

**Updates for DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**  
**– 6 April 2022**

Item	Updates	Page No
1	Amended planning compliance document submitted and uploaded to the file	22
2	This item has been deferred	40
3	<p data-bbox="464 488 756 521"><u>Cllr Adrian Dearnley</u></p> <p data-bbox="464 562 1118 853">Unfortunately I cannot make the DMC meeting but wish to confirm my ongoing concerns about this Planning Application, which has attracted a huge amount of public concern within the village. I accept that this is only an outline application, so some of the concerns expressed in the call-in to the committee can be addressed at a later stage.</p> <p data-bbox="464 893 1118 1473">According to the report to the DMC under item 5.3 the plan is permitted under the JCS as an additional small-scale development of houses within the development boundary. However, this does not mean it is desirable given the large number of houses being built in a village with an established lack of facilities, and the benefits of retaining the site as a green space. In this context I would refer to the comment of the Parish Council in relation to overall development strategy for the village. Also I would question under DM 3.1 whether these 7 properties are required to meet housing requirements and needs, given the large volumes of housing already under construction.</p> <p data-bbox="464 1514 1118 1733">I also have additional concerns following recent comments from nearby residents. Access and turning spaces for bin lorries (and other large vehicles) give rise to safety concerns and water supply issues may need further clarification from Anglian Water.</p> <p data-bbox="464 1774 1086 1841">Given these concerns I cannot at this stage support this development.</p> <p data-bbox="464 1881 799 1915"><u>Public Representations</u></p>	52

Three additional public representations have been received. These have set out the following comments:

- Concern that during construction and afterwards people may try to access the site from Great Melton Close which is a not through road, following the removal of the sign.
- Concern raised regarding increased footfall and parking problems around Great Melton Close which will increase with new houses.
- Plots 2 and 3 would overlook adjacent property including front and rear gardens and potentially side windows of the house.
- Height of the properties would overshadow adjacent gardens
- Road safety could be adversely affected. Park Green is narrow/tight and the access is currently used as parking for visitors. In addition the Park Green is also a buy pedestrian route
- Disturbance from the new development will be huge both during the construction process and once occupied.
- The refuse lorry is required to reverse into Park Green as there is not sufficient parking space
- The water supply has needed a number of repairs in recent years and cannot be considered to be secure.
- There is 150 children waiting to join the football club. This land would be better used for the wellbeing of the residents of Hethersett and not more properties.

#### Officer Assessment

The concerns raised within the additional representations are understood and predominantly focus around issues of amenity and access.

In relation to amenity, and in particular issues of overlooking and overshadowing, the application is currently in outline form only with details of scale and appearance to be

	<p>determined at the reserved matters stage. Notwithstanding this it is considered that there is sufficient separation distances between the existing and proposed dwellings to ensure an acceptable level of amenity is maintained. In relation to noise and disturbance during the construction period, it is recommended that an additional condition is included to require a construction management plan. This would then require further details regarding noise and dust, and can also include construction workers parking.</p> <p>In relation to access the proposal has been reviewed by the Highways Authority. The access is proposed to come from the existing turning head on Park Green. The Highways Authority have not objected to the proposal.</p> <p>On the basis of the above, it is recommended that application is authorised for approval subject to satisfactorily address the Habitat Regulations regarding nutrient neutrality.</p>	
4	<p>Highways: Response from Highways – The proposed access clarifications are now acceptable.</p> <p>Description: Amendment to description agreed with agent to read “New Dwelling” to reflect the removal of the garage</p> <p>Comment: Further comment received with regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tree constraints/assessment</li> <li>- Replanting</li> <li>- Plan accuracy</li> </ul>	6
5		7
6		7
7	<p>Officer Comment: The matter of Ecology was not addressed in the Officers Report and this is assessed below -</p> <p>Policy 1 of the JCS requires the development to both have regard to and protect the biodiversity and ecological interests of the site and contribute to providing a multi-functional green infrastructure network. Policy DM4.4 looks for new development sites to safeguard the ecological interests of the site and to</p>	84

	<p>contribute to ecological and Biodiversity enhancements. Section 15 of the NPPF indicates that planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment.</p> <p>The planning application is supported by a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, and both a Bat Survey and Great Crested Newt Survey.</p> <p>The Bat Survey confirmed the use of the existing dwelling as a non-breeding day roost by a low number of soprano and common pipistrelles. Both species are common and widespread, and the destruction of the roost is classed as low impact on the local bat population. In order to be able to proceed with the demolition works and to ensure that no detrimental impacts will result on the species a European Protected Species [EPS] mitigation licence from Natural England will be required as well as on-site mitigation measures as set out in the submitted Bat Survey Report Section 5 relating to demolition; installation of both integrated and standalone bat boxes; roof construction; external lighting and soft landscaping. These can be covered by both planning condition and an Informative relating to the EPS.</p> <p>In terms of the Great Crested Newt [GCN] Survey this confirmed that there are no GCN in pond 1 on the application site; smooth newts were present in all ponds and pond 4 off-site to the south-west indicated results that it is used by GCN.</p> <p>The proposed works involve removal of the concrete lined pond on the application site [aquatic habitat] and removal of vegetation within the site [terrestrial habitat]. Taking the results of the survey into account, the risk assessment calculation set out in the GCN method statement template provided by Natural England indicates that in order to proceed with the proposed development and to ensure that no detrimental impacts will result on the species, the applicant will need to apply and join a District Level Licencing Scheme, which involves a series of financial</p>	
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	<p>contributions to offset the loss of habitats on site. Once accepted onto the scheme, the GCN Survey Report recommends mitigation in section 5.3 to avoid impacts on GCN from the proposed development and these can be covered by planning condition.</p> <p>In respect of the GCN District Level Licensing – it is material to the determination of the planning application that the applicant has had issued an Impact Assessment &amp; Conservation Payment Certificate by Natural England [complete and effective as of 03/08/2021]. This details the impacts, level of compensation habitat and associated financial payment required to be paid to Natural England should the development proceed.</p> <p>Therefore, subject to the imposition of conditions and Informative as discussed above the proposal accords with DM4.4 of the Development Management Policies document, Policy 1 of the JCS and Section 15 of the NPPF.</p>	
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