

HOUSEHOLDER **DRAFT DECISION NOTICE**



WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Expiry Date: 26 September 2024

Application Number: 241876

Location: 39 Harcourt Drive, Earley, Wokingham, RG6 5TL

Proposal: Householder application for proposed loft conversion with rear dormer extension plus the insertion of 2no. rooflights.

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 details - This permission is in respect of the submitted application plans and drawings numbered:

- PL/A665/03 (received 22/07/2024)
- PL/A665/04 (received 22/07/2024)
- PL/A665/05 (received 09/09/2024)

The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details unless other minor variations are agreed in writing after the date of this permission and before implementation with the Local Planning Authority.

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. External materials - The materials to be used in the construction of the external surfaces of the extension hereby permitted shall be of a similar appearance to those used in the existing building unless other minor variations are agreed in writing after the date of this permission and before implementation with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the external appearance of the building is satisfactory. Relevant policy: Core Strategy policies CP1 and CP3.

4. Parking to be provided - The development shall not be occupied 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.

5. Access surfacing - The development shall not 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 circa 9 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.

6. Access to be widened - The development shall not be occupied until the vehicular access from the highway has been increased to a width of 3.6 metres (this work will need separate authorisation by the Borough's highway section – see informative below).

Reason: To allow vehicular access to off-street parking spaces without causing damage to the footway and kerb, and to avoid undue delay in vehicles leaving the highway in the interests of highway safety and convenience. Relevant policy: Core Strategy policies CP3 & CP6.

Informatives

1. The Head of Highways at the Council Offices, Shute End, Wokingham [0118 9746000] should be contacted for the approval of the access construction details before any work is carried out within the highway (including verges and footways). This planning permission does NOT authorise the construction of such an access or works.

2. Whilst it would appear from the application that the proposed development is to be entirely within the curtilage of the application site, the granting of planning permission does not authorise you to gain access or carry out any works on, over or under your neighbour's land or property without first obtaining their consent, and does not obviate the need for compliance with the requirements of the Party Wall etc. Act 1996.

3. 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.

4. Great Crested Newts are a protected species under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). This site is partially within red and amber risk zones according to modelling undertaken to inform a Borough wide licence issued by Natural England. Red zones contain suitable habitat and most important areas for Great Crested Newts. 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.

5. 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. This planning application has been the subject of positive and proactive discussions with the applicant in terms of:

- amended plans being submitted by the applicant to overcome concerns relating to parking provision.

The decision to grant planning permission in accordance with the presumption in favour of sustainable development as set out in the NPPF is considered to be a positive outcome of these discussions.

Recommendation and conditions/reasons agreed: *MC*

Date: 11.09.2024

REMEMBER - The earliest date for a decision on this application is: **9 September 2024**