

**KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
INVESTMENT & REGENERATION SERVICE**

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) – SECTION 70

DELEGATED DECISION TO DETERMINE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Reference No:	2022/62/92582/E
Site Address:	38, West Acre Drive, Soothill, Batley, WF17 6PE
Description:	Erection of extensions and dormer window
Recommending Officer:	Jennifer Booth

DECISION - CONDITTIONAL FULL PERMISSION

I hereby authorise the approval of this application for the reasons set out in the officer's report and recommendation annexed below in respect of the above matter.

Emma Thompson

AUTHORISED OFFICER

Date: 21-Oct-2022

OFFICER REPORT

Site Description

38 West Acre Drive is a brick built, modern mid-terraced property with an open drive area to the front and an enclosed yard to the rear.

The property has similar dwellings to the front and sides with a wooded area to the rear.

Description of Proposal

The applicant is seeking permission for a single storey front extension and a single & two storey rear extension.

The front extension is proposed to project 1.7m from the original front wall of the dwelling and would extend across the width of the dwelling with a width of 4.9m. The roof form would be lean to for the most part with a small, pitched detail over the door.

The rear extension would project 3.7m on the ground floor across the width of the dwelling, replacing an existing extension, then reducing to 3m at first floor set in 0.4m from the adjoining dwelling to the north. The roof over the single storey element would be lean to with a perpendicular pitched roof over the first floor.

The walls of the extensions would be constructed using brick with tiles for the roof covering.

Relevant Planning History

2022/91136 - erection of single storey front and single & two storey rear extension - refused

History of negotiations

Kirklees Development Management Charter together with the National Planning Policy Framework and the DMPO 2015 encourages negotiation/engagement between Local Planning Authorities and agents/applicants. The initially submitted plans did not overcome the previous reason for refusal, specifically with respect to the ground floor projection. Amended plans were sought and received to reduce this to the existing level. As the amended plans reduced the development, the amendments have not been advertised.

Representations

The application was advertised by site notices and neighbour letters, which expired on 12/09/2022

As a result of the above publicity, no representations have been received.

Consultation Responses

None

Policy

Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that planning applications are determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The statutory Development Plan for Kirklees is the Local Plan (adopted 27th February 2019).

The site is UNALLOCATED on the Kirklees Local Plan Proposals Map

On 12th November 2019, the Council adopted a target for achieving 'net zero' carbon emissions by 2038, with an accompanying carbon budget set by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. National Planning Policy includes a requirement to promote carbon reduction and enhance resilience to climate change through the planning system and these principles have been incorporated into the formulation of Local Plan policies. The Local Plan predates the declaration of a climate emergency and the net zero carbon target; however, it includes a series of policies which are used to assess the suitability of planning applications in the context of climate change. When determining planning applications, the Council will use the relevant Local Plan policies and guidance documents to embed the climate change agenda.

Kirklees Local Plan Policies

- **LP 1** – Achieving sustainable development
- **LP 2** – Place shaping
- **LP 22** – Parking
- **LP 24** - Design
- **LP 30** – Biodiversity
- **LP 53** - Contaminated land

Kirklees Council adopted supplementary planning guidance on house extensions on 29th June 2021 which now carries full weight in decision making. This guidance indicates how the Council will usually interpret its policies regarding such built development, although the general thrust of the advice is aligned with both the Kirklees Local Plan (KLP) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), requiring development to be considerate in terms of the character of the host property and the wider street scene. As such, it is anticipated that this SPD will assist with ensuring enhanced consistency in both approach and outcomes relating to house extensions.

National Policies and Guidance:

National planning policy and guidance is set out in National Policy Statements, primarily the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published 20th July 2021, and the Planning Practice Guidance Suite (PPGS) first launched 6th March 2014 together with Circulars, Ministerial Statements and associated technical guidance.

The NPPF constitutes guidance for local planning authorities and is a material consideration in determining applications.

- Chapter 12 – Achieving well-designed places
- Chapter 14 – Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change

Assessment

Principle of development:

The site is without notation on the Kirklees Local Plan (KLP). Policy LP1 of the KLP states that when considering development proposals, the Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the NPPF. In terms of extending and making alterations to a property, Policy LP24 of the KLP is relevant, in conjunction with the House Extension SPD and Chapter 12 of the NPPF, regarding design. In this case, the principle of development is considered acceptable, and the proposal shall now be assessed against all other material planning considerations, including visual and residential amenity, as well as highway safety.

A planning application was refused earlier this year. The current application has reduced the ground floor and the width of the first floor. The proposals shall be assessed fully below.

Impact on visual amenity:

The host property is located on a residential development of similar properties. Dependent upon design, scale and detailing, it may be acceptable to extend the host property.

Key Design Principle 1 of the House Extension & Alteration supplementary planning document (SPD) does state that extensions and alterations to residential properties should be in keeping with the appearance, scale, design and local character of the area and the street scene. Furthermore, Key Design Principle 2 of the HESPD goes on to state that extensions should not dominate or be larger than the original house and should be in keeping with the existing building in terms of scale, materials and details.

The proposal under consideration consists of two distinct elements which shall be addressed below.

Single storey front extension

Paragraph 5.13 of the House Extension SPD states that front extensions are highly prominent in the street scene. As per paragraph 5.14 of the SPD, careful consideration needs to be given to ensure that they are carefully designed to limit the potential for them to erode the character, they should be small and subservient to the main house and constructed using appropriate materials.

The front extension would be limited in terms of its projection and would therefore form a subservient addition to the dwelling. The materials proposed would match the main house and there are porches in the wider street scene which would allow the front extension to be in keeping with the wider area. Therefore, the front extension proposed is considered to be acceptable in terms of visual amenity.

Single & two storey rear extension

Paragraphs 5.1 and 5.2 go into further specific detail regarding rear extensions requiring development to maintain the quality of the residential environment, respect the original house and use appropriate materials.

The ground floor would be replacing the existing extension with the same dimensions. The first floor would be set back to 3m with a 0.4m set back from the shared boundary with the adjoining 36 West Acre Drive. There are other examples of rear extensions within the row and as such the extension would not be out of character with the area. The materials proposed include the use of brick for the walling and tiles for the roof covering which would match the main house. The rear extension is therefore considered to be acceptable in terms of visual amenity.

Having taken the above into account, the proposed extensions would not cause any significant harm to the visual amenity of either the host dwelling or the wider street scene, complying with Policy LP24 of the Kirklees Local Plan (a) in terms of the form, scale and layout and (c) as the extension would form a subservient addition to the property in keeping with the existing building, KDP 1 & 2 of the House Extension and Alterations Supplementary Design Guide and the aims of chapter 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Impact on residential amenity:

Consideration in relation to the impact on the residential amenity of neighbouring occupants shall now be set out, taking into account policy LP24 c), which sets out that proposals should promote good design by, amongst other things, extensions minimising impact on residential amenity of future and neighbouring occupiers. The SPD goes into further detail with respect to Key Design Principle 3 on privacy, Key Design Principle 5 on overshadowing/loss of light and Key Design Principle 6 on preventing overbearing impact.

There are no properties directly to the front or rear which could be affected by the works proposed.

Impact on 36 West Acre Drive

Although the front extension would be constructed up to the shared boundary with the adjoining dwelling, the very limited projection together with the single storey nature of the extension would minimise the potential for any significant impact on the amenities of the occupiers of the adjoining property.

The ground floor would match the projection of the existing extension and would not have any further impact on the amenities of the occupiers of the adjoining dwelling. The first floor would have a lesser projection of 3m and would be inset 0.4m from the shared boundary. Although not quite in line with paragraph 5.8 of the House Extension SPD, given the relationship with the adjoining dwelling together with the other similar extensions in the vicinity, the extension can be considered to be justifiable in terms of the impact on the adjoining dwelling.

With regards to the impact on the adjoining 36 West Acre Drive, the scheme has been considered in terms of KDP3 – privacy, KDP5 – overshadowing and KDP 6 – overbearing impact, policy LP24 of the KLP c) in term of minimising impact on neighbouring occupiers and advice within chapter 12, paragraph 130 of the NPPF and the proposals are considered to be justifiable.

Impact on 40 West Acre Drive

Although the front extension would be constructed up to the shared boundary with the adjoining dwelling, the very limited projection together with the single storey nature of the extension and the existing porch to the front of the adjoining dwelling would minimise the potential for any significant impact on the amenities of the occupiers of the adjoining property.

The rear extension would have the potential to result in an overbearing impact on the adjoining dwelling. However, there are mitigating factors on the site which would reduce the effects on the occupants of the adjoining house including the form of the neighbours own two storey extension. Furthermore, the position proposed would be to the northeast of the neighbour and the proposals would therefore result in no overshadowing. Given the lack of openings in the side elevations, there would be no loss of privacy as a result of the extension. Officers are satisfied that there would be no significant harmful impact on the amenities of the occupiers of the adjoining dwelling.

With regards to the impact on the adjoining 40 West Acre Drive, the scheme has been considered in terms of KDP3 – privacy, KDP5 – overshadowing and KDP 6 – overbearing impact, policy LP24 of the KLP c) in term of minimising impact on neighbouring occupiers and advice within chapter 12, paragraph 130 of the NPPF and the proposals are considered to be justifiable.

Having considered the above factors, the proposals are not considered to result in any adverse impact upon the residential amenity of any surrounding neighbouring occupants, complying with Policy LP24 of the Kirklees Local Plan (b) in terms of the amenities of neighbouring properties, Key Design Principles 3, 5, 6 & 7 of the House Extension SPD and Paragraph 130 (f) of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Impact on highway safety:

The proposals will result in some intensification of the domestic use. However, the property has a parking space to the front for a vehicle and there are shared spaces within the wider development which are considered to represent a sufficient provision. Bin storage for the dwelling would have to be moved as part of the proposals. As such the scheme would not represent any additional harm in terms of highway safety and as such complies with Policy LP22 of the Kirklees Local Plan along with Key Design Principles 15 & 16 of the House Extension SPD.

Other matters:

Biodiversity

After a visual assessment of the building by the officer, it appears that the building is in good order, well-sealed and unlikely to have any significant bat roost potential. Even so, a cautionary note should be added that if bats are found during the development, then work must cease immediately and the advice of a licensed bat worker sought.

Contaminated Land

The property is close to a potential source of contaminated land, James Duncan Ltd. However, given the limited scale of the domestic development, it is considered to be sufficient to include a condition regarding the reporting of unexpected contamination to comply with LP53 of the KLP.

Carbon Budget

The proposal is a small scale domestic development to an existing dwelling. As such, no special measures were required in terms of the planning application with regards to carbon emissions. However, there are controls in terms of Building Regulations which will need to be adhered to as part of the construction process which will require compliance with national standards.

There are no other matters for consideration.

Representations:

None

Proposed conditions

Along with the standard timescale condition, which is a requirement of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, it is considered appropriate to add the following conditions.

Accordance with the approved plans to ensure the development is carried out in line with the officer's assessment.

Matching materials to ensure that the extensions harmonise with the host property as using alternative materials would look out of place within the street scene.

Conclusion:

This application to erect a single storey extension to the front and a single & two storey extension to the rear of 38 West Acre Drive has been assessed against relevant policies in the development plan as listed in the policy section of the report, the House Extension SPD, the National Planning Policy Framework and other material considerations. Given the acceptable design and lack of harm in terms of visual and residential amenity, the proposed extension is considered to be acceptable.

The NPPF has introduced a presumption in favour of sustainable development. The policies set out in the NPPF taken as a whole constitute the Government's view of what sustainable development means in practice.

As set out above, this application has been assessed against relevant policies in the development plan and other material considerations. It is considered that the development would constitute sustainable development and is therefore recommended for approval.

Recommendation

Approve

Decision Authorisation - Delegated Powers

Application Number: 2022/92582

Officer Recommendation: Approve

Conditions and Reasons

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun within three years of the date of this permission.

Reason: Pursuant to the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in complete accordance with the plans and specifications schedule listed in this decision notice, except as may be specified in the conditions attached to this permission, which shall in all cases take precedence.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt as to what is being permitted and so as to ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development on completion, and to accord with Policy LP24 of the Kirklees Local Plan, Key Design Principles of the House Extension SPD and the aims of the National Planning Policy Framework.

3. The external walls and roofing materials of the extension hereby approved shall in all respects match those used in the construction of the existing building and thereafter retained.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and to accord with Policy LP24 of the Kirklees Local Plan, Key Design Principles of the House Extension SPD and the aims of chapter 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

4. In the event that contamination not previously identified by the developer prior to the grant of this planning permission is encountered during the development, all groundworks in the affected area (except for site investigation works) shall cease immediately and the Local Planning Authority shall be notified in writing within 2 working days. Groundworks in the affected area shall not recommence until either (a) a Remediation Strategy has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority or (b) the Local Planning Authority has confirmed in writing that remediation measures are not required.

The Remediation Strategy shall include a timetable for the implementation and completion of the approved remediation measures. Thereafter remediation of the site shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the approved Remediation Strategy. Following completion of any measures identified in the approved Remediation Strategy a Validation Report shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority. Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, No part of the site shall be brought into use until such time as the site has been remediated in accordance with the approved Remediation Strategy and a Validation Report in respect of those works has been approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: So as to protect the development from any potential contaminated land and to comply with Policy LP53 of the Kirklees Local Plan and Chapter 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

NOTE: All contamination reports shall be prepared in accordance with *Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination – Contaminated Land report 11* (CLR11), National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the Council's Advice for Development documents or any subsequent revisions of those documents.

NOTE: Due to its location, a bat roost may be present on site. Bats are a European protected species under regulation 41 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. It is an offence for anyone intentionally to kill, injure or handle a bat, disturb a roosting bat, or sell or offer a bat for sale without a licence. It is also an offence to damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place used by bats for shelter, whether they are present or not.

If bats are discovered on site development shall cease and the applicant is advised to contact Natural England for advice.

NOTE: The granting of planning permission does not override any private legal rights or consents that may be required. It is the responsibility of the applicant / developer to ensure that all appropriate consents are in place prior to any development commencing; during the period of construction existing access for neighbouring properties is maintained; and no damage is caused to the access driveway or surrounding properties.

NOTE: To minimise noise disturbance at nearby premises it is generally recommended that activities relating to the erection, construction, alteration, repair or maintenance of buildings, structures or roads shall not take place outside the hours of:

07.30 and 18.30 hours, Mondays to Fridays
08.00 and 13.00hours, Saturdays

With no working Sundays or Public Holidays

In some cases, different site specific hours of operation may be appropriate. Under the Control of Pollution Act 1974, Section 60 Kirklees Environment and Transportation Services can control noise from construction sites by serving a notice. This notice can specify the hours during which the works may be carried out.

Plans and specifications schedule: -

Plan Type	Reference	Web ID	Date Received
Existing plans	01	945398	01/08/2022
Proposed plans	02B	957093	18/10/2022

Pursuant to article 35 (2) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015 and guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework, the Local Planning Authority have, where possible, made a

pre-application advice service available, complied with the Kirklees Development Management Charter 2015 and otherwise actively engaged with the applicant in dealing with the application.

Kirklees Development Management Charter together with the National Planning Policy Framework and the DMPO 2015 encourages negotiation/engagement between Local Planning Authorities and agents/applicants. The initially submitted plans did not overcome the previous reason for refusal, specifically with respect to the ground floor projection. Amended plans were sought and received to reduce this to the existing level. As the amended plans reduced the development, the amendments have not been advertised.

Report Dated

19/10/2022
