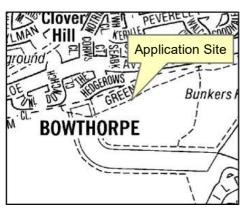
21/01073/RM Three Score Site

Land off Clover Hill Road

Scale 1:2,000







# The site and surroundings

- 1. Outline planning consent (reference 12/00703/O) was granted in July 2013 for redevelopment of the Three Score site at Bowthorpe with up to 1000 homes, including affordable housing, care home, a new village centre including at least one local shop, public open space and associated roads and infrastructure. The consent was granted following the completion of a legal agreement and the resolution of planning applications committee to approve the application on 14 March 2013.
- 2. The first phase of development was for a care village comprising dementia care and housing with care units, which is now complete and occupied. The second phase of development located on land to the north and west of the first phase was for housing further broken down into subsections, with earlier phases complete and occupied. The construction of the final section of phase 2 is now nearing completion.
- 3. The descriptions in the following paragraphs should be read in association with the plans at the end of this item.
- 4. The application site is a triangular piece of land of approximately 2.4 hectares, which represents phase 3 of development. It is the first phase to be located to the west of Saxoncote Avenue, but remains contained to the north of the existing woodland tree belt which crosses Saxoncote Avenue in an east to west direction. To the east is Saxoncote Avenue, the main spine road which links Clover Hill to the north east with Three Score to the south west. To the north is Earlham Green Lane an existing footway and cycleway which links Bowthorpe to the District Retail Centre to the west containing shops and a health centre.
- 5. With the exception of a large area being used as a construction compound and site office for earlier phases of development the site is made up of predominantly uncultivated grassland and dense areas of scrub. Some immature trees are found across the site with more mature trees found along the northern boundary with Earlham Green Lane and in the northern part of the site. Along the eastern boundary with Saxoncote Avenue is a temporary drainage swale which acts as temporary drainage for the road.
- 6. The exception to the above is a rectangle of land of approximately 50 metres x 100 metres to the south of the tree belt which is proposed to be used as a temporary site construction compound for the duration of the works on this phase.

#### **Constraints**

- 7. The site forms part of site allocation R38 within the Norwich Site Allocations and Site Specific policies document.
- 8. The site slopes moderately from north to south dropping circa 6m across the site and currently consists mainly of cultivated grassland and areas of dense scrub. The mixed species woodland belt directly to the south of the site extends to the north across Earlham Green Lane through Clover Hill and to Bowthorpe Park. To the east it extends to join Twenty Acre and Bunkers Wood (County Wildlife Site) to the northeast corner of the wider development site.

9. Bowthorpe Conservation Area, centred around Bowthorpe Hall is located over 230 metres to the west beyond the woodland belt. Bowthorpe and Earlham Marshes (County Wildlife Site and Local Nature Reserves) are located further to the south of the site adjacent to the River Yare. This connects the wider site hydrologically to a number of other County Wildlife Sites downstream. The marshes are covered by river valley policy, are a site of nature conservation interest, publicly accessible recreational open space and urban green space. This phase of development is located well outside of flood zones 2 and 3 and is within the less vulnerable Ground Water Source Protection Zone 2.

## Relevant planning history

10. Below is a list of the primary outline and reserved matters applications across the site, with any subsequent variations for completeness. A number of applications to discharge conditions of previous planning applications have been omitted from the list as they are not directly relevant to this application.

Ref	Proposal	Decision	Date
12/00703/O	Redevelopment of site with up to 1000 homes, including affordable housing, care home, a new village centre including at least one local shop, public open space and associated roads and infrastructure.	APPR	08/07/2013
13/02031/RM	Reserved matters of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for part of permission 12/00703/O as varied by 13/02089/VC for the erection of a care village comprising 80 apartment dementia care and 92 flat housing with care schemes, provision of associated landscaping, car parking, open space and infrastructure.	APPR	14/03/2014
13/02089/VC	Variation of Conditions 8 (spine road), 10 (lighting of spine road), 28 (roads, footways and cycleways) and 47 (fire hydrants) of previous planning permission 12/00703/O in order to change the trigger point for submission of details.	APPR	12/03/2014
14/00874/RM	Reserved matters relating to surface water drainage infrastructure for outline planning permission 13/02089/VC 'Redevelopment of site with up to 1000 homes, including affordable housing, care home, a new village centre including at least one local shop, public open space and associated roads and infrastructure'. (Revised proposals).	APPR	10/09/2014

Ref	Proposal	Decision	Date
14/01235/VC	Variation of conditions 1, 2 and 7 of planning permission 13/02031/RM to provide for amendments to the scheme to allow for a new substation, revised level information to provide for sub-soil to be re-used on site, revised landscaping details, ommision of apartment 81 and amendments to window details.	APPR	23/12/2014
15/00298/RM	Reserved Matters for erection of 172 dwellings and associated works in connection with application 13/02089/VC.	APPR	09/06/2015
15/00837/VC	Variation of Condition 2: Arboricultural Method Statement of previous permission 14/00874/RM.	APPR	07/09/2015
15/01195/NM A	Amendments to planning permission 13/02031/RM.	APPR	04/09/2015
15/01230/VC	Variation of condition 7 - bus gate of planning permission 13/02089/VC in order to change timing for delivery.	APPR	13/11/2015
17/01852/NM A	Non-material amendment of previous permission 15/00298/RM to allow various alterations to some elevations.	APPR	28/11/2017
18/01586/RM	Reserved matters of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale to add 1 no. additional dwelling and amend design of adjoining unit in relation to outline planning permission 12/00703/O.	APPR	04/01/2019
18/01591/MA	Material amendment to previous permission 15/00298/RM to allow amendments to house/site layouts, landscaping and brick detailing.	APPR	04/01/2019
18/01866/F	Temporary construction site access.	APPR	29/03/2019
19/00497/MA	Material Amendment of previous permission 15/00298/RM (Reserved Matters for erection of 172 dwellings and associated works in connection with application 13/02089/VC).	APPR	04/07/2019

Ref	Proposal	Decision	Date	
19/00978/MA	Material amendment of previous permission 15/00298/RM to allow new plans for an altered site layout and dwelling mix.	APPR	09/10/2019	
19/01188/VC	Variation of Condition 31 of previous permission 15/01230/VC to allow revised accessibility standard.	PCO Awaiting updated legal agreement		
21/00503/EIA1	EIA Screening request for Reserved Matters approval for the erection of 83 dwellings and associated works pursuant to outline planning application 12/00703/O as varied by 13/02089/VC.	EIANRQ	07/05/2021	
21/01076/D	Details of Condition 16: Landscape management plan, Condition 17: Bat and bird boxes, Condition 18: External lighting, Condition 19: Relocation of reptiles, Condition 25: Interim Travel Plan, Condition 32: Contamination, Condition 36: Construction method statement, Condition 37: Surface water drainage scheme, Condition 39: Archaeology WSI, Condition 40: Foul sewage capacity, Condition 43: Sustainable construction of previous permission 15/01230/VC.	PCO Considerati on running alongside this application		

# The proposal

- 11. The proposals are for 76 dwellings, comprising 2 and 3 storey houses of 2 to 4 bedrooms and a three storey block of 1 bedroom flats at the northern end of the site. The site will be served by a single point of vehicular access from Saxoncote Avenue, the main spine road through the wider development. The access is located towards the southern end of the eastern boundary of the site. There are a number of secondary access points into the development for pedestrians and cyclists from Saxoncote Avenue and Earlham Green Lane.
- 12. The development has been designed around the principle of traditional connected streets with houses fronting streets, with back gardens to the rear and 'home zone' shared surfaces used where possible. Car parking is largely provided on plot or in close proximity to the dwelling that it serves. The exception to this is the rear parking court arrangements to serve the properties which front on to Saxoncote Avenue for which no front access is possible.

- 13. The development incorporates areas of green space in the form of a 'Village Green open space' to the north of the site and a neighbourhood 'Pocket Park' in the centre, with green peripheral areas adjacent to Earlham Green Lane and the woodland belt to the south, that act as green links and buffer zones. Some of these green spaces incorporate informal opportunities for children's play within the landscape design.
- 14. The reserved matters have been screened under the EIA regulations as a subsequent application within the terms of the regulations (being subsequent to the approved outline consent which was subject to an environmental statement). The likely environmental effects of the subsequent application were considered as was the environmental information already available and it was not considered necessary to request a further environmental statement for this application.

#### **Summary information**

Proposal	Key facts	
Scale		
Total no. of dwellings	76	
	12% 1 bed (9 units)	
	47% 2 bed (36 units)	
	21% 3 bed (16 units)	
	20% 4 bed (15 units)	
No. of affordable	52 (68%)	
dwellings	All units for affordable/social rent	
No. of storeys	2-3 storeys	
Density	31 dwellings per hectare	
Appearance		
Materials	Red and buff brick, white render, black vertical boarding	
Energy and resource efficiency measures	Air source heat pumps to each property.	
Transport matters		
Vehicular access	A single new vehicle access point is proposed from Saxoncote Avenue to the south of Ladysmock Way.	
No of car parking spaces	97 spaces and 17 visitor spaces.	

Proposal	Key facts
No of cycle parking spaces	1 space per flat. Houses have gardens where cycles can be stored.
Servicing arrangements	From proposed residential streets.

### Representations

15. Advertised on site and in the press. Adjacent and neighbouring properties have been notified in writing. No letters of representation have been received.

### **Consultation responses**

16. Consultation responses are summarised below the full responses are available to view at <a href="http://planning.norwich.gov.uk/online-applications/">http://planning.norwich.gov.uk/online-applications/</a> by entering the application number.

#### **Public protection**

17. No comments to make regarding this application.

#### **Environment Agency**

18. No response received.

#### **Highways**

- 19. The revised layout plan has provided additional parking provision for some of the affordable dwellings. Where a second space has been provided I would support this amendment and also the provision of 1 space per apartment for plots 1 9 is supported.
- 20. With regards plots 10 21 I remain of the view that 1 parking space per dwelling located to the rear in locations that do not relate very well to the individual plots results in a poor layout and the potential for increased levels of on-street parking. However, I accept this is mitigated by provision of the lay-bys on Saxoncote Avenue, in front of these plots. The remaining area at risk of on-street / footway parking is the section adjacent to plots 24 31, who all only have 1 parking space each and no visitor parking provision. Provision of a raised table in this area may also make footway parking more likely. However, if the City Council is of the view that the appropriate balance has been provided by these amendments I would not wish to raise a highway related objection on this issue alone.
- 21. With regards provision of a cyclepath on the west side of Saxoncote Avenue, I do not accept provision through the development is an acceptable alternative. The requirement for a cycle route for north bound cyclists is to ensure there is a continuous, direct and safe route through the wider area. Requiring cyclists to divert through this development or the recently constructed scheme on the opposite side will not fulfil this requirement. However, as stated above, I would not wish to raise a

highway related objection to the lack of cycle provision on Saxoncote Avenue, if the City Council deem the layout be acceptable.

#### **Housing strategy**

- 22. Having examined the above application I can confirm that the site area and number of dwellings proposed trigger the thresholds of the Council's affordable housing policy. The current requirement is for 33 % of dwellings to be delivered as affordable housing, which would equate to 25 units out of the proposed total of 76 dwellings. This proposal which delivers well in excess of this requirement is very welcome. Norwich has a high need for affordable housing, in particular 1 bed flats, 2 bedroom 4 person houses and 4+ bedroom houses so the mix of sizes of housing proposed will help to meet this housing need. We therefore welcome the proposal to deliver a mix of 52 units of Affordable Housing and 24 units of Market Housing totalling 76 dwellings on this site.
- 23. It is pleasing to see that all units are of tenure neutral design with the proposed materials for the development consistent across tenures. The affordable housing and market housing is distributed across the site with the market housing being accessed from different access points on the roads rather than all together on one road. The proposal to deliver 10% of dwellings to be built to Lifetime Homes standard is welcome to promote health and independence of residents.
- 24. It is good to see a commitment to sustainable construction and renewables in the development. It is proposed to incorporate a high degree of energy efficiency in the home designs which will help to minimise the contributors to climate change, benefit the residents in terms of lower energy bills which will help to reduce fuel poverty and promote health.
- 25. All dwellings are expected to meet Nationally Described Space Standards and having checked the plans which have been submitted, I am pleased to say that they appear to meet this requirement.

#### Landscape & Ecology

- 26. Landscape Generally, the proposals are acceptable and include many positive elements. Some aspects of the masterplan would benefit from further layout and design consideration with suggestions for amendments made.
- 27. Ecology Given the overall net loss of biodiversity which would arise from the development and the lack of clarity about the cumulative effects of previous phases, I am unable to support the application. However, it may be possible to demonstrate that this net loss would be mitigated off-site and by future phases providing that this is adequately planned for, and a mechanism secured for delivery.

#### Norfolk historic environment service

28. We have no further advice to issue and look forward to the conditioned archaeological mitigatory works being completed.

#### **Lead Local Food Authority**

29. I can confirm that the County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority has no comments to make on this this reserved matter application relating to the Layout, Scale, External appearance and Landscaping.

#### Norfolk police (architectural liaison)

30. Comments, observations and concerns relating to excessive permeability; free movement through rear parking areas; limited natural surveillance of rear parking areas; encouraging an 'active street scene' amongst a rear parking area is not recommended due to the potential to generate crime and anti-social behaviour; the positioning of the pocket park adjacent to the rear of dwellings can increase the potential for crime and complaints from increase noise and nuisance; limited surveillance from rear of flats over parking area.

#### Norfolk Constabulary (comments made by NPS on behalf of)

- 31. Central Government place great emphasis on the role of the Police. Furthermore, National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) gives significant weight to promoting safe communities (in section 8 of the NPPF). This is highlighted by the provision of paragraph 92, which states
- 32. Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which......
  - b) are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion ....
- 33. Norfolk Constabulary have the responsibility for policing making Norfolk a safe place where people want to live, work, travel and invest. A key to providing sustainable communities that are safe and accessible so that crime and disorder does not undermine community cohesion (and quality of life) is to ensure that the necessary police infra-structure is available, in locations where major new development places significant additional pressures on Police resources.
- 34. Norfolk Constabulary have highlighted that this application represents a significant proposal that will place additional pressure on police resources. This development, alongside other development proposals at Bowthorpe, will place additional strain on existing resources. Therefore, to address this, further investment will be required to enhance the capacity of the police linked to additional developments in the area. If this is not funded and delivered through the planning system, the consequence is that additional stress will be placed on already stretched existing police resources.
- 35. Whilst recognising that this is a reserved matters application, it is considered that in future major applications should address the impact on policing in the context of NPPF advice with developer contributions required for the infrastructure needed by the police to deliver a safe and secure environment and quality of life (and limit crime and disorder and the fear of crime) for residents.

#### **Anglian Water**

- 36. We note that the site falls within a Source Protection Zone, we have assessed the potential impact of the site and have concluded that there is no risk to our potable water source.
- 37. The foul drainage from this development is in the catchment of Whitlingham Trowse Water Recycling Centre which currently does not have capacity to treat the flows the development site. Anglian Water are obligated to accept the foul flows from the development with the benefit of planning consent and would therefore take the necessary steps to ensure that there is sufficient treatment capacity should the Planning Authority grant planning permission.
- 38. We have reviewed the applicant's submitted foul drainage strategy and flood risk documentation and consider that the impacts on the public foul sewerage network are acceptable to Anglian Water at this stage. We request that we are consulted on any forthcoming application to discharge Condition 40 of the outline planning application 12/00703/O, to which this Reserved Matters application relates, that require the submission and approval of detailed foul drainage information.
- 39. We have reviewed the applicant's submitted surface water drainage information and consider that the impacts on Anglian Water's public surface water sewerage network are acceptable and have been adequately addressed at this stage. We request that we are consulted on any forthcoming application to discharge Condition 37 of the outline planning application 12/00703/O, to which this Reserved Matters application relates, that require the submission and approval of detailed surface water drainage information.

#### **South Norfolk Council**

40. Do not wish to make comments in relation to this application.

# Assessment of planning considerations

#### Relevant development plan policies

- 41. Joint Core Strategy for Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk adopted March 2011 amendments adopted Jan. 2014 (JCS)
  - JCS1 Addressing climate change and protecting environmental assets
  - JCS2 Promoting good design
  - JCS3 Energy and water
  - JCS4 Housing delivery
  - JCS5 The economy
  - JCS6 Access and transportation
  - JCS9 Strategy for growth in the Norwich policy area
- 42. Norwich Development Management Policies Local Plan adopted Dec. 2014 (DM Plan)
  - DM1 Achieving and delivering sustainable development
  - DM2 Ensuring satisfactory living and working conditions
  - DM3 Delivering high quality design
  - DM4 Providing for renewable and low carbon energy

- DM5 Planning effectively for flood resilience
- DM6 Protecting and enhancing the natural environment
- DM7 Trees and development
- DM8 Planning effectively for open space and recreation
- DM9 Safeguarding Norwich's heritage
- DM11 Protecting against environmental hazards
- DM12 Ensuring well-planned housing development
- DM13 Communal development and multiple occupation
- DM28 Encouraging sustainable travel
- DM30 Access and highway safety
- DM31 Car parking and servicing
- DM32 Encouraging car free and low car housing

# 43. Norwich Site Allocations Plan and Site Specific Policies Local Plan adopted December 2014 (SA Plan)

• Policy R38 - Three Score, Bowthorpe – urban extension (housing, community facilities, open and play space and associated infrastructure).

The site at Three Score, Bowthorpe (32.2 hectares) is allocated for development as a sustainable urban extension primarily for housing, providing in the region of 1200 dwellings, with associated community facilities, recreational and informal open space, green infrastructure and an integrated network of vehicular, pedestrian and cycle routes through the site.

#### Development will:

- deliver a balanced mix of housing across the scheme as a whole including appropriate provision for housing for the elderly, institutional residential and nursing care and other housing for special needs;
- provide permeability through the site including connections to the existing strategic cycle network, new bus routes and a network of attractive and walkable pedestrian routes providing for safe and convenient movement within and between existing and proposed housing areas, the Bowthorpe district centre, the new village centre and the Yare valley and open countryside beyond;
- provide significant areas of recreational and informal open space, play space, green infrastructure (including retained woodland) and enhance ecological networks to support biodiversity and geodiversity;
- provide new community facilities including a village centre with local shops and service uses;
- be planned as an exemplar development with a distinct character and identity, providing for exceptionally high standards of design, energy efficiency and flood resilience (including addressing identified risks from fluvial and surface water flooding);
- respect the character and distinctiveness of the surrounding area, in particular to improve the setting of Bowthorpe Hall and the surrounding conservation area, preserve the open character of the Yare valley and

distinctive landscape of the valley edge, and maintain strategic long views through and beyond the development area.

#### Other material considerations

- 44. Relevant sections of the National Planning Policy Framework July 2021 (NPPF):
  - NPPF2 Achieving sustainable development
  - NPPF5 Delivering a sufficient supply of homes
  - NPPF8 Promoting healthy and safe communities
  - NPPF9 Promoting sustainable transport
  - NPPF11 Making effective use of land
  - NPPF12 Achieving well-designed places
  - NPPF14 Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change
  - NPPF15 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
  - NPPF16 Conserving and enhancing the historic environment
- 45. National Design Guide January 2021
- 46. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD)
  - Affordable Housing SPD adopted July 2019
  - Open space & play space SPD adopted October 2015
  - Trees, development and landscape SPD adopted July 2016

#### **Case Assessment**

47. Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Relevant development plan polices are detailed above. Material considerations include policies in the National Planning Framework (NPPF), the Councils standing duties, other policy documents and guidance detailed above and any other matters referred to specifically in the assessment below. The following paragraphs provide an assessment of the main planning issues in this case against relevant policies and material considerations.

#### Main issue 1: Principle of development

- 48. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs JCS4, SAR38, DM12.
- 49. The principle of residential development for up to 1000 homes has been established as part of earlier outline planning permissions on this site (12/00703/O varied by 13/02089/VC and 15/01230/VC). As such this current application is for reserved matters in relation to access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of the proposed housing only and no consideration of the acceptability of housing on this site is necessary.
- 50. The outline consent was granted on the basis that development coming forward across this large area would be guided by a number of high level plans which set out the principles that subsequent reserved matters details for each phase of development should follow. In general terms the proposed reserved matters are in broad accordance with the parameters, green infrastructure, movement framework,

- building heights and street frontages plans approved at outline stage. The details surrounding these considerations is covered in more detail within the relevant sections of the report below.
- 51. The outline consent was granted subject to a number of conditions which require the submission of further technical details for subsequent approval at each separate phase of the development. A separate application to discharge the conditions relevant to this phase was received at the same time as this application and those details relating to ecology, highways, drainage, archaeology and contamination are under consideration separately with input from relevant technical consultees.
- 52. The outline planning application included a S106 agreement requiring that 33% affordable housing is provided across the whole of the Three Score development as part of all phases (85% social rent and 15% intermediate). The proposals include 52 affordable units, which amounts to 68% affordable housing within this third phase which is well in excess of the requirements of the outline consent. All of the affordable units will be available for affordable/social rent and although this tenure mix does not meet with the mix requirements as set out in the Affordable Housing Scheme within the S106 agreed at outline stage (it does not include intermediate tenures), it is understood to reflect the local need to provide more social rented homes in Norwich and is supported by the councils housing development section. Later phases may look to redress this balance of tenures while ensuring that the 33% site wide requirement is met.
- 53. Although the density of 31 dwellings per hectare in this phase is below the minimum requirements in policy DM12 of the Development Management DPD of 40 dwellings per hectare, the density has been affected by site specific considerations relating to topography and the provision of open space. The topography of the land falls from north to south and results in significant level differences which was tackled on phase 2 with the use of high retaining walls at great expense and with significant visual impacts. The site layout for this phase has instead been designed to work with the topography of the land providing a more gentle gradient and spacing of properties to limit the use of lower retaining walls delivering a better quality of development at a lower density.

#### Main issue 2: Reserved matter – access (including parking)

- 54. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs JCS6, DM28, DM30, DM31, NPPF section 9.
- 55. There is a single point of access to the development off Saxoncote Avenue towards the south of the site. This arrangement differs from the outline parameters plan which indicates two potential access points from the spine road into home zones which extend through the development and connect to Earlham Green Lane. It is not considered necessary to provide two separate means of vehicular access from Saxoncote Avenue, while the adoption requirements of the highway authority have necessitated some deviation from the complete provision of home zones across the phase. However, the internal road layout incorporates a raised platform and leads on to home zones with a shared surface for pedestrians and a number of footpath and cycle connections between Earlham Green Lane and Saxoncote Avenue. The layout will help manage traffic speeds and create a safe and attractive built environment across the development and is considered an acceptable layout with access provision broadly in accordance with the parameters agreed at outline stage.

- Each dwelling will have 1-2 designated parking spaces as appropriate to the dwelling size. Most of these designated spaces will be off-road, reducing the amount of undesignated on-street parking and subsequently reducing the potential for highway/safety concerns. Whilst there are some parking spaces along the frontage on Saxoncote Avenue, these are to accommodate visitor parking. In the main, parking is arranged so that it does not dominate the street scene. The exception to this is the rear parking court arrangements to serve the properties which front on to Saxoncote Avenue for which there is no front access. The temporary highway drainage swale on the west side of Saxoncote Avenue is being removed with alternative drainage arrangements made beneath the ground. The layout in this part of the development has been particularly problematic as the housing in this part of the site requires an active frontage to Saxoncote Avenue, but vehicular access across this frontage is not possible. The surface treatment and landscaping design in this area is crucial in making this a more attractive transitional space on approach to the pocket park at the northern end of the application site.
- 57. The proposal will provide 117 designated parking spaces (including a disabled parking space) for 76 dwellings and 17 visitor spaces. The applicant maintains that this is in accordance with the city council's parking standards (across the development as a whole) which require a minimum of one parking space per dwelling and a maximum of 1.5 parking spaces for 1 and 2 bedroom dwellings and two parking spaces for 3 or more bedroom dwellings. This results in there being at least 1 space available for each dwelling across the development and wherever possible 2 spaces are provided. The amount of parking provision is appropriate given the location of the development within 150 metres of a frequent bus service accessed from Clover Hill Road to the north and adjacent to pedestrian and cycle facilities.
- 58. The cycle storage for the development will be provided in sheds for the houses and a communal cycle store for the flats, visitor cycle parking will also be provided. This would be in accordance with the Councils parking standards and Policy DM31.
- 59. Although not raising an objection the highway authority has commented on detailed technical issues and raised concerns relating to the provision of parking to the rear of properties, including whether there is a need for pedestrians and cyclists to cross the open space between the two parking court areas and the need for enhanced facilities for cyclists along Saxoncote Avenue. The development has been designed to be permeable with traffic calming measures and home zones which will provide a safe environment for pedestrians and cyclists to link to Earlham Green Lane/Clover Hill Road. There is also a cycle/pedestrian link running to the rear of the care home to the east of the site to Clover Hill Road, which could link up to a new cycle path on future phases of development to the south of the tree belt.
- 60. A condition of the outline approval requires any development which fronts on to the main spine road to make provisions in the vicinity of the site to widen and landscape the spine road, with the purpose of accommodating uphill cycle lane provision. The comments from the highway authority reflect this. However, having assessed the reserved matters layout for this phase of development and the options that it provides for cyclists to pass through the development on less heavily trafficked routes, of a gradient no steeper than that of Saxoncote Avenue, it is reasonable to rely on the scheme layout as submitted to make provision for north south cycle access without

the need for further provision along this section of Saxoncote Avenue itself. This option would also accord with the condition of the outline.

#### Main issue 3: Reserved matters - layout, scale and external appearance

- 61. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs JCS2, DM3, NPPF section 8, 11, 12.
- 62. The proposals comprise a layout mainly designed around the principle of an outward facing development of traditional connected streets with houses fronting streets, with back gardens to the rear. 'Home zone' shared surfaces are used where possible to ensure connectivity through to existing and proposed green space/green corridors within and surrounding the site.
- 63. The layout is broadly consistent with the parameters plan approved as part of the original outline consent which shows the parcel of land pertaining to this phase to contain an area of proposed open space 'OS1' to the north flanked by development blocks dissected by 'home zone' streets.
- 64. Three street typologies are proposed including primary routes, secondary neighbourhood streets and then informal home zones. The streets would be surfaced differently according to their hierarchy. Issues concerning adoption, ownership and maintenance have resulted in the main north-south route through the site requiring a standard highways construction (with asphalt surface, raised kerbs and dedicated footways) for adoption purposes.
- 65. The connected street layout is permeable, allowing pedestrian and cycle movement into and through the development in a number of directions and through a hierarchy of routes to a number of differing destinations. The movement framework plan approved as part of the original outline consent indicates a north-south shared use footpath/cycle route through the centre of the development. Although such a provision in exact terms is not possible or indeed necessary within the proposed layout, the provision for pedestrian and cycle movement across the site is considered appropriate given the anticipated destinations of people wanting to pass through the site.
- 66. The orientation of dwellings and consideration of the use of boundary treatments ensure that streets, parking areas and areas of open space experience appropriate levels of surveillance and are overlooked. Provision of benches and natural play space within the open space and pocket park will encourage active use of these spaces and encourage natural surveillance of these areas through usage. Generally, parking is proposed off street for most of the development, with spaces closely located to the dwellings they serve wherever possible.
- 67. The eastern section of the site noticeably departs from this layout as the front entrances to the dwellings face on to Saxoncote Avenue, whereas access to these properties by vehicles is gained from the rear. This has necessitated the use of two rear parking courts to serve these dwellings linked by a north-south path between used by pedestrians and cyclists only. This arrangement prevents this area from being used as a through road/shortcut for vehicles and in turn lowers vehicle speeds in this area while allowing connectivity to and through the pocket park.
- 68. The police designing out crime officer has raised an issue of excessive permeability with limited surveillance in this arrangement as a concern, citing potential for

increased crime and anti-social behaviour. Of particular concern is the pedestrian and cycle link between the two parking areas which the highway authority has also queried in relation to conflicts between areas in private ownership and areas accessible to the public. These concerns are appreciated and noted. However, it is contended that there will be adequate natural surveillance of the parking courts and paths and the pocket park area of open space. The pocket park is overlooked by the three adjacent properties facing directly on to and being accessed from this area of open space. The rear parking courts are overlooked directly by the front windows of one property and the first floor windows of each of the properties to Saxoncote Avenue while the boundary treatment around their rear gardens is solid to a height of 1.5metres with a trellis top allowing an appropriate balance of privacy to these rear amenity areas and at the same time allowing opportunity for surveillance of the parking courts. The applicant has also clarified that the access through the parking courts, paths through the development and the open space will be maintained and managed by the site management company and will be available for use by the general public. On balance the layout of the development in this area of the site is considered acceptable.

- 69. Houses range in height from 2-3 stories with the larger three storey block of flats and taller dwellings located in prominent corner locations and positions which mark entrances and routes into and through the site from Saxoncote Avenue and side roads which feed from the east into this main road through the site. The building heights and overall scale of the buildings are considered appropriate for a residential area considering the context of the development which has been constructed on earlier phases. In addition, it is noted that the development is broadly in accordance with the 'building heights and significant frontages plan' approved as part of the outline consent. This allows a frontage of up to 10 metres height facing on to the green areas of Earlham Green Lane and the new public open space to the north with development up to 13 metres height to other frontages. As such the proposed building heights are considered acceptable.
- 70. The single large block of flats is designed in a simple contemporary manner with elegant, clean and simple multi directional brick facades. The houses are also designed in a contemporary manner; featuring a mixture of design elements which make reference to more traditional house types, such as pitched roofs of different forms and a mix of render, brick and boarded facades. Overall, the contemporary architectural approach will appear very similar to the recently constructed phases of the Three Score development. However, the slight variations to house types, with off street parking and a less dense layout will ensure the same level of quality design while transitioning through a different phase of new development and adding to the local distinctiveness of the area.
- 71. The applicant has provided a Building for Life 12 Assessment which indicates that the development would achieve 12 green scores, suggesting that it would be eligible for an 'outstanding' accreditation. While most of the points are accepted as a fair assessment there are elements of the assessment that are perhaps a little over-generous in their scoring. In particular legibility of some of the routes through the site and the size of the parking courts would likely bring the scores in the assessment down. However, the development would probably achieve the standard required to be eligible for Building for Life Accreditation, which would be sufficient to meet the Building for Life silver standard (now superseded) requirements of policy JCS2.

- 72. Paragraph 134 of the NPPF requires development to be well designed and reflect local design policies and government guidance on design including the National Design Guide and National Model Design Code. While this authority has not yet produced a design code the development can be considered against the ten characteristics of well designed places that the National Design Guide sets out. The proposals represent a single phase of a much larger development which is already emerging with a distinctive identity that contains and has easy access to public green spaces. This phase provides a tenure neutral development which allows integration and connection through to existing and future phases for all and which relates positively to the private, shared and public spaces around it. Together this helps to create an overall character of place that the National Design Guide promotes.
- 73. The application also makes separate provision for a temporary construction compound located in an area to the south of the tree belt. The area will be used for welfare, offices, materials storage, wheel washing and parking and will be secured using hoardings and Heras fencing. Its location to the south of the woodland tree belt, visible from the Yare Valley is a necessity as there is no more available land to the north. This type of provision is however not an unusual requirement of a development site and is located close to the application site and the highway to minimise wider disturbance to ecology and habitats and minimise noise and disturbance to residential neighbours. The removal of the compound and reinstatement of the land at the end of the construction of the phase can be secured by planning condition.

# Main issue 4: Reserved matter - landscaping (incorporating open space, trees and biodiversity)

74. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs – JCS1, DM3, DM6, DM7, DM8, NPPF section 15.

Landscaping and open space

- 75. The Green Infrastructure (GI) Plan and details contained within the Environmental Statement approved at outline consent shows a 'village green' open space of approximately 0.2 hectares (2,108m²). The area was envisaged as informal green space with tree and bulb planting and wildflower seeding. This area links a number of existing green spaces and provides GI connectivity on and off site. The GI Plan also shows a natural buffer between the tree belt and development blocks at the south of the site and the existing green link along Earlham Green Lane to be maintained and enhanced.
- 76. The open space provision within the proposed development is not however provided within one single area of open space, instead it is found within a larger village green area to the north of the site and a pocket park in the centre of the site. The village green will contain natural play features. The pocket park is a smaller more intimate arrangement with seating and toddler play provision. The areas can be utilised by the wider community, enhancing the amenity of existing residents. In addition, further green areas are provided adjacent and supplementary to Earlham Green Lane and the woodland tree belt to the south. These areas act as a buffer between existing landscape features and the new development. The areas of open space are to be managed and maintained by a management company. The open space arrangement differs from that shown in the outline parameters plans,

- however it is consistent with the requirement from the outline permission, to provide 0.21 hectares of open space within this phase.
- 77. The layout responds positively to the existing tree belt along the southern boundary and the existing trees and hedges along Earlham Green Lane, creating an attractive outlook for these residents. There is limited space for landscaping to the front of dwellings facing on to Saxoncote Avenue, however the dwellings on the opposite side of this road have similarly constrained frontages.
- 78. Views of the site from the river valley are largely screened by the existing tree belt, but some elements of the proposed roof forms may be visible further up the slope, although any views will be relatively distant and glimpsed. Conversely, views towards the river valley are also largely screened by the tree belt meaning that the development is unfortunately not able to realise the benefits of these views.
- 79. The council's landscape architect has commented that broadly, the landscape proposals would help to integrate the development and provide attractive, useable open spaces, given the constraints of the layout. Conditions requiring detailed landscaping proposals including species type and number are required in order to address the comments raised by the Council's landscape officer. Subject to conditions, the proposals would demonstrate an appropriate urban design approach, supported by an adequate landscaping strategy, in accordance with policy.

#### Trees

- 80. The proposal has been informed by an arboricultural implications assessment. The development would result in the loss of two category B trees, two category C trees and four category C tree groups for development purposes. A total of 52 trees will be lost and in order to mitigate for their loss 17 new heavy standard and 41 smaller trees or larger shrubs are proposed within the landscape proposals. The remaining trees will be retained and protected during the development of the site in accordance with the arboricultural method statement.
- 81. A biomass calculation report estimates that the tree removal will result in 3.3 tonnes of biomass loss whereas the replacement planting represents 0.083 tonnes of biomass provision. If calculated from the time of planting 10 times as many trees would require planting which is unfeasible on a development site such as this. However, provided the landscaping is maintained to allow it to become established the trees and 893 linear metres of new hedgerow being planted would exceed the amount of biomass lost over a 10 to 15 year period. This approach to site landscaping is considered acceptable given that the site is allocated for new development, has the benefit of outline planning permission and the development retains the more significant trees on the site and incorporates an extensive landscaping scheme.

#### Ecology and biodiversity

82. At outline stage it was acknowledged that the proposals would result in habitat loss for invertebrates and considered the impact on the ecology of the site in general when it was acknowledged that even after mitigation and enhancement the impact would be minor negative. This harm to biodiversity was balanced against the need to provide housing and ultimately the development was approved.

- 83. The outline consent required further ecology surveys to be submitted with reserved matters applications for each phase to ensure that information was up to date and to influence further mitigation measures which could be secured at reserved matters stage based on the information within those additional surveys.
- 84. An ecology assessment and two separate addendums have been submitted with this reserved matters application. These reports include a habitat survey and general species report, scoping in reptiles, foraging bats, nesting birds, hedgehogs and invertebrates (as a sub-set of the assemblage of open grassland and scrubgrassland mosaic of at least County value) although no further species surveys were recommended as necessary.
- 85. The main issue is the mosaic of scrub and grassland which would be lost, due to the important invertebrates which this habitat supports. These are of at least County level value when considered at the level of the wider Three Score site in 2013 [baseline]. The site is also located within a B-Line ('bee'-line) for pollinating insects.
- 86. In quantitative terms biodiversity net gain will not be achieved within the phase boundary itself, however there is no assessment of the extent of biodiversity loss available. A significant re-design would be required to increase the area of naturalistic vegetation and reduce garden areas and the number of dwellings to minimise the impact on existing vegetation. There is no current policy requirement to quantify biodiversity net gain within a development. Clearly overall this phase of the development would cause adverse ecological effects and a loss of biodiversity. However, the proposals do include a number of qualitative biodiversity enhancements, including;
  - Bird (7) and bat (3) boxes on suitable trees within the northern site boundary,
  - Swift boxes 20 in 2 or 4 groups, high on gables not south facing,
  - A landscaping scheme which provides wildflower areas, hedges and trees which interface with existing mature scrub and wooded areas which provide benefits to a number of species including invertebrates. The retention of vegetation along Earlham Green Lane and the woodland tree belt to the south with scrub buffer along the development edges is proposed, together with site wide landscaping and mitigation for invertebrate habitat loss in the form of mounds, slopes and areas of disturbed ground associated with areas of informal play and along pedestrian paths.
- 87. These phase specific on-site biodiversity enhancement measures will be provided alongside a range of wider on and off-site enhancements which were documented within the Environmental Statement and approved under the outline planning permission for the whole of the extent of the area granted outline planning permission. Such measures include the provision of open space of differing functions and green linkages within previous and subsequent phases of new development. Off site provision includes the requirement to provide landscaping and biodiversity enhancement measures and wider footpath links within areas of scrub between the south of the site and Earlham and Bowthorpe Marshes, management of The Marl Pit and Bunkers Wood and restoration of historic parkland and wildflower meadow in areas adjacent to Bowthorpe Hall.

88. It must be acknowledged that the site has outline planning consent for the development in question and is an allocated site which is fundamental to the delivery of housing in the Norwich policy area. Turning to this reserved matters application, it is considered that the landscaping proposals and enhancement measures identified go as far as can reasonably be required to secure further mitigation for this phase of development. However, given the previously identified impacts on biodiversity as a result of the whole development it is necessary to require planning conditions to secure ecological monitoring and evaluation, mitigation and enhancement including a wildlife movement strategy and landscaping details with an emphasis on ecological planting design for this phase. Together with relevant conditions of the outline planning consent which secure the production of a landscape management plan, provision of green infrastructure and secure agreement of lighting details for each phase of development inclusive of this phase, this should ensure that the mitigation and enhancement measures are carried out in such a way as to achieve the anticipated benefits.

#### Main issue 5: Amenity

- 89. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs DM2, DM11, DM12, DM13, NPPF section 12.
- 90. The proposed dwellings are of sufficient size that they meet the national space standards. In addition, all houses include enclosed private gardens and in some cases roof terraces, which would provide adequate outdoor amenity space. Each of the flats also has the benefit of a balcony to provide some outdoor amenity space for occupiers and they also have easy access to the public open space adjacent to the north. As such the proposals would provide a good standard of amenity for future occupiers.
- 91. The proposed roof terraces and balconies are located on properties adjacent and with views towards the woodland tree belt, green space or towards Saxoncote Avenue thus minimising opportunities for overlooking of private gardens or towards proposed or existing dwellings. Also, given that the presence of balconies and roof terraces will be known to future occupiers before they move in, this arrangement is considered acceptable. As such the proposals are considered to provide a high standard of amenity for future occupiers.
- 92. Existing dwellings located to the north of the site are some distance from the proposed development across the opposite side of Earlham Green Lane, which benefits in the most part from mature trees as a form of natural screening. There is limited potential for overlooking of gardens and windows of neighbouring dwellings situated on the east side of Saxoncote Avenue. However, these properties are situated approximately 20m from the proposed development across the width of the public highway and as such this level of separation is considered sufficient to prevent undue overlooking and loss of privacy to the existing occupiers of adjacent dwellings.
- 93. The location of the site compound to the south of the woodland tree belt is sufficient distance from existing and proposed new residential dwellings to not give rise to residential amenity concerns relating to noise and disturbance associated with its use.

### Compliance with other relevant development plan policies

94. A number of development plan policies include key targets for matters such as parking provision and energy efficiency. The table below indicates the outcome of the officer assessment in relation to these matters.

Requirement	Relevant policy	Compliance	
Cycle storage	DM31	Yes, cycle parking for houses can be provided within rear gardens. Flat blocks have dedicated cycle stores in accordance with standards.	
Car parking provision	DM31	Yes, proposals are in accordance with parking standards within the appendix of the Development Management Local Plan. The proposed parking provision strikes a balance between meeting the car parking needs of the development, and not resulting in overprovision of car parking which would encourage unsustainable modes of transport and result in an unattractive car dominated layout.	
Refuse Storage/servicing	DM31	Yes, adequate in storage and collection points are provided.	
F	JCS 1 & 3	Yes subject to condition of outline - Fabric	
Energy efficiency	DM3	First approach and air source heat pumps.	
Water efficiency	JCS 1 & 3	Yes subject to condition of outline.	
Sustainable urban drainage	DM3/5	The surface water drainage strategy is to connect into the wider surface water Sustainable Drainage System (SUDs) via a piped system which will connect into Lagoon B to the south of the site. These features were designed with sufficient capacity to accommodate surface water from future phases of development. This prevents the need for on-site SUDs features which would reduce the developable area.	
Tree protection	DM7	The submitted arboricultural report considers that the proposed dwellings can be constructed without harming trees proposed to be retained. In addition as the trees are within an area envisaged for development within the parameter plans it is considered that subject to suitable protection measures the proposals as secured by condition would not result in undue harm to trees, in accordance with policy DM7.	

Requirement	Relevant policy	Compliance
Accessibility standard	DM12	10% of the dwellings to be built to current relevant accessibility standards as required by condition of outline.

#### Other matters

- 95. It is relevant to note that a number of material considerations and policy issues have been considered at the outline stage, these include surface water drainage, archaeology, contamination, wider transport implications including access and travel planning, provision of open space and off-site improvements. Many of these matters are subject to conditions on the outline consent. These matters have been considered by officers and no further detailed assessment of them is required as part of this reserved matters application. It is not considered that the approval of the reserved matters will have particular implications on these matters or prevent feasible design of necessary infrastructure to be agreed via condition (e.g. such as surface water drainage infrastructure).
- 96. Comments provided on behalf of Norfolk Constabulary (see paragraph 34 above) suggest further investment will be required to enhance the capacity of the police linked to additional developments in the area which if not funded and delivered through the planning system, will place additional stress on already stretched existing police resources. The site is allocated for a large scale mixed use development and has the benefit of outline planning permission. Any such requirements should have been identified at the time of the original grant of planning permission to allow provisions to be made as necessary within the Section 106 legal agreement which accompanies the grant of outline consent. There has been no subsequent change in policy requirements which would allow for such infrastructure provision to be made under this reserved matters application. The comments provided recognise that the application is for reserved matters and are provided in the context of information relevant to future major applications and are noted.

## **Equalities and diversity issues**

97. There are no significant equality or diversity issues.

## **S106 Obligations**

- 98. The S106 agreement as part of the outline consent secured the full range of contributions, including affordable housing provision and financial contributions towards infrastructure provision as listed below;
  - Bunkers Wood Enhancement commuted sum,
  - Earlham and Bowthorpe Marsh Park improvements commuted sum,
  - Historic Parkland Restoration commuted sum,
  - Infant School Contribution,
  - Junior School Contribution,

- Library Contribution,
- Transport Contribution,
- Yare Valley Walk Extension commuted sum

in order to meet the needs of the development, including this phase.

#### **Local finance considerations**

- 99. Under Section 70(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 the council is required when determining planning applications to have regard to any local finance considerations, so far as material to the application. Local finance considerations are defined as a government grant or the Community Infrastructure Levy.
- 100. The outline consent was granted before the adoption of CIL and therefore the scheme is not CIL liable.
- 101. Whether or not a local finance consideration is material to a particular decision will depend on whether it could help to make the development acceptable in planning terms. It would not be appropriate to make a decision on the potential for the development to raise money for a local authority.
- 102. In this case local finance considerations are not considered to be material to the case.

## Conclusion

- 103. The principle of development has been accepted in the grant of outline consent. The proposed reserved matters of access, layout, scale, external appearance and landscaping are broadly in accordance with parameters set within the parameters, green infrastructure, movement framework, building heights and street frontages plans of the original outline consent. The proposed development would provide much needed housing in line with the site allocation and would contribute significantly to the identified housing need in Norwich. The proposed layout and architectural approach to the development would appear consistent with more recent phases of development in Bowthorpe and provides an acceptable amount and arrangement of public open space and landscaping.
- 104. It is acknowledged as it was at outline stage that the impact on biodiversity will not be fully mitigated, however subject to the further ecological mitigation measures discussed in this report and subject to the use of planning conditions it is considered that the proposals go as far as can reasonably be required in the context of the reserved matters in question.
- 105. The proposals would provide a high standard of amenity for existing and future occupiers and provide an appropriate highways layout, with good pedestrian and cycle links and adequate car and cycle parking provision.
- 106. Taking the above matters into account it is considered that on balance the proposals are considered to be acceptable. The development is in accordance with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework and the Development

Plan, and it has been concluded that there are no material considerations that indicate it should be determined otherwise.

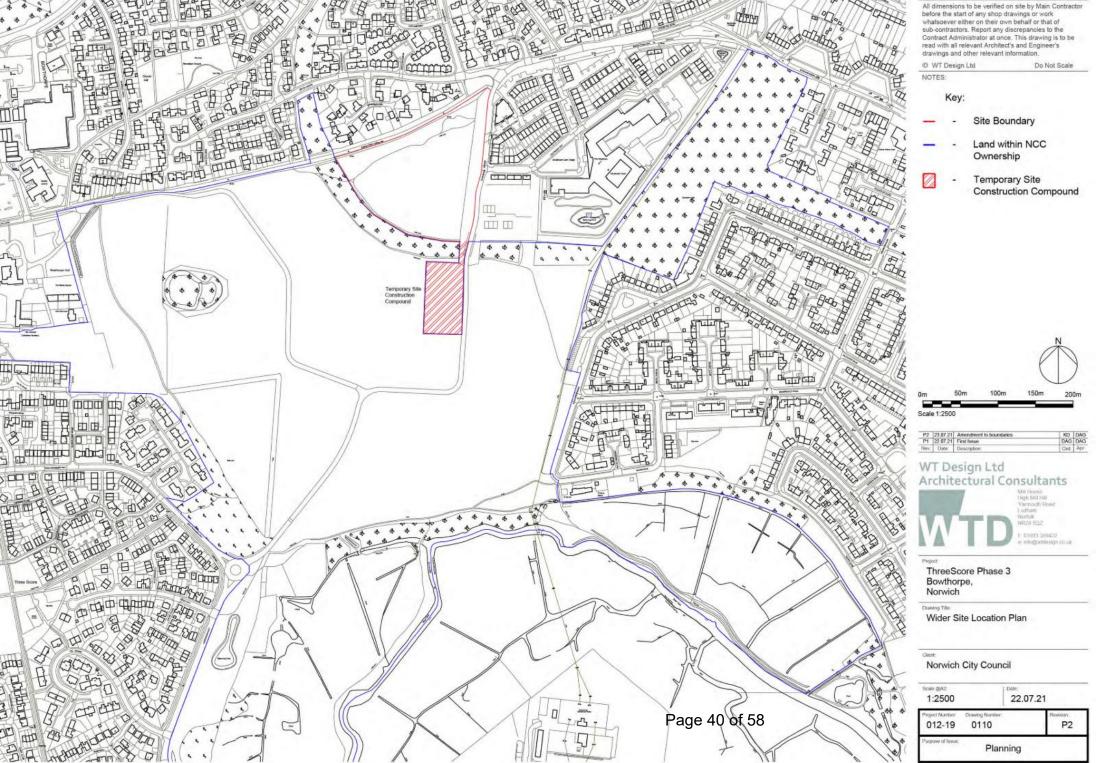
## Recommendation

To approve application no. 21/01073/RM - Three Score Site Land South of Clover Hill Road Norwich and grant planning permission subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Prior to their first use on site and if different from those used within Phase 2, details of external materials and hard surfacing to be agreed.
- 2. Landscaping details to emphasise ecological planting design and following the principles set out in the submitted landscaping plans to be agreed.
- 3. Ecological mitigation & enhancement plan to include a wildlife movement strategy and following the principles set out in the submitted ecological information to be agreed.
- 4. Ecological monitoring and evaluation to be agreed.
- 5. Roads, footways and cycleways to be constructed to binder course before dwellings are occupied.
- 6. Roads, footways and cycleways to be constructed to approved specification before final dwelling is occupied.
- 7. Provision of visibility splays as shown on plans before first occupation.
- 8. Tree protection in accordance with the AIA.
- 9. Removal of temporary site construction compound upon completion of the phase in accordance with details to be agreed.

## Article 35(2) statement

The local planning authority in making its decision has had due regard to paragraph 38 of the National Planning Policy Framework as well as the development plan, national planning policy and other material considerations, following negotiations with the applicant and subsequent amendments the application has been approved subject to appropriate conditions and for the reasons outlined in the officer report.







Aerial image looking North



View of apartments from open space



**Report to** Planning Applications Committee

14 October 2021

**Report of** Head of Planning and Regulatory Services

Application no 21/00682/F, 170 Unthank Road

Subject Norwich, NR2 2AB

Reason for

referral Objection

4(b)

Item

Ward	Town Close
Case officer	Katherine Brumpton <u>katherinebrumpton@norwich.gov.uk</u>
Applicant	Mr Auberon Limmer

Development proposal				
Subdivision of existing dwelling into 2no 2-bedroom dwellings and associated works.				
Representations				
Object	Comment	Support		
2	0	0		

Main issues	Key considerations	
1	Principle	
2	Design	
3	Heritage	
4	Amenity	
5	Transport	
6	Trees	
Expiry date	14 July 2021	
Recommendation	Approve	



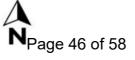
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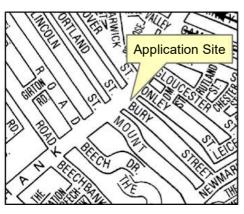
Planning Application No 21/00862/F

Site Address 170 Unthank Road

Scale 1:500







## The site and surroundings

- 1. Located on a corner plot bordering Mount Pleasant, Unthank Road and Bury Street, set slightly higher than Unthank Road.
- 2. End terrace, with the attached dwellings principal elevation's facing northeast onto Bury Street, and rear gardens onto Mount Pleasant.
- 3. No. 170's principal elevation faces Unthank Road. An attached single garage is located to the southwest elevation, with vehicular access gained from Mount Pleasant. A pedestrian gate provides access off Unthank Road, with a few steps leading up to the front door and immediately off the pavement. The garden in the south-eastern corner is treated with a brick wall along both the south and east boundary here, with a large magnolia tree growing behind. The garden contains quite a lot of vegetation in addition to the magnolia, to include a self-set sycamore tree.
- 4. As well as other residential dwellings in the area there is a public house sited to the southwest (Eaton Cottage) and on the other side of Unthank Road an estate agents. Other commercial uses are found to the north and northeast within the Local Retail Centre, to include a takeaway and former corner shop (currently empty).

#### **Constraints**

- 5. Critical Drainage Catchment Area
- 6. Borders local retail centre to the southwest, west and northeast
- 7. Borders Newmarket Road Conservation Area to the southeast

## The proposal

- 8. To subdivide the existing 3 bedroom dwelling to create 2 dwellings. One dwelling would have 2 bedrooms and the other 2/3 bedrooms (one ground floor room is labelled as snug/bedroom).
- 9. Revised plans were received following negotiation and were re-advertised and reconsulted on. The revised plans removed the new access off Unthank Road and include proposed replacement planting in the front gardens to compensate for the removal of the magnolia tree and other vegetation.

## Representations

10. Advertised on site and in the press. Adjacent and neighbouring properties have been notified in writing. 2 letters of representation have been received citing the issues as summarised in the table below. All representations are available to view in full at <a href="http://planning.norwich.gov.uk/online-applications/">http://planning.norwich.gov.uk/online-applications/</a> by entering the application number.

Issues raised	Response
New vehicular access onto Unthank Road would result in dangerous conditions and disrupt a lot of existing traffic. The amount of traffic in this part of Unthank Road is considerable.	This has now been removed from the proposal
Applicant should use permit parking or/and the existing garage on site instead	One dwelling will be eligible for permit parking. See main issue 5 for further information.
Concerns regarding traffic during the construction	A Construction Method Statement shall be requested
Concerns that future occupiers in the far south-eastern dwelling may object to noise from the pub.	See main issue 4
Object to any removal of the tree and vegetation to the front of the property.	See main issue 6

## **Consultation responses**

11. Consultation responses are summarised below the full responses are available to view at <a href="http://planning.norwich.gov.uk/online-applications/">http://planning.norwich.gov.uk/online-applications/</a> by entering the application number.

# Highways (local)

- 12. Original Plans
- 13. No objection to the subdivision but object to the proposed vehicular access onto a C class road. Proposed access and parking area is raised from the road (details of which are not provided on the plans) and would not allow for any vehicle to turn within the site and so vehicles would have to reverse out.
- 14. Revised Plans (final comments)
- 15. No objection
- 16. Would like a condition added to ensure that any future occupiers are aware that there is to be no direct vehicular access from or onto Unthank Road.
- 17. 170 will be entitled to parking permits, 170a will not be.

Verbal comments:

18. Construction Method Statement should be requested, in relation to parking of vehicles of site operatives, loading and unloading of plant and materials and storage of plant and materials used in constructing the development.

## Tree protection officer

- 19. Original Plans
- 20. No objection to the removal of the magnolia in principle, but it does, together with the other vegetation on site, contribute positively to the area.

## 21. Revised Plans

22. Proposed replacement planting of 2 English Oak trees would be inappropriate for the site. Suggest alternatives could be 4/5 "street tree" species that wouldn't create issues as they grew, e.g *Crataegus*, *Sorbus*, *Tilia* or *Pyrus*. The proposed planting takes into account the future removal of the sycamore as this will have to be removed in the near future.

## Assessment of planning considerations

## Relevant development plan policies

- 23. Joint Core Strategy for Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk adopted March 2011 amendments adopted Jan. 2014 (JCS)
  - JCS1 Addressing climate change and protecting environmental assets
  - JCS2 Promoting good design
  - JCS3 Energy and water
  - JCS4 Housing delivery
  - JCS6 Access and transportation
  - JCS9 Strategy for growth in the Norwich policy area
  - JCS12 The remainder of the Norwich urban area including the fringe parishes

# 24. Norwich Development Management Policies Local Plan adopted Dec. 2014 (DM Plan)

- DM1 Achieving and delivering sustainable development
- DM2 Ensuring satisfactory living and working conditions
- DM3 Delivering high quality design
- DM5 Planning effectively for flood resilience
- DM6 Protecting and enhancing the natural environment
- DM7 Trees and development
- DM9 Safeguarding Norwich's heritage
- DM12 Ensuring well-planned housing development
- DM16 Supporting the needs of business
- DM17 Supporting small business
- DM28 Encouraging sustainable travel
- DM30 Access and highway safety
- DM31 Car parking and servicing
- DM32 Encouraging car free and low car housing

#### Other material considerations

# 25. Relevant sections of the National Planning Policy Framework July 2018 (NPPF):

- NPPF2 Achieving sustainable development
- NPPF3 Plan-making
- NPPF4 Decision-making
- NPPF5 Delivering a sufficient supply of homes
- NPPF6 Building a strong, competitive economy
- NPPF9 Promoting sustainable transport
- NPPF11 Making effective use of land

- NPPF12 Achieving well-designed places
- NPPF14 Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change
- NPPF15 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
- NPPF16 Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

#### **Case Assessment**

26. Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Relevant development plan polices are detailed above. Material considerations include policies in the National Planning Framework (NPPF), the Councils standing duties, other policy documents and guidance detailed above and any other matters referred to specifically in the assessment below. The following paragraphs provide an assessment of the main planning issues in this case against relevant policies and material considerations.

## Main issue 1: Principle of development

- 27. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs JCS4, DM12, NPPF paragraphs 11 and 60.
- 28. The site is not subject to any specific site allocations and therefore the main policy against which to assess the principle of development against is policy DM12 of the DM Plan. This policy raises no in principle objection to residential development at this site but outlines a number of criteria against which development should be assessed.
- 29. With regard to the criteria a) of the policy the proposal would not prejudice wider regeneration proposals on the site. DM12 criterion b) requires that the proposal has no detrimental impacts on the character and amenity of the surrounding area, which is discussed below. Criterion c), d) and e) of DM12 refers to the type and density of residential development, and advises that it should be in keeping with the existing character and function of the area, whilst providing some variety in terms of size and type. The proposed subdivision of the dwelling would not be unusual within this part of the city; it is not unusual for properties to be in use as HMO's or flats, and there is a variety of sized dwellings within the area. The proposed dwellings are therefore considered to provide a suitable size and type of dwelling at this site in principle.
- 30. Para 60 of the NPPF advises that the government has an objective of significantly boosting the supply of homes, and that it is important that a sufficient amount of land can come forward where necessary.

## Main issue 2: Design

- 31. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs JCS2, DM3, NPPF paragraphs 126-136.
- 32. This part of the city is characterised by Victorian terraces, to include this site. Dominant features are red bricks, white sash windows, pantile roofs and decorative lintels.

- 33. 170 Unthank Road is an end terrace and is designed with it's principal elevation facing Unthank Road. The site is larger than the majority of the neighbouring terraces' sites. It benefits from a garden to the northeast, northwest and southwest. The rear garden (southwest) is occupied by a single storey attached garage, with access directly onto Mount Pleasant.
- 34. The division of the property would divide the front (northwest) garden in half and create separate pedestrian accesses for each dwelling. The section of the dwelling to the north (labelled no.170) would remain largely unaltered except for internal works.
- 35. The other dwelling would undergo more works (labelled 170a). The existing garage would be converted, and slightly extended, into a habitable room. This section would be flat roof and sit adjacent to the original dwelling, not encroaching in front of the principal elevation. The side section would provide for an open plan living/dining/kitchen room. An existing window would be replaced with a front door. Internal works are also proposed. The chimney in this section will be repaired or removed. Permission can be granted for it to be removed, but this does not need to be carried out. This chimney appears to be a newer addition, although still of some age. The loss would be regrettable but would not justify refusal. The property has another chimney which will remain.
- 36. The garden walls are to be retained, and in some areas replaced. New pedestrian accesses are proposed to allow 170 direct access to Bury Street and both properties direct access to Unthank Road. A potting shed is proposed for no. 170a, which is to be brick and lower than the garden wall. Bin stores were shown on a superseded plan but not repeated on the revised plans. Details of the alterations to the walls and potting shed would be required via a condition, in addition to bin and cycle storage.
- 37. The proposed changes are considered to respect the character of the property and area. Key features are to be retained, such as the lintels and most of the boundary wall. The proposed extension would be clearly subordinate to the main properties. The proposed use of matching bricks for the extension is considered acceptable. No details of the materials for the bi fold doors are proposed. The bricks would be used to infill the existing window and door in the garage, with this section of the dwelling relatively prominent from Mount Pleasant. As such details of the materials are also to be requested via condition.

## Main issue 3: Heritage

- 38. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs JCS2, DM9, NPPF paragraphs 184-202.
- 39. Sections 66 and 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 place a statutory duty on the local authority to have special regard to the desirability of preserving listed buildings or their setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which they possesses and to pay special attention to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of conservation areas. Case law (specifically *Barnwell Manor Wind Energy Ltd v East Northamptonshire DC* [2014]) has held that this means that considerable importance and weight must be given to the desirability of preserving the setting of listed buildings and conservation areas when carrying out the balancing exercise.

- 40. The property itself is not a designated heritage asset nor does it fall within a Conservation Area. However, the southwest boundary, along Mount Pleasant, borders Newmarket Conservation Area and as such the proposal needs to be considered in the context of the setting of the Conservation Area. The public house, Eaton Cottage, is also a locally listed building.
- 41. The removal of the magnolia tree will impact the setting of the Conservation Area, however with replacement planting this is considered acceptable. With care taken over the materials, the proposed alterations to the garage are also considered to have an acceptable impact upon the heritage assets. No other part of the development is anticipated to have a significant impact.

## Main issue 4: Amenity

- 42. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs DM2, DM11, NPPF paragraphs 8 and 127.
- 43. The change from a single dwelling to two dwellings is not anticipated to have a significant impact upon any neighbours' amenity.
- 44. The future occupiers of both dwellings will benefit from their own amenity spaces, which will be bordered by brick walls providing a degree of privacy. Internally the rooms benefit from traditionally proportioned sash windows which will provide a relatively good level of natural light. The internal space for both dwellings meets the Technical housing standards nationally described space standard, and so the dwellings are considered to offer enough space for future occupiers.
- 45. The concern raised by a representation regarding the potential for future occupiers of 170a to object to any noise from the Eaton Cottage public house is noted, however the area is predominantly residential around the public house and it is not considered likely that any future occupiers will be significantly more impacted than any other residential neighbour. No additional windows are to face the public house.

## Main issue 5: Transport

- 46. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs JCS6, DM28, DM30, DM31, NPPF paragraphs 8, 102-111.
- 47. With the removal of the new vehicular accesses there are no objections from the Highways Officer. Following discussions with the Highways Officer and other colleagues one of the 2 properties would be entitled to a parking permit.
- 48. Given the proximity to the local retail centre and level of public transport available here a car free dwelling is considered acceptable.
- 49. The site is considered large enough to accommodate refuse and cycle storage for both dwellings, although no details have been provided on the revised proposed plans. These can be conditioned.
- 50. A Construction Method Statement will be requested due to the constraints of the immediate roads.

## Main issue 6: Trees

51. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs – JCS1, DM7, NPPF paragraphs 170 and 175.

- 52. The magnolia tree to be removed would be classed as a category C tree (low quality). The classifications include A, B, C and U, with A being the highest and U the lowest. As such the Tree Officer does not object to its removal. A self-set sycamore tree is also likely to be removed due to its location to the dwelling and proposed new pedestrian access onto Bury Street.
- 53. The proposed replacement planting is considered inappropriate, given the size that English Oaks can grow to. As such alternative species should be used. Details of any soft landscaping can be conditioned.

## Compliance with other relevant development plan policies

54. A number of development plan policies include key targets for matters such as parking provision and energy efficiency. The table below indicates the outcome of the officer assessment in relation to these matters.

Requirement	Relevant policy	Compliance
Cycle storage	DM31	Yes subject to condition
Car parking provision	DM31	Yes
Refuse storage/servicing	DM31	Yes subject to condition
Water efficiency	JCS1 & JCS3	Yes subject to condition
Sustainable urban drainage	DM3 & DM5	Yes

#### Other matters

- 55. The property is not anticipated to contain any significant habitats or species, however there is some chance that protected species such as nesting birds may use the site. As such informatives will be added to advise the developer of how to avoid protected species. The removal of some of the vegetation will reduce the level of biodiversity on site. The proposed replacement trees will provide sufficient mitigation.
- 56. Located within a Critical Drainage Catchment Area DM5 advises that where developments result in additional areas of hardstanding/extensions/buildings developers will be required to demonstrate that the vulnerability of the site would not be increased and the proposal would have a positive impact where possible. In this case the additional footprint is less than 2.5 square metres. It is not considered reasonable in this case to request the developer to undertake an assessment of the existing conditions, to include infiltration testing. With no significant addition in hardstanding/extensions/buildings the impact upon flood risk would be minimal, and does not justify any further action.

## **Equalities and diversity issues**

57. There are no equality or diversity issues.

#### Local finance considerations

58. Under Section 70(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 the council is required when determining planning applications to have regard to any local finance considerations, so far as material to the application. Local finance considerations are defined as a government grant or the Community Infrastructure Levy. Whether or not a local finance consideration is material to a particular decision will depend on whether it could help to make the development acceptable in planning terms. It would not be appropriate to make a decision on the potential for the development to raise money for a local authority. In this case local finance considerations are not considered to be material to the case.

## Conclusion

- 59. Policy DM12 is considered to be complied with, which ensures that housing is well planned. There are no anticipated detrimental impacts on the character and amenity of the surrounding area which would result in non-compliance with DM12.
- 60. The development is in accordance with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework and the Development Plan, and it has been concluded that there are no material considerations that indicate it should be determined otherwise.

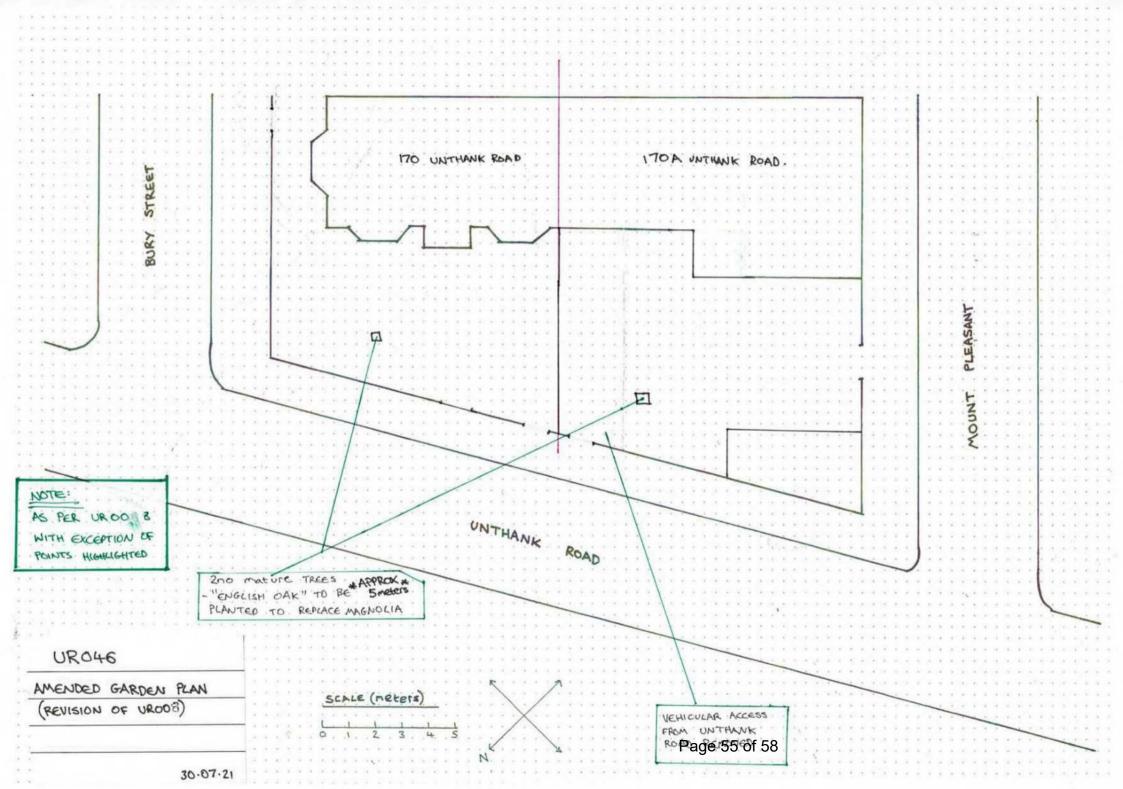
#### Recommendation

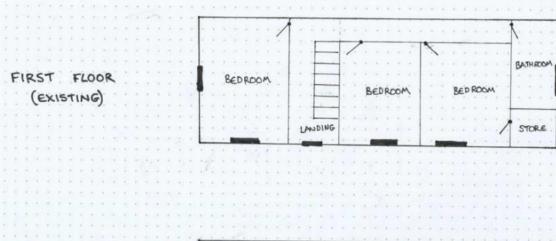
To approve application 21/00682/F at 170 Unthank Road and grant planning permission subject to the following conditions:

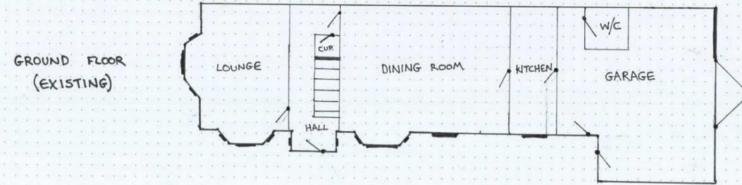
- 1. Standard time limit;
- 2. In accordance with plans;
- 3. External Materials and potting shed
- 4. Water Efficiency residential
- 5. Landscaping Details Minor Scheme
- 6. Provision of cycling parking/ bin storage
- 7. Construction Method Statement

#### Informatives:

- 1. Site Clearance and Wildlife
- 2. Protected Species



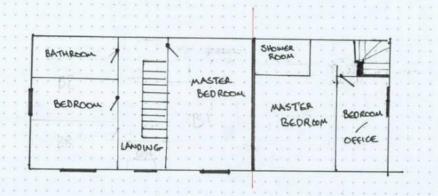


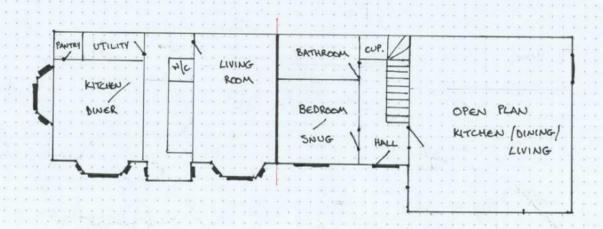


UR-003

EXISTING FLOORPLAN

SCALE (METCAS)





UR-004 PROPOSED FLOOR PLAN

SCALE (METERS)

