Item

Report to Planning applications committee

10 May 2018

Report of Head of planning services

Application no 18/00289/F - Land and garages rear of 9 to 23 Newmarket Road, Norwich Subject

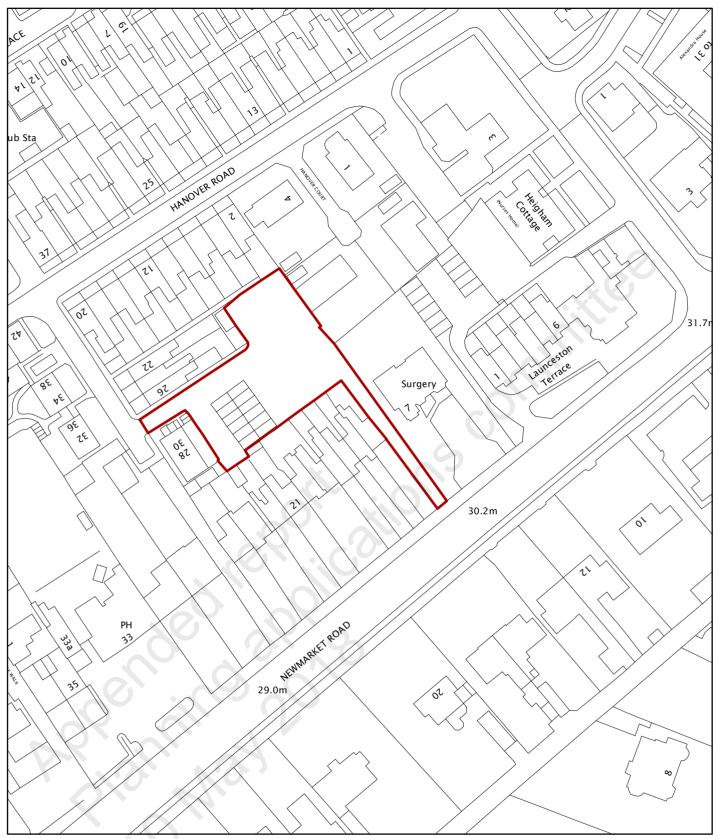
Reason

Objection and city council owned land for referral

Ward:	Town Close	~ (
Case officer	Robert Webb - robertwebb@norwich.gov.uk	

Development proposal		
Demolition of garages and construction of 4no. dwellinghouses.		
Representations		
Object Comment Support		
42	1	0

Main issues	Key considerations	
1	Principle of development	
2	Design and heritage	
3	Amenity and parking	
4	Flood risk	
Expiry date	20 April 2018	
Recommendation	Approval	



© Crown Copyright and database right 2018. Ordnance Survey 100019747.

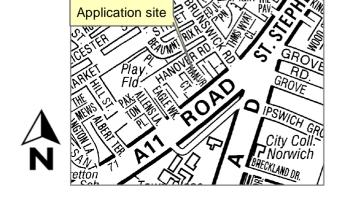
Planning Application No 18/00289/F

Site Address Land and garages rear of

9 to 23 Newmarket Road

Scale 1:1,000





# The site and surroundings

- 1. The site consists of a garage block and surface car park owned and managed by Norwich City Council and accessed from Hanover Road. It is within the Town Close area of the city.
- 2. The garage block contains 12 garages and there is parking for a further 29 cars using a parking permit system.
- 3. To the south-east of the site are residential properties dating from the Georgian period which front onto Newmarket Road. To the south-west are some two storey flats dating from the late twentieth century. To the north-west are Victorian terrace properties and their gardens, and to the north-west bungalows within Hanover Court which date from the mid-twentieth century.

# **Constraints**

4. The garage/parking court is not within the Conservation Area however the footpath access from Newmarket Road and adjacent properties on Newmarket Road which adjoin the site are part of the Conservation Area. These properties are all locally listed, and so is the Doctor's surgery which is adjacent to the footpath.

# Relevant planning history

5.

Ref	Proposal	Decision	Date
	68 60		
16/01742/F	Demolition of existing garages. Erection of 2 No. two bed houses and 2 No. 1 bed bungalows.	Approved	20/01/2017

# The proposal

- 6. The proposal relates to one of a number of sites identified by Norwich City Council in 2016 as having the potential to accommodate new affordable housing to be developed by a registered provider, Orwell Housing Association. Under the programme, a total of 66 affordable units were granted planning permission across the city and many of these are currently under construction.
- 7. Planning permission for a similar scheme on this site was granted under application reference 16/01742/F in January 2017. Since the grant of permission there has been an issue relating to a claimed right of vehicular access from the owner of no. 23 Newmarket Road which abuts the car park. This has resulted in a review of the proposal which has led to the replacement of the pair of semi-detached houses in the centre of the site with a pair of 1 bedroom flats within a two storey building. This allows the right of access to no.23 to be maintained. The two bungalows at the northern end of the site are unchanged. Each unit would have one dedicated parking space. The scheme maintains a number of parking spaces which could be used by all

residents within Zone S, and following revisions to the plan this would be maintained at 9 spaces, the same as the previously approved scheme.

## **Summary information**

Proposal	Key facts	
Scale		
Total no. of dwellings	4	
No. of affordable dwellings	4	
Total floorspace	1 bed flats: 50-56sqm (meets minimum standards)	
	1 bed bungalows: 50sqm (meets minimum standards)	
No. of storeys	Flats – two storey, bungalows – single storey	
Ridge height	Flats –7.3m approx.	
	Bungalows – 4.8m approx.	
Density	38 dwellings per hectare	
Appearance		
Materials	Red stock facing brick, dark grey concrete pantile roof tiles, White uPVC double glazed windows, composite front doors	
Transport matters		
Vehicular access	From Hanover Road	
No of car parking spaces	13 (4 dedicated spaces for the new dwellings, 9 spaces for general use within zone S).	
No of cycle parking spaces	Each unit would have a secure cycle store.	
Servicing arrangements	Bin collection to take place from properties.	

# Representations

8. Advertised on site and in the press. Adjacent and neighbouring properties have been notified in writing. 43 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
Concern at the loss of garages and parking spaces, including the availability of parking within the Zone S permit parking area.	See main issues 1 and 3
Difficulties with parking can be particularly stressful when you are unable to find a space close to your house after working a long shift.	See main issues 1 and 3
Concern about insufficient access for medical needs, family visitors and house maintenance vehicles.	See main issues 1 and 3
Concern about impact on Brunswick Road Dental Practice, in terms of accessibility for visitors as we only have one visitor permit.	See main issues 1 and 3
Concern about impact on Orb Hair Salon due to increased parking pressure.	See main issues 1 and 3
The proposal would devalue our homes	Loss of value is not a material planning matter.
No objection to more housing but allowing more parking permits than spaces should be re-thought. How about one permit per address?	This is not a matter that can be dealt with as part of the determination of this application.
There are safety concerns about residents having to find parking at a considerable distance from their properties and having to walk a considerable distance home when its dark or late at night is unacceptable.	See main issues 1 and 3
Concerns about impact of construction work and contractors vehicles	The impact of construction work is not a planning matter but the developers will be encouraged to follow the principles of the considerate constructors scheme.
The design of the properties is very lacklustre, the proposed design should be of period character.	See main issue 2
The Council's parking surveys were inaccurate and did not reflect usage at peak times.	The surveys were carried out at a variety of times including evenings and weekends.
The loss of parking spaces has caused friction in what was once a friendly community.	See main issue 1 and 3

Issues raised	Response
The proposal will impact on light to existing properties.	See main issue 3

# **Consultation responses**

9. 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)

10. No objection on highways grounds.

## **Norwich Society**

11. The Norwich Society commented on the previous application for this site (16/01742/F – Land and garages rear of 2 – 20 Hanover Road) as follows:

'Once again this is an under-whelming design and the loss of residents' parking will cause issues in the surrounding streets.'

We considered the new proposals at our meeting last Thursday. The revised scheme actually reduces the number of car park spaces allocated for the rest of Zone S (i.e. all other residents of Hanover Road, Newmarket Rd and all other Zone S permit holders) from 9 to 7. This is in addition to the loss of parking spaces in Beaumont Place. Also we consider that there is no improvement to the design quality of the proposals. Please note that we therefore maintain our objections to the proposals.

# **Assessment of planning considerations**

## Relevant development plan policies

- 12. 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
- 13. 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
- DM9 Safeguarding Norwich's heritage
- DM12 Ensuring well-planned housing development
- DM28 Encouraging sustainable travel
- DM29 Managing car parking demand in the city centre
- DM30 Access and highway safety
- DM31 Car parking and servicing

#### Other material considerations

# 14. Relevant sections of the National Planning Policy Framework March 2012 (NPPF):

- NPPF0 Achieving sustainable development
- NPPF4 Promoting sustainable transport
- NPPF6 Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes
- NPPF7 Requiring good design
- NPPF10 Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change
- NPPF12 Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

#### **Case Assessment**

15. 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

- 16. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs JCS4, DM12, NPPF paragraphs 49 and 14.
- 17. The recent approval under application reference 16/01742/F which was for a similar development and also for affordable housing purposes is a significant material consideration. There has been no significant change in local or national planning policy since the grant of that permission which would indicate the application should be dealt with differently in terms of the principle of development.
- 18. It should also be noted that the latest figures indicate there is a 4.61 supply of land for housing in the Norwich Policy Area, which is some way short of the 5 years of supply required by government. This is a consideration which weighs in favour of the proposal. The principle of development is considered acceptable in light of the previous decision and the land supply situation. The main issues to be considered are therefore the changes to the proposal from the previous approved scheme.

- 19. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs JCS2, DM3, DM9 NPPF paragraphs 9, 17, 56, 60-66 and 128-141.
- 20. The design of the bungalows previously approved is relatively unchanged, although they have been enlarged slightly to ensure they meet the national minimum space standards, which is welcomed. The two bedroom flats would be similar in scale to the semi-detached properties which were approved previously; however they would feature a gable which differs from the previous design. The design is simple but acceptable, given the context of the site, which is at the rear of several properties and not within a prominent location. The style of the buildings is generally in keeping with the character of the surrounding area. The proposal would conserve the character of the nearby conservation area.
- 21. The layout of the site allows for pedestrian and vehicle access, provides some small private outdoor amenity space for each dwelling and provides a new landscaped area close the pedestrian pathway from Newmarket Road. The parking layout allows adequate room for parking and turning.
- 22. Amendments have been made during the application process which adds some new detailing to the elevations, changes the materials to a red-multi brick and red pantile roof, and adds a further 2 parking spaces.

## Main issue 3: Amenity and parking

- 23. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs DM2, DM11, NPPF paragraphs 9 and 17.
- 24. The proposal would not cause material harm in terms of overlooking, overshadowing or loss of privacy due to the scale of development, the orientation of the buildings and positioning of windows.
- 25. A number of residents have raised concerns regarding the impact of the proposal on parking congestion in the locality. It should be reiterated that the principle of developing the car park has been accepted. Following amendments the proposal would maintain the 9 parking spaces for inclusion within the permit parking zone that were originally proposed and in addition would maintain/provide vehicular access to a further property compared to the original scheme. As a result the parking provision of the scheme would be no less than the previous approval.
- 26. Notwithstanding this, it remains the view of officers that delivering new affordable housing, both in the context of an urgent need for more affordable dwellings and also the lack of a five-year land supply of housing in the Norwich Policy Area is a significant benefit which outweighs the limited harm identified in terms of the loss of parking. Furthermore, in considering the application in the context of guidance within paragraph 14 of the National Planning Policy Framework, it is considered that the loss of the parking would not *significantly and demonstrably* outweigh the benefits of the proposal, and it therefore follows that the application should be approved.

#### Main issue 4: Flood risk

27. Key policies and NPPF paragraphs – JCS1, DM5, NPPF paragraphs 100 and 103. The site is within Flood Zone 1 and therefore at a low risk from flooding from rivers, however it is within a critical drainage area where there is a higher risk of surface

water flooding. The application is accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment which states that the development would maximise the use of soft landscaping and incorporate permeable paving. There would be a significant reduction of surface water run-off compared to the existing situation. The proposal complies with the relevant policies.

## Compliance with other relevant development plan policies

28. 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 subject to condition
Water efficiency	JCS 1 & 3	Yes subject to condition
Sustainable urban drainage	DM3/5	Yes subject to condition
Contamination	DM11	Yes subject to condition

#### Other matters

29. The following matters have been assessed and considered satisfactory and in accordance with relevant development plan policies, subject to appropriate conditions and mitigation: List relevant matters.

## **Equalities and diversity issues**

30. There are no significant equality or diversity issues.

#### **Local finance considerations**

- 31. 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.
- 32. 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.
- 33. In this case local finance considerations are not considered to be material to the case.

# Conclusion

34. 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. 18/00289/F - Land And Garages Rear Of 9 To 23 Newmarket Road Norwich and grant planning permission subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Standard time limit:
- 2. In accordance with plans;
- Details of facing and roofing materials; windows; joinery; boundary treatments, walls and fences to be submitted
- 4. Details of hard and soft landscaping to be submitted
- 5. Water efficiency
- 6. Contamination risk assessment and report to be submitted
- 7. Unknown contamination to be addressed
- 8. Control on imported materials

## Article 35(2) statement

The local planning authority in making its recommendation has had due regard to paragraph 187 of the National Planning Policy Framework as well as the development plan, national planning policy and other material considerations and has approved the application subject to appropriate conditions and for the reasons outlined in the officer report.

