

**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:	2024/62/91806/E
Site Address:	20, Bluehills Lane, Lower Cumberworth, Huddersfield, HD8 8RQ
Description:	Erection of summer house on raised decking
Recommending Officer:	Nicole Helliwell

DECISION – Full Conditional 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.

Kirsty Nicholls

AUTHORISED OFFICER

Date: 02-Sep-2024

Officer Report

Reference No. 2024/62/91806/E

Site Address: 20, Bluehills Lane, Lower Cumberworth, Huddersfield, HD8 8RQ

Proposal: Erection of summer house on raised decking

Site Description

The application relates to 20 Bluehills Lane, a two-storey detached property situated in Lower Cumberworth, Huddersfield. The dwelling is faced in stone and incorporates a dual pitched/hipped roof finished in concrete tiles. The property benefits from off road parking to the front, an integral double garage and gardens to the front and rear. The neighbouring properties are of residential use and comprise two storey properties of similar materials and architectural styles.

Description of Proposal

The application seeks planning permission for the erection of a detached outbuilding (summerhouse) within the rear curtilage of the dwellinghouse. The single storey structure would have a length of approx. 7.2m, a depth of approx. 4m, a maximum height of approx. 2.56m and a cumulative height of approx. 4.2m with the raised decking. The summerhouse would be constructed in timber panels with composite T&G wood effect cladding above the approved decked area.

Relevant Planning History

- **2023/92426:** Erection of two storey rear and first floor extensions with raised decking and associated alterations. [Planning application details | Kirklees Council](#) – Conditional Full Permission
- **2009/91560:** Erection of 1 dwelling with attached double garage (Amended House Type/Modified Proposal). [Planning application details | Kirklees Council](#) – Conditional Full Permission
- **2007/94803:** Erection of 14 no. Dwellings with integral garages (modified house types). [Planning application details | Kirklees Council](#) – Section 106 Full Permission
- **2006/91713:** Erection of residential development (16 no. Dwellings with garages). [Planning application details | Kirklees Council](#) - Section 106 Full Permission
- **2003/90217:** Erection of 92 two and three storey dwellings with associated garages, roads and fences (modified proposal). [Planning application details | Kirklees Council](#) – Section 106 Full Permission
- **2001/93368:** Erection of 92 two and three storey houses. [Planning application details | Kirklees Council](#) – Section 106 Full Permission

- **2000/92876:** Erection of 65 no. Dwellings with garages. [Planning application details | Kirklees Council](#) – Refused

Representations

The application was advertised by neighbour notification letters, which expired on 16th August 2024. As a result of the above publicity, no representations have been received.

Denby Dale Parish Council – No objection

Consultation Responses

Not Applicable.

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. The most relevant policies for consideration in this case are:

Kirklees Local Plan Policies

- **LP 1** - Achieving Sustainable Development
- **LP 2** - Place Shaping
- **LP 21** - Highways and Access
- **LP 22** - Parking
- **LP 24** - Design
- **LP 30** - Biodiversity and Geodiversity

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.

In this case, the following SPDs are applicable:

- Highways Design Guide SPD (adopted 4th November 2019)
- House Extensions and Alterations SPD (adopted 29th June 2021)
- Biodiversity Net Gain Technical Advice Note (adopted 29th June 2021)

National Policies and Guidance:

National planning policy and guidance is set out in National Policy Statements, primarily the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published December 2023, 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 2** - Achieving Sustainable Development
- **Chapter 12** - Achieving Well-Designed and Beautiful Places
- **Chapter 14** - Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Change
- **Chapter 15** - Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment

Assessment

1. 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 Extensions and Alterations SPD and Chapter 12 of the NPPF, regarding design.

In this case, the principle of development on the application site is considered acceptable, and shall be assessed against other material planning considerations, including visual and residential amenity, as well as highway safety.

1. Impact on Visual Amenity

Key Design Principle 1 of the House Extensions & Alterations 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 SPD goes onto 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.

Detached Outbuilding

The detached outbuilding would be single storey in height and would be erected within the rear curtilage of the dwellinghouse above the raised decking approved under app no. 2023/92426. The structure would have a length of approx. 7.2m, a depth of approx. 4m, a maximum height of approx. 2.56m and

a cumulative height of approx. 4.2m with the raised decking. The outbuilding would be faced in timber panels and would incorporate a flat roof form. Although the proposed structure would have a flat roof which generally constitutes poor design, it would appear subservient to the original dwellinghouse and would be concealed to some extent by the existing boundary treatments. For these reasons, the proposed development is not considered to have any significant visual impact on the character and appearance of the host property and surrounding area and therefore would be acceptable in this regard.

Summary

Having taken the above into account, the proposed development 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 proposal would form a subservient addition to the property in keeping with the existing building, KDP 1 & 2 of the House Extensions and Alterations Supplementary Planning Document and the aims of Chapter 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

2. 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, Key Design Principle 6 on preventing overbearing impact and Key Principle 7 for outdoor space.

The submitted plans confirm that no properties to the front and rear of the site would be affected by the proposed works.

Impact on 18 Bluehills Lane

18 Bluehills Lane is a two-storey detached property located north-west of the application site. It is considered that the proposed outbuilding would have no significant detrimental impact on the neighbour's residential amenity given that the structure would be single storey in height, positioned within the lower part of the garden and approximately 10.5m away from the common boundary shared with no.18.

Impact on 22 Bluehills Lane

22 Bluehills Lane is a two storey detached property located east of the application site. The submitted plans confirm that the proposed outbuilding would occupy a position approximately 8m from the common boundary shared

with no.22. Given that the structure would be single storey in height and would be partially screened by the existing boundary treatment, it is considered that there would be no further significant harm to the neighbouring amenity with regards to overbearing and overshadowing impact.

Occupier Amenity

The plans confirm that sufficient outdoor amenity space of a functional layout would be retained at the site. on this basis, the proposed works would ensure an acceptable standard of amenity for existing and future occupants.

Summary

Having taken the above into account, the proposed development 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 proposal would form a subservient addition to the property in keeping with the existing building, KDP 1 & 2 of the House Extensions and Alterations Supplementary Planning Document and the aims of Chapter 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

3. Impact on Highway Safety

The proposed development would not intensify the domestic use at the dwelling or affect the existing parking arrangements on site. Therefore, the development is considered acceptable in accordance with Policies LP21 and LP22 of the KLP, Chapter 9 of the NPPF, Principles 15 and 16 of the Kirklees House Extensions and Alterations SPD and the Highways Design Guide SPD.

4. Other Matters

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.

Biodiversity

Whilst the site is located in an area identified as being within a 'bat alert' layer on the Kirklees Local Plan, in this instance, the nature of the works is considered unlikely to have a detrimental impact on the bat population. However, a footnote will be added to the decision notice to provide the applicant with advice should bats or bat roosts be found during construction. This would accord with the aims of Policy LP30 of the Kirklees Local Plan, the Council's Biodiversity Net Gain Technical Advice Note, and Chapter 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

There are no other matters relevant to the determination of this application.

5. Representations

No representations were received following the statutory publicity.

6. Negotiations

No amendments were sought or received during the course of the application.

7. Conclusion

This application for the erection of a detached outbuilding (summerhouse) at 20 Bluehills Lane has been assessed against relevant policies in the development plan as listed in the policy section of the report, the House Extensions and Alterations 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 development 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. 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: 2024/91806

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 to ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development on completion, and to accord with Policies LP1, LP2, LP21, LP22, LP24 and LP30 of the Kirklees Local Plan, Key Design Principles 1 & 2 of the House Extensions and Alterations SPD and the aims of the National Planning Policy Framework.

3. The external walls of the detached outbuilding hereby approved shall be faced in timber panels and retained thereafter.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and to accord with Policy LP24 of the Kirklees Local Plan, Key Design Principles 1 & 2 of the House Extensions and Alterations SPD and the aims of Chapter 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

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	Revision	Date Received
Location Plan and Block Plan	A101	A	09/07/2024
Summer House Details	A301	-	09/07/2024
Decking Details	A203	B	09/07/2024
Climate Change Statement	-	-	09/07/2024

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. In this case, the design of the original scheme has been found acceptable. No further amendments or details were sought thereafter.

Report Dated: 19/08/2024

