

FULL PLANNING APPROVAL **DRAFT DECISION NOTICE**



WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Expiry Date: 3 February 2025

Application Number: 241964

Location: 2 Grovelands Road, Spencers Wood, Wokingham, RG7 1DP

Proposal: Full application for the proposed erection of a detached dwelling, with associated parking and landscaping. Following the demolition of the existing dwelling.

Recommendation: Approve

Conditions and/or Reasons

1. Timescale

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

Reason: In pursuance of s.91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by s.51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

2. Approved Plans

This permission is in respect of the submitted application plans and documents:

001 Rev D – Block & Location Plan

002 Rev D – Proposed Site Plan

003 Rev D – Proposed Floor Plans

004 Rev D – Proposed Elevations

Received 31st July 2024

Non-licensed Avoidance Measures for Great Crested Newts

Received 7th August 2024

The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the application form and associated details hereby approved.

3. Materials

The materials to be used in the new dwelling are to be in accordance with those specified on the approval drawings and application form.

Reason: To ensure the appearance of the dwelling is satisfactory. Relevant policy – Core Strategy policies CP1 and CP3.

4. Construction phase emergency plan

No development shall commence on site (including any demolition or site preparation works) until a Construction Phase Emergency Plan for the maximum number of construction staff and visitors to the site, has been submitted to and

approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The Construction Phase Emergency Plan shall include:

- a) Triggers for activation of the plan;
- b) Means and location of sheltering for a period of no less than 72 hours
- c) Means of support for staff and visitors whilst in sheltering conditions;
- d) Means of evacuation and recovery;
- e) Method and frequency of review;
- f) Contractor names and emergency contact information for the construction period.

Upon implementation of the development hereby approved, the approved Construction Phase Emergency Plan shall be implemented and maintained in accordance with the approved details throughout the entire construction period.

Reason: As insufficient information is contained within the application submission and in order to provide assurance that an effective Construction Phase Emergency Plan will be put in place to protect construction staff should there be an incident at AWE Burghfield in accordance with MDD Local Plan policy TB04 (Development in vicinity of Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE), Burghfield) and Core Strategy policy CP3 (General Principles for Development).

5. Drainage

No development shall take place until full details of the drainage system for the site have been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. The details shall include:

- 1. BRE 365 test results demonstrating that infiltration is achievable.
- 2. Use of SuDS following the SuDS hierarchy, preferably infiltration.
- 3. Full calculations demonstrating the performance of soakaways.
- 4. Groundwater monitoring confirming seasonal high groundwater levels in the area.
- 5. A drainage strategy plan indicating the location and sizing of SuDS features, with the base of any SuDS features located at least 1m above the seasonal high water table level.
- 6. Details demonstrating how any SuDS for this development would be managed throughout the lifespan of the development and who will be responsible for maintenance.

The approved scheme shall be implemented prior to the first occupation of the development and shall be maintained in the approved form for as long as the development remains on the site.

Reason: This is to prevent increased flood risk from surface water run-off. Relevant policy: NPPF (2023) Section 14 (Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Change), Core Strategy policy CP1 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policies CC09 and CC10.

6. Parking to be provided

No part of the new dwelling hereby permitted shall be occupied or used until the vehicle parking space has been provided in accordance with the approved plans. The vehicle parking space shall be permanently maintained and remain available for the parking of vehicles at all times.

Reason: To ensure adequate on-site parking provision in the interests of highway safety, convenience and amenity. Relevant policy: Core Strategy policies CP3 & CP6 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policy CC07.

7. Cycle parking

Prior to the occupation of the development hereby permitted details of secure and covered bicycle storage/ parking facilities for the occupants of [and visitors to] the development shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The cycle storage/ parking shall be implemented in accordance with such details as may be approved before occupation of the development hereby permitted, and shall be permanently retained in the approved form for the parking of bicycles and used for no other purpose.

Reason: In order to ensure that secure weather-proof bicycle parking facilities are provided so as to encourage the use of sustainable modes of travel. Relevant policy: NPPF Section 9 (Sustainable Transport) and Core Strategy policies CP1, CP3 & CP6 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policy CC07.

8. Surfacing of access

No building shall be occupied until the vehicular access has been surfaced with a permeable and bonded material across the entire width of the access for a distance of 5 metres measured from the carriageway edge.

Reason: To avoid spillage of loose material onto the highway, in the interests of road safety. Relevant policy: Core Strategy policy CP6.

9. Biodiversity Enhancements

Prior to first occupation of the development, details of biodiversity enhancements shall be submitted, including the provision of a bird box affixed to the main dwelling. The biodiversity enhancements shall be implemented in full and for the lifetime of the development prior to first occupation.

Reason: To enhance biodiversity across the site in accordance with policy TB23 of the MDD.

10. Great Crested Newts Avoidance Statement

The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the mitigation measures outlined in the submitted statement titled 'Non-licensed Avoidance Measures for Great Crested Newts'.

Reason: To protect Great Crested Newts during the construction of the development, in accordance with policy TB23 of the MDD.

11. Landscaping Scheme

Prior to the commencement of the development there shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority a scheme of landscaping, which shall specify species, planting sizes, spacing and numbers of trees/shrubs to be planted, and any existing trees or shrubs to be retained. Planting shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details in the first planting and seeding seasons following the occupation of the building(s). Any trees or plants which, within a period of 5 years from the date of the planting (or within a period of 5 years of the occupation of the buildings in the case of retained trees and shrubs) die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species or otherwise as approved in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To ensure adequate planting in the interests of visual amenity. Relevant policy: Core Strategy policy CP3 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policies CC03 and TB21.

12. Retained Trees

No retained tree shall be cut down, uprooted or destroyed, nor shall any retained tree be topped or lopped other than in accordance with the approved plans and particulars, without the written approval of the local planning authority. If within a period of five years from the date of the planting of any tree that tree, or any tree planted in replacement for it, is removed, uprooted or destroyed or dies, another tree of the same species and size as that originally planted shall be planted at the same place, unless the local planning authority gives its written consent to any variation.

Reason: To secure the protection throughout the time that development is being carried out, of trees, shrubs and hedges growing within the site which are of amenity value to the area. Relevant policy: Core Strategy policy CP3 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policies CC03 and TB21.

13. Protection of trees

a) No development or other operation shall commence on site until an Arboricultural Method Statement and Scheme of Works which provides for the retention and protection of trees, shrubs and hedges growing on or adjacent to the site in accordance with BS5837: 2012 has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. No development or other operations shall take place except in complete accordance with the details as so-approved (hereinafter referred to as the Approved Scheme).

b) No operations shall commence on site in connection with development hereby approved (including any tree felling, tree pruning, demolition works, soil moving, temporary access construction and or widening or any other operation involving use of motorised vehicles or construction machinery) until the tree protection works required by the Approved Scheme are in place on site.

c) No excavations for services, storage of materials or machinery, parking of vehicles, deposit or excavation of soil or rubble, lighting of fires or disposal of liquids shall take place within an area designated as being fenced off or otherwise protected in the Approved Scheme.

d) The fencing or other works which are part of the Approved Scheme shall not be moved or removed, temporarily or otherwise, until all works including external works have been completed and all equipment, machinery and surplus materials removed from the site, unless the prior approval in writing of the local planning authority has first been sought and obtained.

Reason: To secure the protection throughout the time that the development is being carried out of trees shrubs or hedges growing within or adjacent to the site which are of amenity value to the area, and to allow for verification by the local planning authority that the necessary measures are in place before development and other works commence. Relevant policy: Core Strategy policy CP3 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policies CC03 and TB21.

14. Future Homes Standard

The dwelling(s) shall meet the interim Future Homes Standard in accordance with the requirements of the Building Regulations. No dwelling shall be occupied until compliance has been confirmed by an accredited assessor certifying that a 31% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions has been achieved per the Standard.

Reason: To ensure developments contribute to sustainable development in accordance with the requirements of Part L of the Building Regulations. Relevant policy: NPPF Section 14 (Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change, Flooding and

Coastal Change), Core Strategy policy CP1 and Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policy CC04.

15. Water Standards

Prior to the commencement of development, details of how the dwelling shall meet internal potable water consumption targets of 110 litres or less per person per day. Thereafter, all dwellings shall be built in accordance with the measures to achieve this water consumption target and the measures maintained for the lifetime of the development.

Reason: To ensure developments contribute to sustainable development. Relevant policy: NPPF Section 14 (Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Change), WBC Climate Emergency Action Plan, Core Strategy policy CP1, Managing Development Delivery Local Plan policy CC05 & the Sustainable Design and Construction Supplementary Planning Document.

16. Side windows

The first floor windows in the side elevations of the development hereby permitted shall be fitted with obscured glass and shall be permanently so-retained. The window shall be non-opening unless the parts of the window which can be opened are more than 1.7 metres above the finished floor level of the room in which the window is installed and shall be permanently so-retained.

Reason: To safeguard the residential amenities of neighbouring properties. Relevant policy: Core Strategy policy CP3.

17. Use of flat roof

Notwithstanding the approved plans, the flat roof area at the rear on the ground floor shall remain inaccessible for any use including recreational purposes at all times except for services and repairs.

Reason: To safeguard the residential amenities of neighbouring properties. Relevant policy: Core Strategy policy CP3.

Informatives

1. The development accords with the policies contained within the adopted / development plan and there are no material considerations that warrant a different decision being taken.

2. The applicant is reminded that this approval is granted subject to conditions which must be complied with prior to the development starting on site. Commencement of the development without complying with the pre-commencement requirements may be outside the terms of this permission and liable to enforcement action. The information required should be formally submitted to the Council for consideration with the relevant fee. Once the details have been approved in writing the development should be carried out only in accordance with those details. If this is not clear please contact the case officer to discuss.

3. The applicant is reminded that should there be any change from the approved drawings during the build of the development this may require a fresh planning application if the changes differ materially from the approved details. Non-material changes may be formalised by way of an application under s.96A Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

4. Bats are a protected species under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). Should any bats or evidence of bats be found prior to or during the development, all works must stop immediately and an ecological consultant contacted for further advice before works can proceed. All contractors working on site should be made aware of the advice and provided with the contact details of a relevant ecological consultant.

5. Great Crested Newts are a protected species under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). This site is wholly within an amber risk zone according to modelling undertaken to inform a Borough wide licence issued by Natural England. Amber zones contain suitable habitat and Great Crested Newts are likely to be present. The permission granted does not provide authorisation for development to proceed under the Wokingham Borough Council District Licence for Great Crested Newts. Should any Great Crested Newts or evidence of Great Crested Newts be found prior to or during the development, all works must stop immediately and an ecological consultant contacted for further advice before works can proceed.

All contractors working on site should be made aware of the advice and provided with the contact details of a relevant ecological consultant.

6. The development hereby permitted is liable to pay the Community Infrastructure Levy. The Liability Notice issued by Wokingham Borough Council will state the current chargeable amount. A revised Liability Notice will be issued if this amount changes. Anyone can formally assume liability to pay, but if no one does so then liability will rest with the landowner. There are certain legal requirements that must be complied with. For instance, whoever will pay the levy must submit an Assumption of Liability form and a Commencement Notice to Wokingham Borough Council prior to commencement of development, failure to do this will result in penalty surcharges being added. For more information see the Council's website - Community Infrastructure Levy advice page. Please submit all CIL forms and enquiries to developer.contributions@wokingham.gov.uk.

7. The Local Planning Authority has acted positively and proactively in determining this application by assessing the proposal against all material considerations, including planning policies and any representations that may have been received and subsequently determining to grant planning permission in accordance with the presumption in favour of sustainable development as set out in the NPPF.

Recommendation and conditions/reasons agreed:



Date: 28/01/25

REMEMBER - The earliest date for a decision on this application is: **28 January 2025**