

A meeting of the **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** will be held in **THE CIVIC SUITE**, **PATHFINDER HOUSE**, **ST MARY'S STREET**, **HUNTINGDON PE29 3TN** on **MONDAY**, **20TH JUNE 2022** at **7:00 PM** and you are requested to attend for the transaction of the following business:-

#### **AGENDA**

#### PLEASE NOTE THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA MAY CHANGE

#### **APOLOGIES**

**1. MINUTES** (Pages 3 - 6)

To approve as correct records the Minutes of the meetings held on 25th April and 18th May 2022.

#### 2. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

To receive from Members declarations as to disclosable pecuniary, other registerable and non-registerable interests in relation to any Agenda item. See Notes below.

3. APPLICATIONS REQUIRING REFERENCE TO DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

To consider reports by the Planning Service Manager (Development Management).

- (a) Hilton Demolition of existing bungalow. Construction of three residential dwellings with parking and amenity land Ashlea, Potton Road, Hilton, PE28 9NG 20/01069/FUL (Pages 7 34)
- (b) Abbotsley Conversion of existing agricultural barn to 2no residential units Land South of Harbins Farm, Harbins Lane, Abbotsley 21/00436/FUL (Pages 35 58)

#### **4. APPEAL DECISIONS** (Pages 59 - 60)

To consider a report by the Planning Service Manager (Development Management).

#### LATE REPRESENTATIONS

10 day of June 2022

Head of Paid Service

#### **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non-Statutory Disclosable Interests**

Further information on <u>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non - Statutory Disclosable Interests is available in the Council's Constitution</u>

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Arrangements for these activities should operate in accordance with <u>guidelines</u> agreed by the Council.

Please contact Anthony Roberts, Democratic Services, Tel: 01480 388015 / email Anthony.Roberts@huntingdonshire.gov.uk if you have a general query on any Agenda Item, wish to tender your apologies for absence from the meeting, or would like information on any decision taken by the Committee/Panel.

Specific enquiries with regard to items on the Agenda should be directed towards the Contact Officer.

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting as observers except during consideration of confidential or exempt items of business.

Agenda and enclosures can be viewed on the District Council's website.

#### **Emergency Procedure**

In the event of the fire alarm being sounded and on the instruction of the Meeting Administrator, all attendees are requested to vacate the building via the closest emergency exit.

## Agenda Item 1

#### **HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the meeting of the DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held in the Civic Suite, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Monday, 25th April 2022

PRESENT: Councillor D B Dew – Chair.

Councillors E R Butler, S J Conboy, S J Corney, I D Gardener, K P Gulson, M J Humphrey, C J Maslen,

J Neish, A Roberts, R G Tuplin and S Wakeford.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on

behalf of Councillors L A Besley, S M Burton, Mrs S Smith

and D M Tysoe.

#### 66 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 21st March 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### 67 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor I D Gardener declared a non-statutory disclosable interest in Minute No 68 (a) by virtue of the fact that the application related to the Ward he represented as a Member of Cambridgeshire County Council.

#### 68 <u>DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT - OTHER APPLICATIONS</u>

a) Toilet extension to outbuilding at land east of cemetery, Newtown, Kimbolton - 21/02748/FUL

See Minute No. 67 for Members' interests.

that the application be approved subject to conditions to be determined by the Planning Service Manager (Development Management) to include those listed in paragraph 8 of the report now submitted.

b) Change of use of buildings to accommodate a biofuel production unit (B2 use) and retention of existing haulage and distribution use within surrounding yard (appeal against non-determination) - Workshop North of Wansford Station, Great North Road, Stibbington - 20/00786/FUL

(Councillor T Alban, on behalf of Sibson-cum-Stibbington Parish Council, Councillor S Bywater, Cambridgeshire County Council, and Mr A Northcote, on behalf of objectors, addressed the Committee on the application).

that it is recommended the application be approved subject to conditions to be determined by the Planning Service Manager (Development Management) to include those listed in paragraph 8 of the report now submitted together with the following additional conditions:

- Transport Management Plan
- Access improvement details
- Odour abatement details
- Noise abatement details
- Pedestrian safety
- Limit overnight accommodation
- Hours of production

#### 69 APPEAL DECISIONS

The Committee received and noted a report by the Planning Service Manager (Development Management), which contained details of six recent decisions by the Planning Inspectorate. A copy of the report is appended in the Minute Book.

**RESOLVED** 

that the contents of the report be noted.

Chair

#### **HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the meeting of the DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE held in the Civic Suite, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Wednesday, 18th May 2022

PRESENT: Councillors R J Brereton, E R Butler, L Davenport-Ray,

D B Dew, I D Gardener, K P Gulson, P A Jordan, C Lowe, S R McAdam, D L Mickelburgh, S Mokbul, J Neish, T D Sanderson, R A Slade, C H Tevlin and S Wakeford.

APOLOGIES: None.

#### 1 ELECTION OF CHAIR

**RESOLVED** 

that Councillor D L Mickelburgh be elected Chair of the Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor Mickelburgh in the Chair.

#### 2 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were received.

#### 3 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

**RESOLVED** 

that Councillor S Mokbul be appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year.

#### 4 SECTION 106 AGREEMENT ADVISORY GROUP

**RESOLVED** 

that Councillors D Dew, K Gulson, P Jordan, J Neish, T Sanderson, R Slade C Tevlin and S Wakeford be appointed to serve on the Section 106 Agreement Advisory Group for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Chair

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# DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 20th JUNE 2022

Case No: 20/01069/FUL (FULL PLANNING APPLICATION)

Proposal: DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUNGALOW.

CONSTRUCTION OF THREE RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS WITH PARKING AND AMENITY LAND

Location: ASHLEA POTTON ROAD HILTON PE28 9NG

Applicant: MR EDWARD BATES

Grid Ref: 528898 266202

Date of Registration: 17.06.2020

Parish: HILTON

#### **RECOMMENDATION - APPROVE**

This application is referred to the Development Management Committee (DMC) as the Officer recommendation of approval is contrary to Hilton Council's recommendation of refusal.

#### 1. DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND APPLICATION

- 1.1 Ashlea is a single storey dwelling, located roughly in the centre of a large corner plot at the junction of Church Lane and Potton Road, Hilton.
- 1.2 To the immediate north of the site on the other side of Church Lane is Hilton Conservation Area. The site hosts a number of trees and shrubs, although none of these are currently protected. Residential properties adjoin the site to the south and east. The site has no other significant constraints.
- 1.3 Planning permission is sought for the demolition of the existing bungalow and the construction of three two-storey dwellings with parking and amenity land. Two of the proposed dwellings would front Potton Road and the other would front Church Lane

#### 2. NATIONAL GUIDANCE

2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (20th July 2021) (NPPF 2021) sets out the three objectives - economic, social and environmental - of the planning system to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. The NPPF 2021 at paragraph 10 provides as follows: 'So that sustainable development is pursued in a positive way, at the heart of the

Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development (paragraph 11).'

- 2.2 The NPPF 2021 sets out the Government's planning policies for (amongst other things):
  - delivering a sufficient supply of homes;
  - building a strong, competitive economy;
  - achieving well-designed, beautiful and safe places;
  - conserving and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment
- 2.3 Planning Practice Guidance and the National Design Guide 2019 are also relevant and are material considerations

For full details visit the government website National Guidance

#### 3. PLANNING POLICIES

- 3.1 Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036 (Adopted 15th May 2019)
  - Policy LP2 Strategy for Development
  - Policy LP4 Contributing to Infrastructure Delivery
  - Policy LP5 Flood Risk
  - Policy LP9 Small Settlements
  - Policy LP11 Design Context
  - Policy LP12 Design Implementation
  - Policy LP14 Amenity
  - Policy LP16 Sustainable Travel
  - Policy LP17 Parking Provision and Vehicle Movement
  - Policy LP25 Housing Mix
  - Policy LP30 Biodiversity
  - Policy LP34 Heritage Assets and their Settings
- 3.2 Supplementary Planning Documents and Guidance
  - Huntingdonshire Design Guide SPD (2017) sections 2.1, 3.2, 3.7, 3.8 and 4.4
  - Huntingdonshire Townscape and Landscape Assessment SPD 2022
  - Developer Contributions SPD 2011
  - Cambridgeshire Flood and Water SPD 2017
  - Huntingdonshire Tree Guidance Note 3
  - Annual Monitoring Review regarding housing land supply

Local For full details visit the government website Local policies

#### 4. PLANNING HISTORY

4.1 19/70216/PENQ for Erection of 4 dwellinghouses, following demolition of existing dwelling house known as 'Ashlea', REPLY dated 20.12.2019

#### 5. CONSULTATIONS

- 5.1 Hilton Parish Council Hilton Parish Council Planning Committee have considered the amended plans and resolved to continue to recommend this application for refusal for similar reasons to the previous objections. That is:
  - Overdevelopment of the site and the density of the resulting housing
  - Exacerbation of the existing parking issues on Church Lane which have previously been reported to both HPC and HDC
  - Safety issues with regards to the access on/off Potton Road, particularly reversing onto Potton Road near the chicanes
- 5.2 CCC Highways Team Following the recent submission of the tracking plans for the estate car for plot 2 (drawing 001rev P1), which still appears to be extremely tight in relation to the car and the kerb line and the existing island.

That said the tracking does indicate that the manoeuvring is possible within the cars steering parameters and I could therefore not object.

However, I would point out that should issues arise in the future with the resident of the dwelling, the Highway Authority will not consider the relocation of this island at its own cost, and it will be the responsibility of the home owner to fund any relocation requested.

As previously indicated the parking arrangement is similar to the dwelling surrounding the location, with no internal parking and turning. I note that the access to plot 3 has been moved south from the previous iteration, which looks to works satisfactorily. Given the above I have no objections to that proposed please append the following conditions to any consent granted.

- 5.3 CCC Archaeology Team Although this site lies in an area of archaeological potential, situated at the junction of Potton Road and Church Lane and only 150m from the Grade I listed 14th century Church of St Mary Magdalene (National Heritage List for England reference 1128440), it is not thought likely that archaeological investigation of this spatially constrained plot would be likely to yield significant new information to contribute to our understanding of the development of settlement and land use in this area, and consequently would not be justifiable under the terms of the NPPF.
- 5.4 CCC Environmental Health Team no concerns raised.
- 5.5 National Grid apparatus identified (gas pipes) so will need to contact relevant authority.
- 5.6 The Wildlife Trust initial concerns regarding potential for bats.

Officer comment – revised PEA addresses this concern.

#### 6. REPRESENTATIONS

6.1 Comments received from occupants of The Corner House, 3,4,7,9, and 12 and 10 Chapel Close.

#### Summary:

- \* Highway safety
- \* Lack of parking/congestion particularly on Church Lane
- \* Loss of light
- \* Density/overdevelopment
- \* Impact on conservation area/out of keeping
- \* Green space should be prioritised

#### 7. ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 When determining planning applications, it is necessary to establish what weight should be given to each plan's policies in order to come to a decision. The following legislation, government policy and guidance outline how this should be done.
- 7.2 As set out within the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (Section 38(6)) and the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (Section 70(2)) in dealing with planning applications the Local Planning Authority shall have regard to have provisions of the development plan, so far as material to the application, and to any other material considerations. This is reiterated within paragraph 47 of the NPPF (2019). The development plan is defined in Section 38(3)(b) of the 2004 Act as "the development plan documents (taken as a whole) that have been adopted or approved in that area".
- 7.3 In Huntingdonshire the Development Plan consists of:
  - Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036 (2019)
  - Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan (2021)
  - St Neots Neighbourhood Plan (2016)
  - Godmanchester Neighbourhood Plan (2017)
  - Houghton and Wyton Neighbourhood Plan (2018)
  - Huntingdon Neighbourhood Plan (2019)
  - Bury Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
  - Buckden Neighbourhood Plan (2021)
- 7.4 The statutory term 'material considerations' has been broadly construed to include any consideration relevant in the circumstances which bears on the use or development of the land: Cala Homes (South) Ltd v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government & Anor [2011] EWHC 97 (Admin); [2011] 1 P. & C.R. 22, per Lindblom J. Whilst accepting that the NPPF does not change the statutory status of the Development Plan, paragraph 2 confirms that it is a material

consideration and significant weight is given to this in determining applications.

- 7.5 The main matters for consideration are:
  - The Principle of Development
  - Design, Visual Amenity and the impact upon the Character of the Area
  - Impact upon Residential Amenity
  - Highways Safety, Parking Provision and Access
  - Biodiversity
  - Flood Risk and Drainage
  - Trees
  - Other issues

#### The Principle of Development

- 7.6 Hilton is defined as a Small Settlement within Policy LP9 of Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036. Policy LP9 states that residential development within the built-up area of Small Settlements is supported, where it is sustainable in relation to the level of services within the settlement, the opportunities for users to access services by sustainable modes of transport, and in regard to its effect on the character of the immediate locality.
- 7.7 The application site is within the built-up area of Hilton such that the principle of development is considered to be acceptable subject to all other material planning considerations.
- 7.8 The development is considered to accord with Policy LP 9 of Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036 as it is located within the built-up area of the settlement.

## Design, Visual Amenity and the impact upon the Character of the Area

- 7.9 Paragraph 127 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states planning decisions should ensure that developments will, amongst others, function well and add to the overall quality of the area, is visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout, appropriate landscaping and is sympathetic to local character including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting.
- 7.10 Paragraph 130 of the NPPF states that the character and quality of an area and the way it functions and should take account of any local design standards or style guides in plans or supplementary planning documents.
- 7.11 The Hilton Conservation Area is located to the north of Church Lane and the gardens of the bungalow 'Ashlea' do not form part of the Conservation Area or any 'green area' of the village. For clarity: The bungalow would be entitled to make use of the

Permitted Development Rights (Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 2015) associated with a residential dwelling, including the erection of outbuildings or hard standing incidental to the existing dwelling, as well as extensions to the dwelling and as such the garden is not 'protected green space'

- 7.12 Local Policy LP11 sets out the mechanisms for achieving high standards of design for all development, particularly those that will significantly add to, or create new communities and will be supported where it is demonstrated that it responds positively to its context and has drawn inspiration from the key characteristics of its surroundings, including natural, historic and built environment.
- 7.13 Local Policy LP12 states new development will be expected to be well designed based upon a thorough understanding of the constraints and appraisal of the site's context, delivering attractive, usable and long-lasting buildings and spaces. A proposal will be supported where it can demonstrate that it contributes positively to the areas character and identity, successfully integrates with adjoining buildings, the routes and spaces between buildings, topography and landscape.
- 7.14 The 1990 Act gives local planning authorities a general duty to preserve Listed Buildings and to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of Conservation Areas (s.66 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990). The National Planning Policy Framework 2019 states that local planning authorities need to take account of the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets (Para 192).
- 7.15 As set out above, the existing property is sited approximately within the centre of a large corner plot. at the junction of Church Lane and Potton Road.
- 7.16 The loss of the existing bungalow is considered to be acceptable as it does not make a significant contribution within the street scene or within the setting of the adjacent Conservation Area.
- 7.17 The proposed dwellings fronting onto Potton Road pick up some of the features of the nearby dwellings including projecting front gable, and a mix of render finish and brickwork such that the development is in keeping with the wider area.
- 7.18 The site is not considered to be overdeveloped as the proposed residential curtilages are reasonable and, when compared to the developments to the immediate east and south of the site, are more generous.

- 7.19 It is however recommended that Permitted Development Rights are removed to ensure neighbour amenity is protected and to ensure the amenity space and parking arrangements are retained, as well as to protect the character of the area and ensure the outdoor amenity space remains as such.
- 7.20 Householder Permitted Development Rights allow the improvement or extension of homes without the need to make a planning application or the erection of outbuildings as well as other minor works incidental to the enjoyment of a dwelling house
- 7.21 For clarity, the removal of Permitted Development Rights (as defined in Schedule 2, parts 1 and 2 of the General Permitted Development Order (2015) as amended) allows the Local Planning Authority to maintain control of the site to ensure that the visual and residential amenity of the future occupants and the neighbours is protected from potential issues such as overlooking or loss of light that might result were the Permitted Development Rights not removed.
- 7.22 Overall, the proposal is considered to respond positively to its context within the surrounding built form and contributes positively to the areas character and identity. The proposal is therefore considered to accord with Policies LP11 and LP12 of Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036 and the NPPF (2019) in this regard.

#### Impact on Residential Amenity

- 7.23 Policy LP14 of the Local Plan to 2036 states a proposal will be supported where a high standard of amenity is provided for all users and occupiers of the proposed development and maintained for users and occupiers of neighbouring land and buildings. A site visit was carried out by the case officer during the consultation period of the application.
- 7.24 Amendments were sought to address concerns of overlooking of the amenity space to plot one (fronts onto Church Road) from a rear first floor window of plot three (fronts onto Potton Road). This has been overcome by reducing the number of bedrooms to plot three, in effect replacing a bedroom with a bathroom on the first floor.
- 7.25 Overall, it is considered that a high standard of amenity would be provided for all users of the development and maintained for neighbours. The development is considered acceptable in terms of overshadowing, overlooking, overbearing impact, loss of privacy, loss of light and would not have a significant detrimental impact upon residential amenity. The proposal is therefore considered to be in accordance with Policy LP14 of the Local Plan to 2036 and paragraph 127(f) of the NPPF (2019).

#### **Highways Safety, Parking Provision and Access**

- 7.26 Policy LP17 of the Local Plan to 2036 seeks to ensure that new development incorporates appropriate space for vehicle movements, facilitates access for emergency vehicles and service vehicles and incorporates adequate parking for vehicles and cycles.
- 7.27 Concerns have been raised by residents of Church Lane in particular regarding lack of parking and highway safety concern. The Parish Council has also commented that the development will exacerbate the existing parking issues and have concerns regarding highway safety issues, particularly with access onto and from Potton Road.
- 7.28 It is acknowledged that Church Lane is a busy area for parking as some of the properties on the northern side do not benefit from off road parking. Church Lane does not have restricted parking although it is noted some of the residents of Church Lane do not have any off-street parking, but this layout is of a historical nature.
- 7.29 The existing bungalow has off road parking for up to three vehicles and plot one, which utilises the existing access from Church Lane, will maintain the existing parking provision.
- 7.30 Unauthorised parking on pavements by other residents or poor parking by other users of the highway is controlled under different legislation and is a matter for the Police to enforce on as opposed to the planning department.
- 7.31 It is noted the tracking plans for the estate car for plot 2 (drawing 001rev P1), still appears to be extremely tight in relation to the car and the kerb line and the existing island. However, the Local Highways Authority (Cambridgeshire County Council) has considered the submitted tracking plan (001 rev P1) and confirmed the tracking does indicate that the manoeuvring is possible within the cars steering parameters and therefore do not object.
- 7.32 They have further clarified that should issues arise in the future with the residents of the dwellings, the Highway Authority will not consider the relocation of this island at its own cost, and it will be the responsibility of the home owner to fund any possible relocation sought by the applicant. The agent has been made aware of this and the LHA's comments were sent to the agent 05.05.2021. The comments are also available on Public Access.
- 7.33 The parking arrangement is similar to the dwelling surrounding the location, with no internal parking and turning such that it is accepted that vehicles may be required to exit in a reverse gear onto the public highway.

- 7.34 The Local Highways Authority have reviewed the proposals and have no objection on Highway Safety grounds overall, subject to conditions.
- 7.35 All the dwellings are three-bedroomed. Officers have secured a reduction in the number of bedrooms during the lifetime of the application to assist with reducing the likely number of cars associated with the development.
- 7.36 Plots two and three have two off-road parking spaces whilst plot one has three off-road parking spaces. It is not ideal that these are a tandem parking arrangement, however it is not considered that the development would have a significantly harmful impact in terms of on street parking and the free flow of traffic in the area. Given the number of bedrooms proposed for each dwelling, the development is considered to have made sufficient off-road parking provision for each of these. These parking spaces should be secured, in perpetuity, by condition.
- 7.37 Policy LP17 of the Local Plan to 2036 and the Huntingdonshire Design Guide (2017) seek the provision of secure and covered cycle parking on the basis of one space per bedroom. Each of the plots includes cycle stores to the rear of the properties in accordance with Policy LP17, details of which can be secured by condition. These should be secured in perpetuity by condition.
- 7.38 Subject to conditions the proposed development is considered to accord with Policy LP17 of the Local Plan to 2036.

#### Trees

- 7.39 Hard and soft landscaping it is recognised that the development will result in the loss of existing trees on-site but these are not protected and could be removed at any time.
- 7.40 Proposed replacement landscaping includes native species hedging to the northern and western boundaries of the whole site as well as new trees will help to overcome this. This additional soft landscaping can be secured as part of a standard hard/soft landscape condition.
- 7.41 Subject to conditions the proposed development is considered to accord with Policy LP31 of the Local Plan to 2036

#### **Biodiversity**

7.42 Policy LP30 of the Local Plan to 2036 requires proposals to demonstrate that all potential adverse impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity have been investigated. Policy LP30 of the Local Plan to 2036 also requires development proposals to ensure no net loss in biodiversity and provide a net gain in biodiversity where possible.

- 7.43 A submitted PEA dated November 2021 by Greenwillows Associates Ltd and an accompanying letter from the ecologist, concludes that the site is of low ecological value with close mown lawns and well-kept ornamental and vegetable beds. The orchard has some potential for nesting birds and although it was recommended this be kept, the layout of the development prohibits this.
- 7.44 A follow-up Phase 2 Dusk Bat Emergency survey requested as a result of the concerns of the Wildlife Trust relating to the demolition of the bungalow and the potential for an impact on bats which are known to forage on site. No bats were identified as emerging or roosting but a precautionary method should be taken in relation to bats during any demolition and if bats are identified all works should cease and the advice of a qualified ecologist be taken before continuing. The revised PEA addresses the concerns raised by the Wildlife Trust regarding bats.
- 7.45 The recommendations of the PEA and the associated letter should be carried out in full, to secure a biodiversity gain and to protect any wildlife, on site. The plans also include bat and bird boxes as well as gaps in fencing to allow for the movement of hedgehogs.
- 7.46 Subject to conditions, including a Biodiversity Method Statement to secure an implementation scheme for the mitigation measures, the proposed development is considered to accord with Policy LP30 of the Local Plan to 2036.

#### Flood Risk

- 7.47 National guidance and Policy LP5 of the Local Plan to 2036 seek to steer new developments to areas at lowest risk of flooding. and advises this should be done through application of the Sequential Test, and if appropriate the Exceptions Test.
- 7.48 The proposed dwelling is situated in Flood Zone 1 based on the Environment Agency Floods Maps and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2017) and is therefore at low risk of flooding. In this regard, the proposed development is therefore considered to accord with Policy LP5 of the Local Plan to 2036.
- 7.49 The applicant proposes to discharge surface water via soakaways and foul drainage to be dealt with via mains sewer. This would accord with the general drainage hierarchy principles as set out through Part H of the Building Regulations. In order to ensure that drainage is appropriately managed for each dwelling however, it is prudent to secure the final drainage details via planning condition in line with Local Plan policy LP15 and the aims of the Flood and Water SPD.

#### **Accessible and Adaptable Homes**

- 7.50 Policy LP25 of the Local Plan to 2036 requires proposals that include housing to meet the optional Building Regulation requirement M4(2)" Accessible and adaptable dwellings" unless it can be demonstrated that site specific factors make this unachievable.
- 7.51 The agent has confirmed on 25.05.2022 that the proposed development is designed in accordance with and will be built in accordance with the M4(2) standards.
- 7.52 A condition will be imposed upon any consent to ensure that the development is built in accordance with these standards and that they are maintained for the life of the development.

#### **Water Efficiency**

- 7.53 Policy LP12 of the Local Plan to 2036 requires proposals that include housing to comply with the optional building regulation for water efficiency, as set out in Approved Document G.
- 7.54 The agent has confirmed on 25.05.2022 that the proposed development is designed in accordance with and will be built in accordance with the LP12 (j) standards.
- 7.55 A condition will be imposed upon any consent to ensure that the development is built in accordance with these standards and that they are maintained for the life of the development.

#### Other Issues

7.56 Breaking the speed limit, poor parking on pavements or parking too close to a junction are not material planning considerations.

These are controlled under separate legislation.

#### **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):**

7.57 The development will be CIL liable in accordance with the Council's adopted charging schedule; CIL payments will cover footpaths and access, health, community facilities, libraries and lifelong learning and education.

#### Bin UU:

- 7.58 A Unilateral Undertaking for bins has been received dated 15.06.2020 such that the development complies with Policy LP4 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036.
- 7.59 There are no other material planning considerations which have a significant bearing on the determination of this application.

#### **Conclusion:**

- 7.60 With regards to the other matters the proposed development is considered to be compliant with relevant national and local planning policy as:
  - The proposed development would have no significant adverse impact on the overall character of the conservation area due to its scale, bulk and massing and design and would not result in over development of the site.
  - The proposal would satisfactorily safeguard the amenities of the existing neighbouring dwellings as well as the future occupants of the proposed dwellings.
  - There are no overriding highway safety issues and the proposal is acceptable with regards to parking provision.
  - The proposal is acceptable with regards to biodiversity.
  - The proposal is acceptable in terms of flood risk.
  - The proposal is acceptable with regards to trees.
- 7.61 There are no other material planning considerations which have a significant bearing on the determination of this application.
- 7.62 Having regard to applicable national and local planning policies, and having taken all relevant material considerations into account, it is therefore recommended that planning permission should be granted.

## 8. RECOMMENDATION - APPROVAL subject to conditions to include the following

- Time Limit
- Approved Plans
- Details of external materials
- Details of Hard and Soft Landscaping
- Details of Biodiversity Method Statement
- Details of foul and surface water drainage
- Vehicular Access
- Parking and turning
- Removal of PD Rights
- Levels
- Compliance with LP12j (water efficiency standards) and LP25 (accessible and adaptable homes)
- Details bins/cycle storage

If you would like a translation of this document, a large text version or an audio version, please contact us on 01480 388388 and we will try to accommodate your needs

#### **CONTACT OFFICER:**

Enquiries about this report to **Kathy Render Senior Development**Management Officer – Kathy.render@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

#### **Kathy Render**

From: clerk@hiltonparishcouncil.com

**Sent:** 28 April 2021 13:46

**To:** DMAdmin; Control, Development (Planning); DevelopmentControl **Subject:** RE: Planning Permission Consultation - Ashlea Potton Road Hilton (ref

20/01069/FUL)

Hi Kathy,

Hilton Parish Council Planning Committee have considered the amended plans and resolved to continue to recommend this application for refusal for similar reasons to the previous objections. That is:

- Overdevelopment of the site and the density of the resulting housing
- Exacerbation of the existing parking issues on Church Lane which have previously been reported to both HPC and HDC
- Safety issues with regards to the access on/off Potton Road, particularly reversing onto Potton Road near the chicanes.

Kind regards Nicola



#### **Nicola Webster**

Clerk to Hilton Parish Council

Phone: 01480 830605

Email: clerk@hiltonparishcouncil.com

10 Church End, Hilton

www.hiltonparishcouncil.com

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From: Dmadmin@huntingdonshire.gov.uk < Dmadmin@huntingdonshire.gov.uk >

**Sent:** 16 April 2021 11:11

To: Clerk@hiltonparishcouncil.com

Subject: RE: Planning Permission Consultation - Ashlea Potton Road Hilton (ref 20/01069/FUL)

Dear Parish Clerk,

Please find correspondence from Development Management at Huntingdonshire District Council attached to this email in relation to the following application for planning permission.

Proposal: Demolition of existing bungalow. Construction of three residential dwellings with parking and amenity land

Site Address: Ashlea Potton Road Hilton

Reference: 20/01069/FUL

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If you have any doubts or concerns relating to this email please contact us directly, our contact details are provided below.

Development Management Huntingdonshire District Council

T: 01480 388388

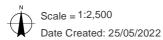
E: dmadmin@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

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### **Development Management Committee**

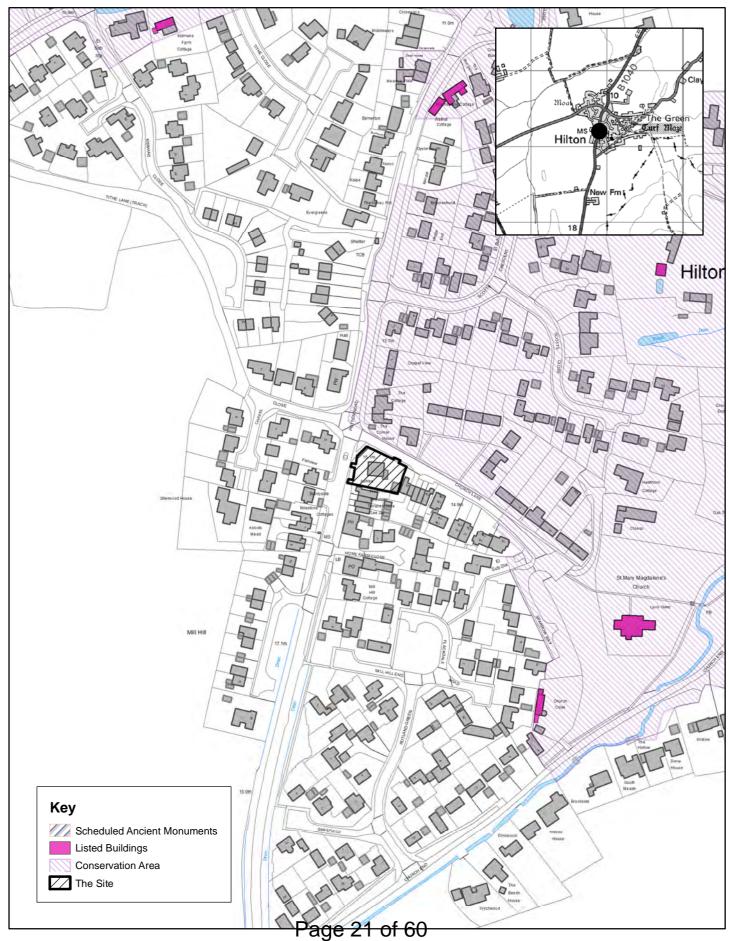


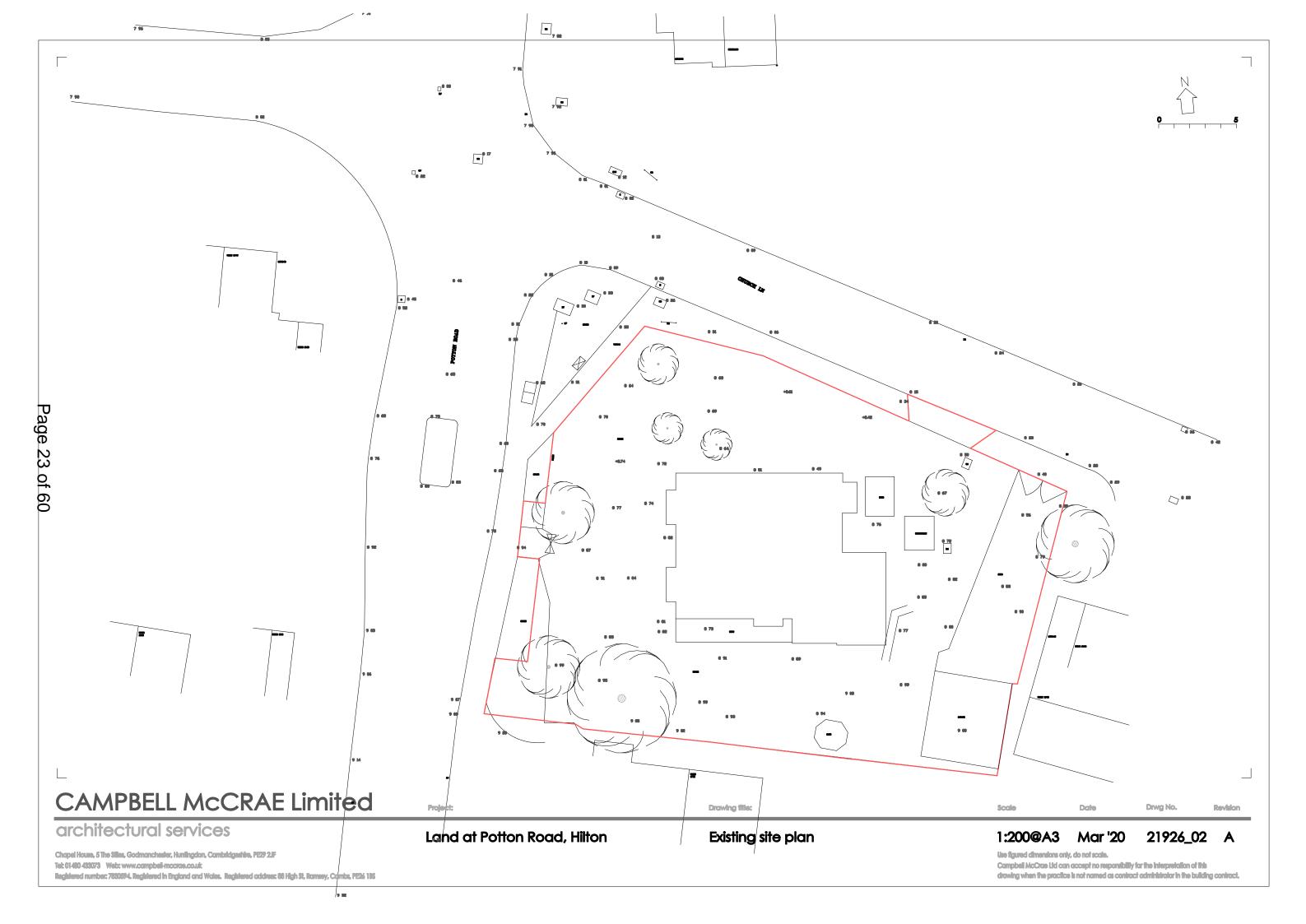
Application Ref:20/01069/FUL

Location: Hilton



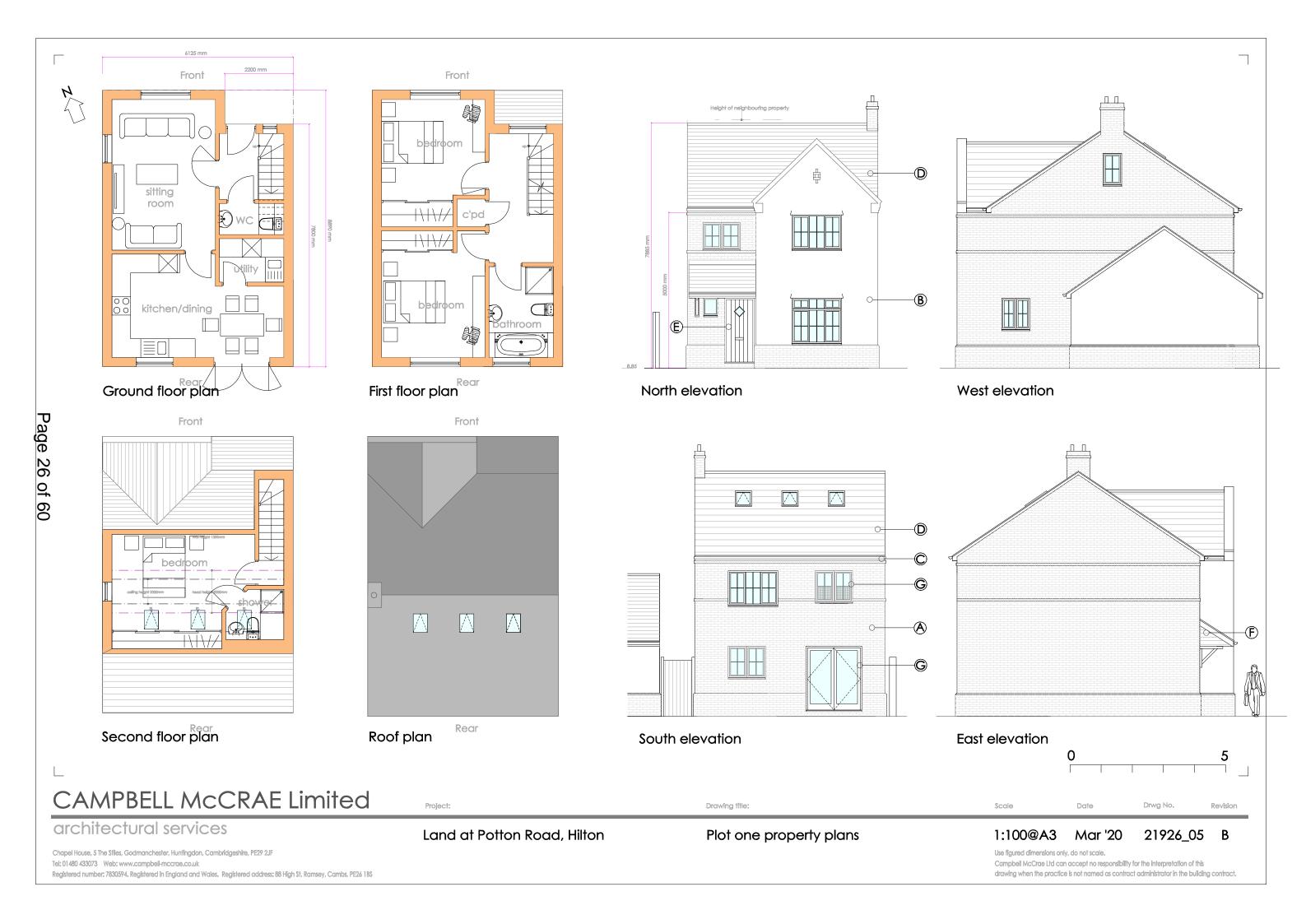
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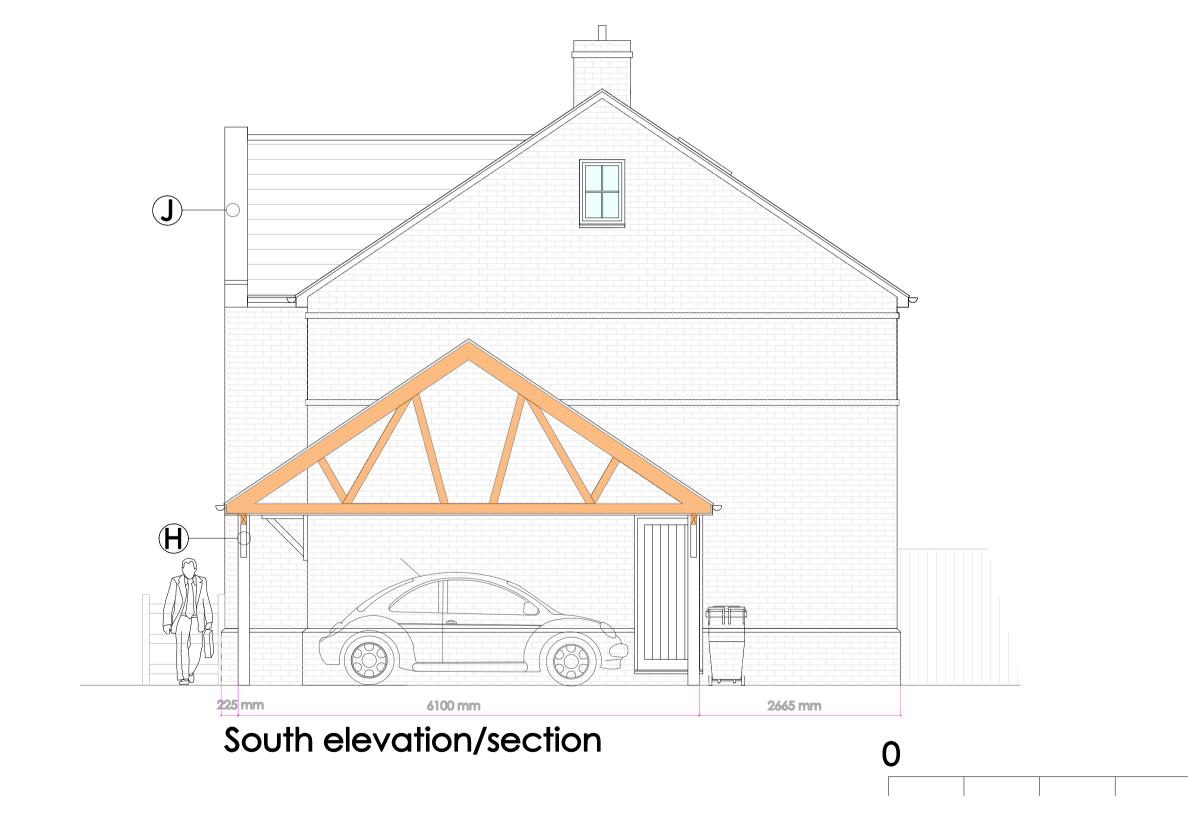






East elevation





Scale

CAMPBELL McCRAE Limited

Land at Potton Road, Hilton

Drawing title:

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Date

Drwg No.

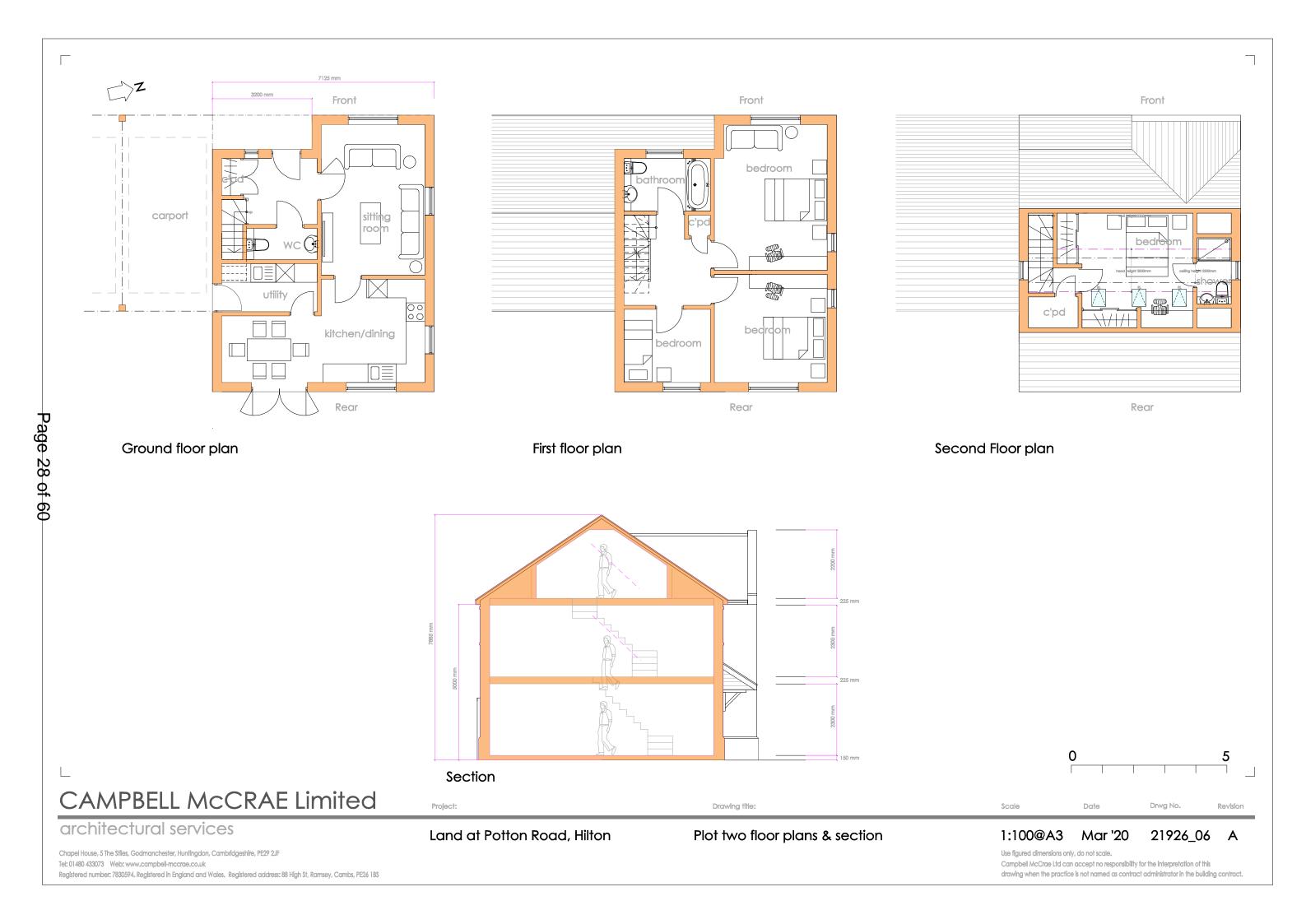
**Revision** 

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architectural services

Plot two elevations

Use figured dimensions only, do not scale. Campbell McCrae Ltd can accept no responsibility for the interpretation of this drawing when the practice is not named as contract administrator in the building contract.





architectural services

Land at Potton Road, Hilton

Plot three elevations

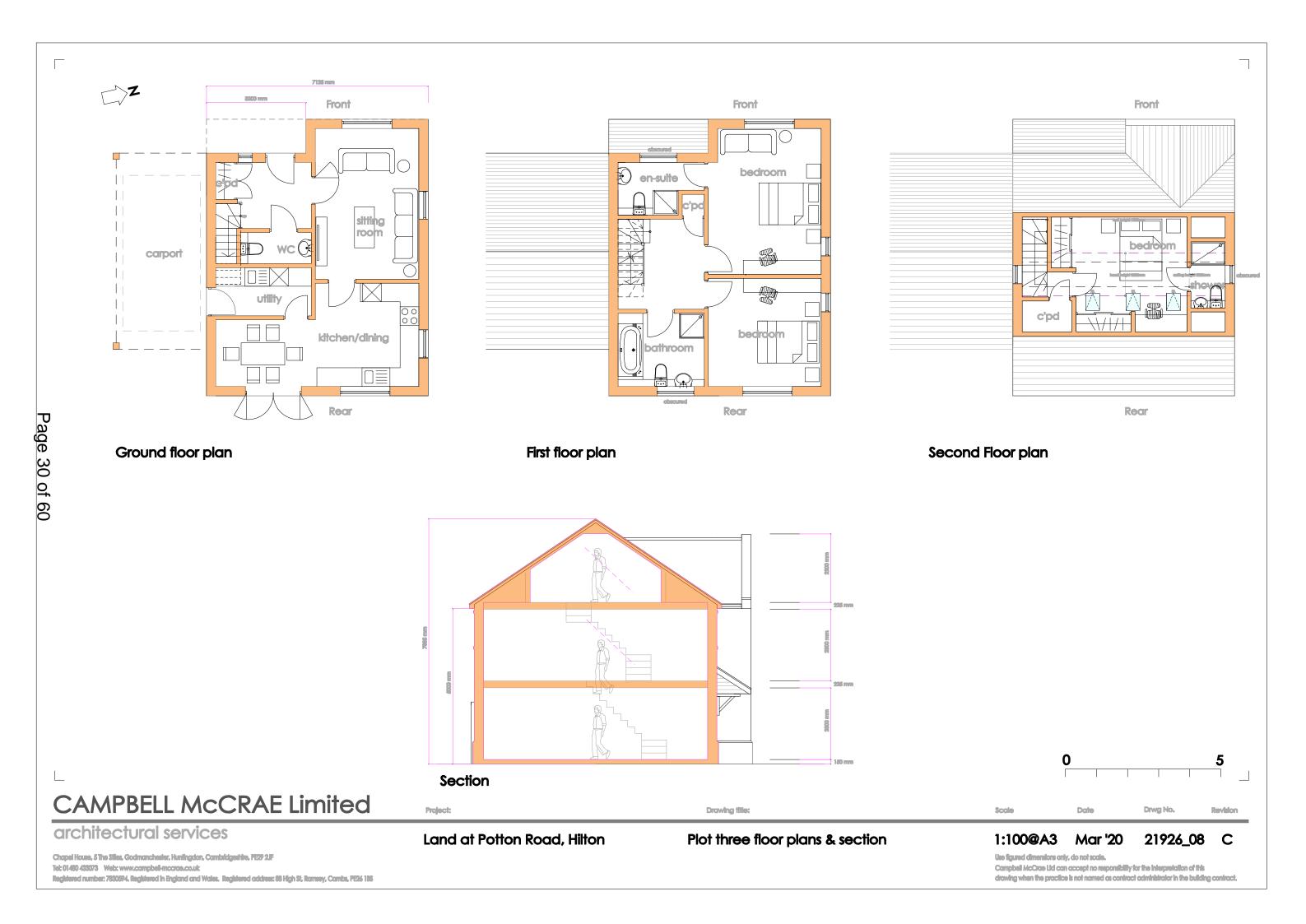
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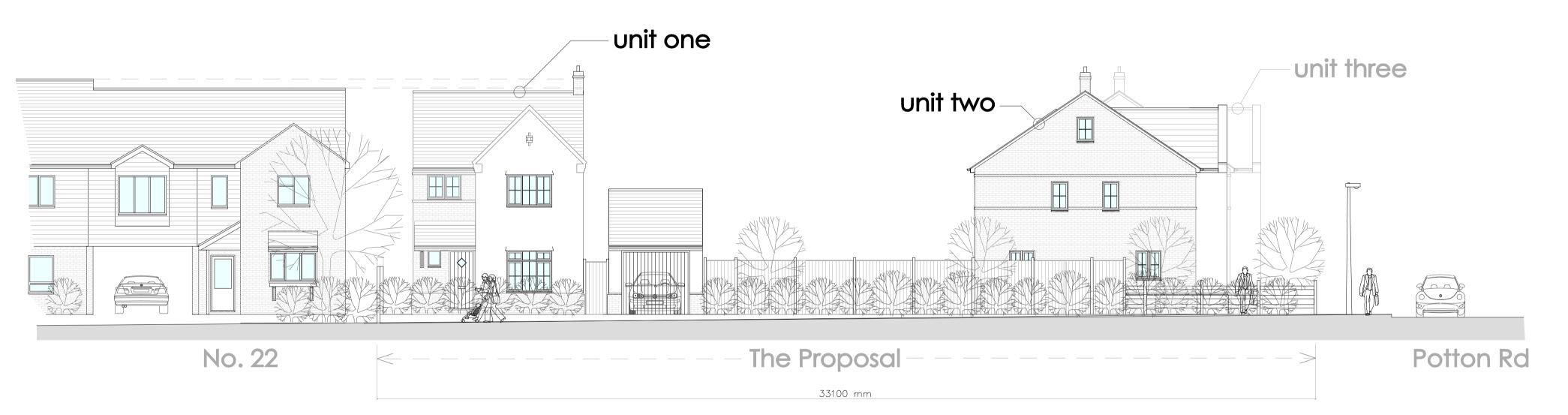
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Church Lane street elevation

Dro

Street elevations

1:100@A1

Scale

21926\_04 C

**Revision** 

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Land at Potton Road, Hilton

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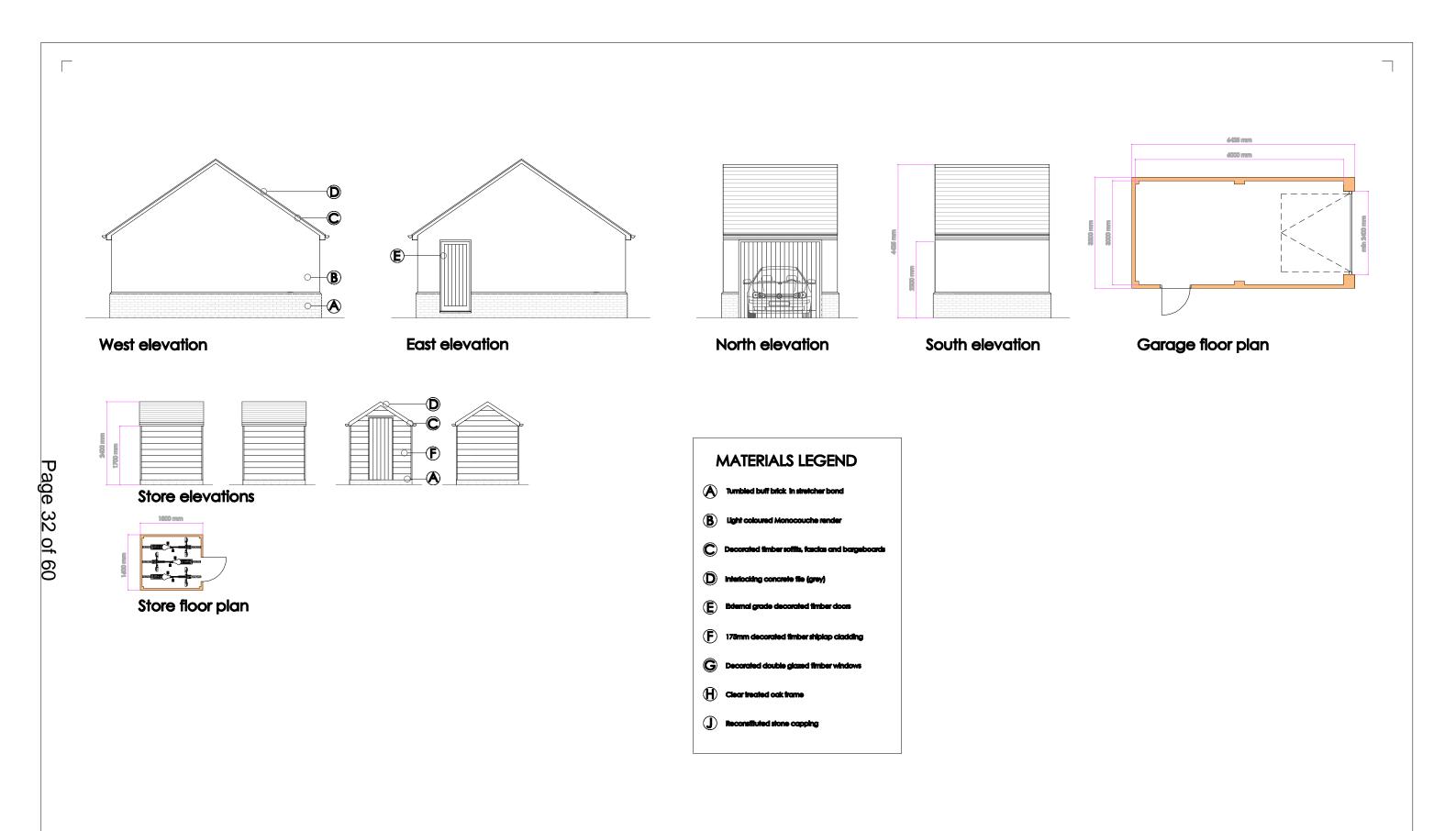
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Project:

Drawing title:





Drawing title:

Ancillary building plans and materials

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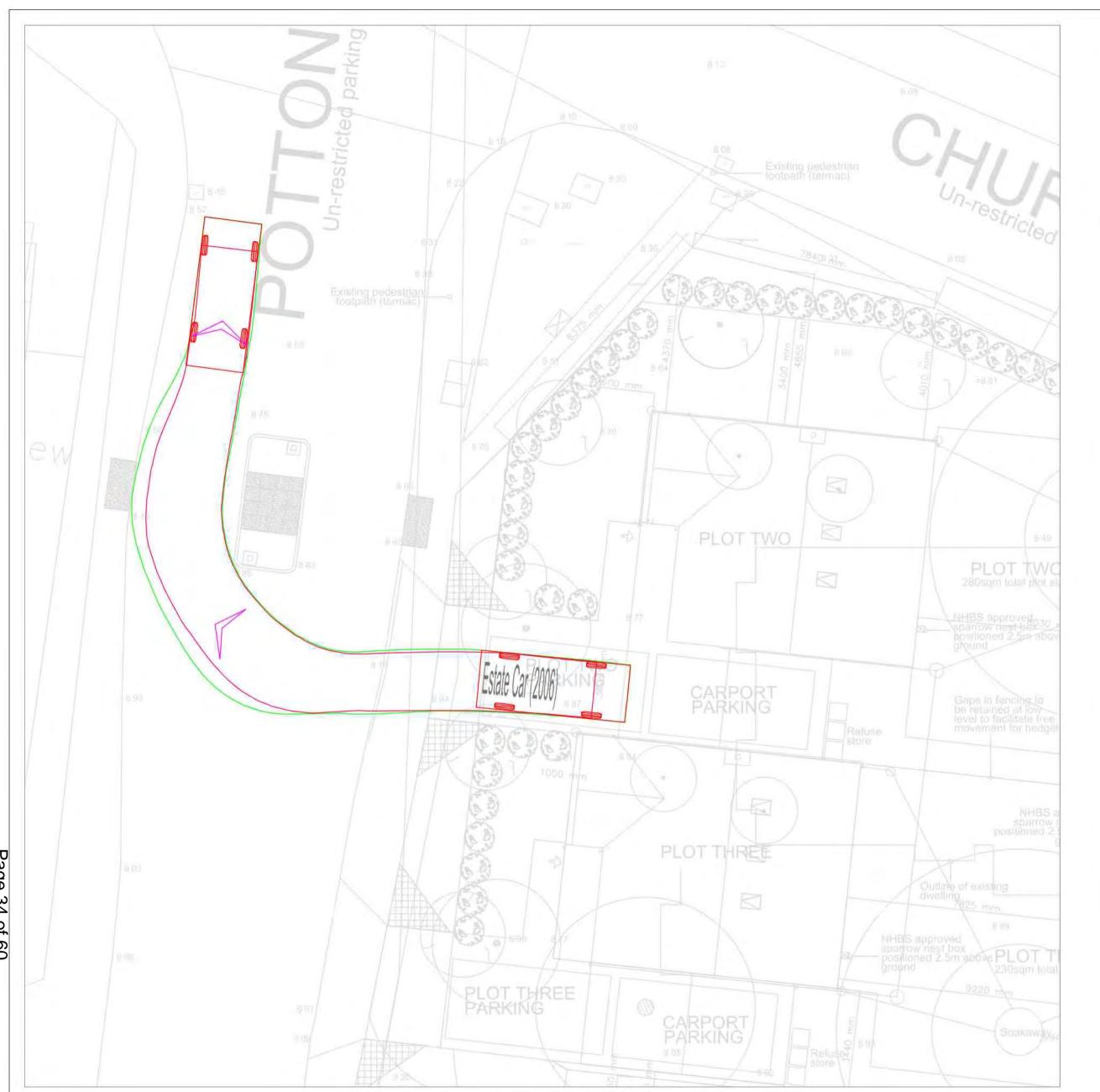
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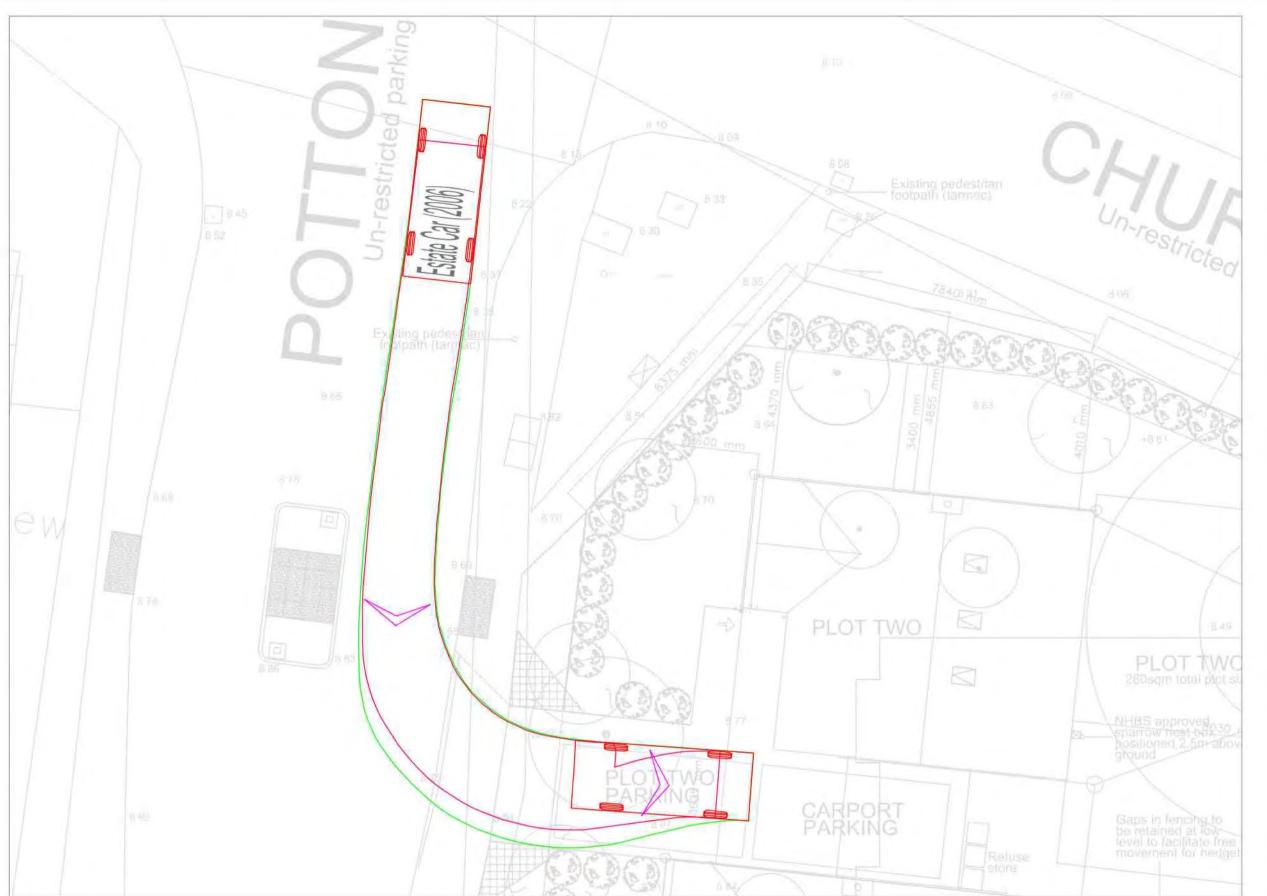
Land at Potton Road, Hilton

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Swept Path - In - Forwards Direction Nearside



Swept Path - In - Forwards Direction Far side



Legend

Estate Car (2006)

Lock to lock time

Overall Body Height 1.442m Min Body Ground Clearance 0.207m Max Track Width 1.756m

Kerb to Kerb Turning Radius 5.950m

Overall Width

Path of Wheels

4.710m 1.804m

By / Chk

Path of Body

Swept Path - Out - Reverse Direction Nearside

PLOT TWO

Swept Path - Out - Forwards Direction Far side

Drg No: 001 Rev: P1

scale

Scales @ A1:

FOR INFORMATION

Drawn: Checked:

Project No:

# DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 20th JUNE 2022

Case No: 21/00436/FUL (FULL PLANNING APPLICATION)

Proposal: CONVERSION OF EXISTING AGRICULTURAL BARN

**TO 2NO RESIDENTIAL UNITS** 

Location: LAND SOUTH OF HARBINS FARM HARBINS LANE

**ABBOTSLEY** 

Applicant: MR AND MRS WISSON

Grid Ref: 523018 256698

Date of Registration: 27.04.2021

Parish: ABBOTSLEY

#### **RECOMMENDATION - APPROVE**

This application is referred to the Development Management Committee (DMC) as the Officer recommendation of approval is contrary to Abbotsley Parish Council's recommendation of refusal.

#### 1. DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND APPLICATION

- 1.1 The site is located on the northern edge of the village of Abbotsley and was formerly used for the rearing of poultry. Harbins Farm is located to the north of the site across a track.
- 1.2 Agricultural land lies to the east and south. A paddock lies to the west of the site
- 1.3 The former agricultural building is located to the western boundary of the site. Access will be from Harbins Lane to the east.
- 1.4 Residential properties lie further south. The site is considered to be in the countryside as it relates more to the countryside than to the built form of the village to the south.
- 1.5 Full planning permission is sought to convert the existing barn at the rear of the site to 2no residential units.
- 1.6 Both properties would be served by a single access point (in the position of the existing vehicular access) off Harbins Lane leading to the parking bays and a shared manoeuvring area. Each dwelling would have 2 allocated bays.

1.7 The scheme has been amended since initial submission and a proposed cartlodge has been removed from the scheme.

#### 2. NATIONAL GUIDANCE

- 2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (20th July 2021) (NPPF 2021) sets out the three objectives economic, social and environmental of the planning system to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. The NPPF 2021 at paragraph 10 provides as follows: 'So that sustainable development is pursued in a positive way, at the heart of the Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development (paragraph 11).'
- 2.2 The NPPF 2021 sets out the Government's planning policies for (amongst other things):
  - delivering a sufficient supply of homes;
  - building a strong, competitive economy;
  - achieving well-designed, beautiful and safe places;
  - conserving and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment
- 2.3 Planning Practice Guidance and the National Design Guide 2019 are also relevant and are material considerations

For full details visit the government website National Guidance

#### 3. PLANNING POLICIES

- 3.1 Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036 (Adopted 15th May 2019)
  - LP1: Amount of Development
  - LP2: Strategy for Development
  - LP5: Flood Risk
  - LP6: Waste Water Management
  - LP10: The Countryside
  - LP11: Design Context
  - LP12: Design Implementation
  - LP 13: Placemaking
  - LP14: Amenity
  - LP15: Surface Water
  - LP16: Sustainable Travel
  - LP17: Parking Provision and Vehicle Movement
  - LP25: Housing Mix
  - LP30: Biodiversity and Geodiversity
  - LP31: Trees, Woodland, Hedges and Hedgerows
  - LP32: Protection of Open Space
  - LP33: Rural Buildings
  - LP34: Heritage Assets and their Settings
- 3.2 Neighbourhood Plans

• There is no 'made' Neighbourhood Plan which covers the area of Abbotsley.

Local For full details visit the government website Local policies

#### 4. PLANNING HISTORY

- 4.1 19/00303/PMBPA for Change of use of an agricultural outbuilding to 2 residential dwellings (Class Q part A and B), PRIOR APPROVAL CHANGE OF USE REFUSED dated 29.04.2019
- 4.2 19/01696/PMBPA for Change of use of an agricultural building to two residential dwellings (Class Q Part A and B), PRIOR APPROVAL CHANGE OF USE REFUSED dated 18.12.2019 Allowed on appeal (Appeal reference 20/00023/REFUSL re:APP/H0520/W/20/3253722)
- 4.3 20/01484/FUL for Conversion of existing agricultural barn to two dwellings and erection of two detached dwellings, WITHDRAWN dated 17.11.2020
- 4.4 21/02424/CLPD for Proposed change of use from agricultural building to residential., REFUSED dated 21.04.2022

#### 5. CONSULTATIONS

- 5.1 Abbotsley Parish Council recommends refusal: Summary:
  - Outside the village envelope (located in the countryside)
  - No evidence building is capable of conversion as the Council believes it is in poor condition (Officer Note -previous applications contained a structural report and this has been taken into consideration)
  - Not an attractive design/not visually appealing
  - Unsuitable layout for residential use due to proximity to rear boundary
  - Lack of light to windows at the rear
  - Boundary treatment concerns
  - Lack of access to rear of plot 1
  - Increase in traffic
  - Speed limits
  - Drainage
- 5.2 CCC Highways Team Further to our comments of 03/06/2021, the applicant has provided a plan showing the red line meeting the junction of High Street, not the adopted boundary of Harbins Lane. However, this is acceptable.

The applicant has also provided speed data and a plan showing the access width and visibility splays. The access is of an acceptable width and the visibility splays, although not dimensioned, are appropriate for the speeds recorded in the survey.

Therefore, the proposal is unlikely to have any adverse effect on the public highway should Planning Permission be approved. Conditions have been proposed.

5.3 Environmental Health Team- This application is for the conversion of agricultural buildings to residential use. If minded to approve, I would recommend a condition that ensures that there is no residual contamination from the previous use (such as agrochemicals, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, fuels, lubricants, buried animal carcasses, areas of waste incineration, asbestos containing materials, etc) that may impact on the future occupiers of the development.

Recommends conditions regarding site investigation information; submission of remediation scheme; implementation of approved remediation scheme; and reporting of unexpected contamination

Condition shall include a site investigation by a competent person and, where contamination is found a remediation scheme shall be submitted along with details of the implementation of that scheme. In addition, any unexpected contamination shall be dealt with in accordance with the details of the condition.

- 5.4 The Wildlife Trust No comments to make (Officer Comment no evidence of Protected Species found in the building)
- 5.5 Ward Councillor West supports the Parishes reasons for refusal.

I refer to the earlier application 21/01484/FUL do accept will improve the appearance of the site.

I am aware of policy nevertheless do support the parish council concerns about design and location. Not meeting design standard.

The site is outside of the established village limits and outside the conservation area forms part of open country side.

There is question the building in poor condition can it be converted?

I do have concerns over the design and layout.

#### 6. REPRESENTATIONS

- 6.1 Comments received from occupants of Harbin's Farm Summary of concerns:
  - The lane is very narrow to accommodate contractor's vehicles which may cause damage to the roadway and grass verges.
  - Owner of Harbins Farm states they have maintained the Lane and raises concerns regarding maintenance.
  - Concerns raised regarding users of the highway turning in the private driveway of Harbin's Farm.

- Concerns highlighting the location of public sewers adjacent to the site.
- Confirmation that the existing 'barn' has been used to house poultry.
- Concerns that the building is outside the 'village building line'.

Officer note: where relevant these comments have been addressed as part of the report but some matters raised including maintenance of Harbins Lane and the use of private driveway by the public are addressed in 'Other Matters'.

#### 7. ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 When determining planning applications, it is necessary to establish what weight should be given to each plan's policies in order to come to a decision. The following legislation, government policy and guidance outline how this should be done.
- 7.2 As set out within the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (Section 38(6)) and the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (Section 70(2)) in dealing with planning applications the Local Planning Authority shall have regard to have provisions of the development plan, so far as material to the application, and to any other material considerations. This is reiterated within paragraph 47 of the NPPF (2021). The development plan is defined in Section 38(3)(b) of the 2004 Act as "the development plan documents (taken as a whole) that have been adopted or approved in that area".
- 7.3 In Huntingdonshire the Development Plan (relevant to this application) consists of:
  - Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036 (2019)
  - Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan (2021)
- 7.4 The statutory term 'material considerations' has been broadly construed to include any consideration relevant in the circumstances which bears on the use or development of the land: Cala Homes (South) Ltd v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government & Anor [2011] EWHC 97 (Admin); [2011] 1 P. & C.R. 22, per Lindblom J. Whilst accepting that the NPPF does not change the statutory status of the Development Plan, paragraph 2 confirms that it is a material consideration and significant weight is given to this in determining applications.
- 7.5 The main matters for consideration are:
  - The Principle of Development
  - Design, Visual Amenity and the impact upon the Character of the Area

- Impact on Heritage Assets
- Impact upon Residential Amenity
- Highway Safety, Parking Provision and Access
- Biodiversity
- Trees
- Flood Risk and Drainage
- Other Matters

#### The Principle of Development

- 7.6 Policy LP10 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 Policy LP 10 states: All development in the countryside must:
  - a. seek to use land of lower agricultural value in preference to land of higher agricultural value:
  - i. avoiding the irreversible loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land (Grade 1 to 3a) where possible, and
  - ii. avoiding Grade 1 agricultural land unless there are exceptional circumstances where the benefits of the proposal significantly outweigh the loss of land:
  - b. recognise the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside; and
  - c. not give rise to noise, odour, obtrusive light or other impacts that would adversely affect the use and enjoyment of the countryside by others.

#### For clarity:

- 7.7 The distinction between what is considered as within the 'built up area' or outside the built up area is no longer assessed against a 'village boundary'. Each site is assessed individually in relation to the Policies in the Local Plan to 2036. The 'built up area' is defined within the Local Plan to 2036 as: a distinct group of buildings that includes 30 or more homes. Land which relates more to the group of buildings rather than to the surrounding countryside is also considered to form part of the 'built-up area'.
- 7.8 The site does not meet the criteria for a 'built up area' as defined in the Local Plan to 2036 and instead relates more to the countryside. The site is therefore considered to be in the countryside and has therefore been assessed against the relevant policies of the Local Plan to 2036.
- 7.9 The land is classified as Grade 2 agricultural land and this, and the building, has been disused for a considerable time. The land is not linked physically to a larger agricultural holding and the loss of this piece of agricultural land would not be significantly harmful. The majority of the land to the front is to become residential garden that fronts onto the lane and it could be secured by condition that no PD Rights would be given to the site.
- 7.10 The building is no longer used for agricultural purposes and is not in the best condition internally but it would appear that its

most recent use would be for agriculture given the information submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of appeal 20/00023/REFUSL (referred to under 'Planning History' above). The Prior Approval (19/01696/PMBPA) this related to was refused as there was insufficient evidence that the building has been used solely in connection with an agricultural business, as defined by Schedule 2, Part 3, section X of the General Permitted Development Order (2015) amended. However, the applicant submitted evidence to the Planning Inspectorate that the site formed part of a farm holding, such that on balance the site appears to have been last used for agriculture.

- 7.11 The building's supporting structure is however not considered to be in such a state of disrepair that it would require significant reconstruction. In addition, as the building is single storey it will not require the introduction of large structural elements, such as supporting structural elements for a first floor which would require the submission of supporting evidence to demonstrate the existing structure could support the works. The walls are built of breeze block and appear sound and the development proposes to retain the existing footprint and form.
- 7.12 Although the land is Grade 2 some of the agricultural land has been laid to concrete in the past and the removal of this concrete and its subsequent landscaping will serve to improve the appearance of the site in this instance.
- 7.13 Historically on application 19/00303/PMBPA, HDC Building Control were consulted and raised no concerns to the Structural Condition Survey of the building, by Peter Dann Consulting Engineers, submitted as part of that application and the officer has no reason to consider that the building does not remain in a suitable condition for conversion.
- 7.14 Taking the above into consideration the development is considered to accord with Policy LP10 as it accords with parts a), b) and c).
- 7.15 Paragraph 119 of the NPPF states planning policies and decisions should promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions.
- 7.16 Policy LP33 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 states:
  A proposal for the conversion of a building in the countryside that would not be dealt with through 'Prior Approval/ Notification' will be supported where it can be demonstrated that:
  - a. the building is:
  - i. redundant or disused:
  - ii. of permanent and substantial construction;

- iii. not in such a state of dereliction or disrepair that significant reconstruction would be required; and
- iv. structurally capable of being converted for the proposed use; and
- b. the proposal:
- i. would lead to an enhancement of the immediate setting; and
- ii. any extension or alteration would not adversely affect the form, scale, massing or proportion of the building.
- 7.17 The building is disused as is the land that forms part of the site. Given the location of the building to the rear of the site it is recommended that permitted development rights for outbuildings be removed as the residential curtilage will be to the front of the dwellings.
- 7.18 Householder Permitted Development Rights allow the improvement or extension of homes without the need to make a planning application or the erection of outbuildings as well as other minor works incidental to the enjoyment of a dwelling house
- 7.19 For clarity, the removal of Permitted Development Rights (as defined in Schedule 2, parts 1 and 2 of the General Permitted Development Order (2015) as amended) allows the Local Planning Authority to maintain control of the site to ensure that the visual and residential amenity of the future occupants and the neighbours is protected from potential issues such as overlooking or loss of light that might result were the Permitted Development Rights not removed.
- 7.20 Although there are very limited PD Rights for householders forward of the front elevation of dwellings, such as the construction of hardstanding, by removing PD Rights it is being highlighted to the future occupants and developers that otherwise permitted development is not acceptable in this location unless deemed so by virtue of a planning permission. This will include the removal of any permitted development rights relating to the erection of boundary fences. This will serve to maintain a more rural appearance to the Lane by ensuring no inappropriate development would be implemented to the frontage onto Harbins Lane. Suitable soft landscaping (with details to be agreed via planning condition) will also serve to enhance the green appearance of the Lane.
- 7.21 In this instance the refurbishment of the building will serve to improve the appearance of the site and as has already been discussed not only does it meet the requirements of LP10 the building meets the requirements of LP33 as it is disused, is of substantial construction, is not in a serious state of disrepair, is structurally capable of being converted and would enhance the immediate setting as the building would be refurbished and the land would be landscaped.

7.22 The proposal is therefore considered to accord with Policy LP33 and the NPPF (2021) and is acceptable in principle.

# Design, Visual Amenity and the impact upon the Character of the Area

- 7.23 Policies LP11 and LP12 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 state that developments should respond positively to their context, draw inspiration from the key characteristics of its surroundings and contribute positively to the area's character and identity.
- 7.24 The building is of a modest scale and form and materials are proposed to be black horizontal timber cladding with clay plain tiled roof. This is in keeping with an agricultural style conversion and would be an improvement on the existing external finishes.
- 7.25 As stated above, the building is located near to the western boundary of the site. Due to the proximity of the building to the rear boundary there is no capacity for amenity space to be provided within a 'rear garden' arrangement. Instead, the bedrooms and bathrooms are located to the western elevation whilst the living areas front onto the proposed curtilage to the front of the building.
- 7.26 Given that the occupants would spend most of their time in the living areas it is not considered significantly harmful that the boundary to the west is so close however it would be beneficial to keep the planting to the rear of the building at a low level to maintain the rural character of the area. Access to this area from both properties would be from the proposed glazed full height doors, which will also allow the maximum amount of light into the bedrooms they serve.
- 7.27 Although the site is considered to relate more to the open countryside and is therefore not considered to be in the built up area of the settlement, given the proposal is for conversion of an existing building on site, the change of use to residential is acceptable in terms of visual amenity as the building is not proposed to be increased in scale or footprint. It is important to retain the rural character of the area via suitable landscaping of the proposed curtilage and the retention of existing hedgerows. This will serve to soften the transition from the built form of the settlement that lies to the south of the existing agricultural building, to the open countryside to the north to ensure the development will have minimal impact on the rural character of the area. Details of the proposed hard and soft landscaping can be secured by suitable landscaping conditions and the removal of Permitted Development Rights associated with the proposed dwellings.

7.28 Overall, the proposal is considered to respond positively to its context within the countryside setting and contributes positively to the areas character and identity. The proposal is therefore considered to accord with Policies LP11 and LP12 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036, the Huntingdonshire Design Guide (2017), the National Design Guide and the NPPF (2021) in this regard.

#### Impact on Residential Amenity

- 7.29 Policy LP14 of the Local Plan to 2036 states a proposal will be supported where a high standard of amenity is provided for all users and occupiers of the proposed development and maintained for users and occupiers of neighbouring land and buildings. A site visit was carried out by the case officer during the consultation period of the application.
- 7.30 Given the separation distance from the nearest properties there are amenity issues in relation to neighbours. It has already been identified in the design section above that the scale of the amenity space to the rear of the dwellings is not significantly harmful because it is only overlooked by the bathrooms and bedrooms serving the properties. Given the amount of residential curtilage to the front of the dwellings it is considered this more than compensates.
- 7.31 An amended scheme was submitted that overcomes the lack of access to the rear of Plot 1.
- 7.32 Overall, it is considered that a high standard of amenity would be provided for all users of the development and maintained for neighbours. The development is considered acceptable in terms of overshadowing, overlooking, overbearing impact, loss of privacy, loss of light and would not have a significant detrimental impact upon residential amenity. The proposal is therefore considered to be in accordance with Policy LP14 of the Local Plan to 2036 and paragraph 130(f) of the NPPF (2021).

#### **Highway Safety, Parking Provision and Access**

- 7.33 Policy LP17 of the Local Plan to 2036 seeks to ensure that new development incorporates appropriate space for vehicle movements, facilitates access for emergency vehicles and service vehicles and incorporates adequate parking for vehicles and cycles.
- 7.34 Cambridgeshire County Council as the Local Highways Authority have reviewed the proposals and advised the development is acceptable in highway safety terms.
- 7.35 Therefore, the proposal is unlikely to have any adverse effect on the public highway should Planning Permission be approved.

- 7.36 The Local Plan to 2036 requires that the provision of parking be considered but there are no set requirement such as a parking space for each new bedroom. The provision of four off road parking spaces is considered sufficient given the dwellings will result in only two bedrooms in total. In addition, Harbins Lane is not subject to parking restrictions. The proposed parking provision is therefor considered sufficient in this instance.
- 7.37 Poor driving by drivers using the Lane, such as breaking speed limits are controlled by different legislation but the applicant has submitted speed data and the Highways Authority considers the visibility splays accord with the speeds recorded in the survey and that the development will not have an adverse impact on the public highway.
- 7.38 Policy LP17 of the Local Plan to 2036 and the Huntingdonshire Design Guide (2017) seek the provision of secure and covered cycle parking on the basis of 1 space per bedroom. The proposed development makes provision for bin and cycle storage
- 7.39 Subject to conditions the proposed development is considered to accord with Policy LP17 (and LP16 if relevant) of the Local Plan to 2036 and the NPPF (2021) in this regard.

#### **Biodiversity**

- 7.40 Policy LP30 of the Local Plan to 2036 requires proposals to demonstrate that all potential adverse impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity have been investigated. Policy LP30 of the Local Plan to 2036 also requires development proposals to ensure no net loss in biodiversity and provide a net gain in biodiversity where possible.
- 7.41 A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) has been submitted alongside the bat survey and details of biodiversity enhancement measures have been proposed including bird and bat boxes, insect boxes. A hibernaculum, hedgehog box and log pile are also proposed as well as the retention of existing native hedge and the introduction of wildflower meadows and additional native hedging.
- 7.42 Subject to conditions securing these enhancements as well as a Biodiversity Management Statement detailing how this will be implemented and managed, the proposed development is considered to accord with Policy LP30 of the Local Plan to 2036 and paragraph 174 d) of the NPPF (2021).

#### Trees

7.43 Policy LP31 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 requires proposals to demonstrate that the potential for adverse impacts on trees, woodland, hedges and hedgerows has been

investigated and that a proposal will only be supported where it seeks to conserve and enhance any existing tree, woodland, hedge or hedgerow of value that would be affected by the proposed development.

- 7.44 It is recommended a condition be set securing the retention of the existing native hedgerows to ensure the rural character of the area is retained.
- 7.45 Subject to the imposition of compliance conditions to ensure the proposal is carried out in accordance with the submitted arboricultural details, the proposal is considered to be in accordance with Policy LP31 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 and paragraph 174 b) of the NPPF (2021) in this regard.

#### Flood Risk and Drainage

- 7.46 National guidance and Policy LP5 of the Local Plan to 2036 seek to steer new developments to areas at lowest risk of flooding and advises this should be done through application of the Sequential Test, and if appropriate the Exceptions Test (as set out in paragraphs 159-169 of the NPPF (2021)).
- 7.47 The application site is situated in Flood Zone 1 based on the Environment Agency Flood Maps and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2017); therefore the site is at low risk of flooding and does not require a flood risk assessment. In this regard, the proposed development is considered to accord with Policy LP5 of the Local Plan to 2036.
- 7.48 The applicant has proposed that surface water be dealt with by soakaway. It should be noted that the existing building footprint roof area are not proposed to be increased such that the development would not lead to an increase in the level of surface water discharge. A suitable condition will be set regarding any potential discharge of water onto the highway as part of a highways condition.
- 7.49 The proposal does not commit to the method of foul water disposal and whilst it is likely that options are available, in order to ensure that drainage in general is appropriately managed for each dwelling, it is prudent to secure the final drainage details via planning condition in line with Local Plan policy LP15 and the aims of the Flood and Water SPD.

#### **Accessible and Adaptable Homes**

7.50 Policy LP25 of the Local Plan to 2036 requires proposals that include housing to meet the optional Building Regulation requirement M4(2)" Accessible and adaptable dwellings" unless it can be demonstrated that site specific factors make this unachievable.

- 7.51 The agent has confirmed that the proposed development is designed in accordance with the M4(2) standards and will be built in accordance with these.
- 7.52 A condition will be imposed upon any consent to ensure that the development is built in accordance with these standards and that they are maintained for the life of the development.

#### **Water Efficiency**

- 7.53 Policy LP12 of the Local Plan to 2036 requires proposals that include housing to comply with the optional building regulation for water efficiency, as set out in Approved Document G.
- 7.54 The agent has confirmed that the proposed development is designed in accordance with the standards and will be built in accordance with these.
- 7.55 A condition will be imposed upon any consent to ensure that the development is built in accordance with these standards and that they are maintained for the life of the development.

#### **Other Matters**

#### Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):

7.56 The development will be CIL liable in accordance with the Council's adopted charging schedule; CIL payments will cover footpaths and access, health, community facilities, libraries and lifelong learning and education.

#### Unilateral Undertaking for Wheeled Bins:

7.57 A Unilateral Undertaking to secure the provision of wheeled bins has been submitted as part of the application. On this basis, the proposal would provide a satisfactory contribution to meet the tests within the CIL Regulations. The proposal would therefore accord with Policy LP4 of the Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 and the Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (2011).

#### Use and maintenance of private lanes:

- 7.58 Any matters relating to any part of the Lane that is considered unadopted highway is a matter between private individuals.
- 7.59 Maintenance of unadopted parts of the Lane is a matter for private individuals.
- 7.60 Inappropriate use of private land for turning is a matter for private individuals.

7.61 There are no other material planning considerations which have a significant bearing on the determination of this application.

#### Conclusion:

- 7.62 The proposed development is considered to be compliant with relevant national and local planning policy as:
  - The principle of the development of this site for the conversion of existing agricultural barn to 2no residential units is acceptable.
  - The proposed development would have no significant adverse impact on the overall character of the area due to its conversion of the existing building leading to no increase in scale, form or massing.
  - The proposed development would have a neutral impact on heritage assets.
  - The proposal would satisfactorily safeguard the amenities of neighbouring dwellings and the future occupants of the proposed dwellings.
  - There are no overriding highway safety issues and the proposal is acceptable with regards to parking provision.
  - The proposal is acceptable with regards to biodiversity.
  - The proposal is acceptable with regards to the impact on trees and landscaping.
  - The proposal is acceptable in terms of flood risk and drainage.
  - The proposal is acceptable with regards to meeting requirements for accessible and adaptable homes.
  - The proposal is acceptable with regards to meeting requirements for water efficiency.
- 7.63 There are no other material planning considerations which have a significant bearing on the determination of this application.
- 7.64 Having regard to applicable national and local planning policies, and having taken all relevant material considerations into account, it is therefore recommended that planning permission should be granted.

## 8. RECOMMENDATION - APPROVAL subject to conditions to include the following

- Time Limit
- Approved Plans
- Details of external materials
- Details of Hard and Soft Landscaping
- Details of Biodiversity Method Statement
- Details of bin and cycle storage
- Removal of PD Rights
- Vehicular access and drainage
- Parking and turning
- Levels

• Compliance with LP12j (water efficiency standards) and LP25 (accessible and adaptable homes)

If you would like a translation of this document, a large text version or an audio version, please contact us on 01480 388388 and we will try to accommodate your needs

#### **CONTACT OFFICER:**

Enquiries about this report to **Kathy Render Senior Development**Management Officer – Kathy.render@huntingdonshire.gov.uk



Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street Huntingdon. PE29 3TN Developmentcontrol@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

01480 388424 www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Head of Planning Services Pathfinder House

St. Mary's Street Huntingdon Cambridgeshire PE 29 3TN
Application Number: 21/00436/FUL Case Officer Kathy Render  Proposal: Conversion of existing agricultural barn to 2no residential units  Location: Land South Of Harbins FarmHarbins LaneAbbotsley  Observations of Abbotsley Town/Parish Council.  Please √ box as appropriate
Recommend approval because(please give relevant planning reasons in space below)
Recommend refusal because(please give relevant planning reasons in space below)  Please See attorned sheet.
No observations either in favour or against the proposal
Abbotsley Parish Council Clerk to Abbotsley Town/Parish Council. (For GDPR purposes please do
Date: 20th May 2021
Failure to return this form within the time indicated will be taken as an indication that the Town o Parish Council do not express any opinion either for or against the application.
Please send response to email address below:-

(Development Management)

Development.control@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

### **ABBOTSLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk to the Council: Katie Bates, Bridge House, 27 Church Street, Buckden, St Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 5TP
Telephone: 07588 267140 Email: <a href="mailto:clerk@abbotsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk">clerk@abbotsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk</a> www.abbotsleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Kathy Render
Development Control
Huntingdonshire District Council

20th May 2021

Dear Kathy

21/00436/FUL – Conversion of existing agricultural barn to 2 no residential units Land South of Harbins Farm, Harbins Lane, Abbotsley

Abbotsley Parish Council considered this application at the meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021. The Parish Council resolved to recommend **Refusal**.

Councillors considered that their comments to the earlier application 21/01484/FUL still stand. These comments are included within this letter. Whilst it was accepted that the proposal may improve the appearance of the site as it currently is, the design and location is not of a high enough standard to allow Councillors to recommend Approval. The site is outside of the established village limits and outside the conservation area. Although less weight may now be attached to the historic village envelope, the site feels outside of the village limits. The built up area of the village is terminated by 16 Harbins Lane, Ivy Cottage, and the two storey dwelling opposite with a further agricultural dwelling set back to the east. It is considered that the area beyond these dwellings, including the application site, forms part of the open country side area to the north of the village.

The building may be in such poor condition that it could not be converted. Councillors ask for evidence that the building is capable of conversion and will not in the future need instead to be demolished, due to costs. It was noted that there was no structural report on the building within the application. It was agreed that locating such a building in the centre of the site would be preferable to the location that it is presently in, if it is accepted that a planning application is required and the proposal is not permitted development.

The Parish Council has considerable concerns on the design and layout of the site. The proposal is not visually appealing. The conversion of the existing 'agricultural' building results in an unacceptable arrangement and design for residential use. The bedroom windows are located very close to the rear boundary of the site, the boundary treatment and views are not guaranteed. Councillors are concerned about the lack of light to the proposed dwellings, being only 1m from the boundary at the

rear. There appears to be an additional tree proposed outside the site. Potentially a close boarded fence could be constructed on the rear boundary line which would result in a very unacceptable environment for the dwellings. The rear of Plot 1 does not appear to be accessible.

Plot 1 in particular is poorly served by the scheme with no area allocated for waste and recycling bins and no covered storage for cycles. The design and environment around these dwellings is considered to be substandard.

The Parish Council is content to be guided by Officers on the appropriate amount of car parking, and some road parking on Harbins Lane would appear to be inevitable. This would present difficulties for cars turning at the end of Harbins Lane. Councillors are concerned about the increase in traffic and share residents' concerns regarding additional traffic, speed limits and drainage.

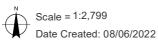
It was agreed unanimously to recommend refusal.

Yours sincerely

Katie Bates

Katie Bates Clerk to Abbotsley Parish Council

## **Development Management Committee**

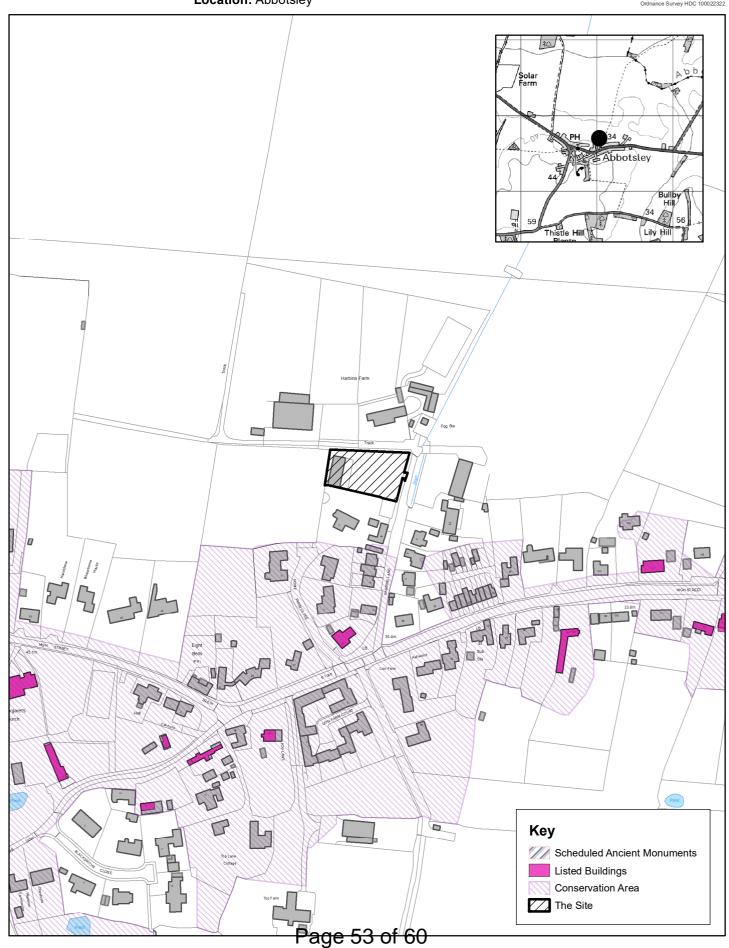


Application Ref:21/00436/FUL

Location: Abbotsley



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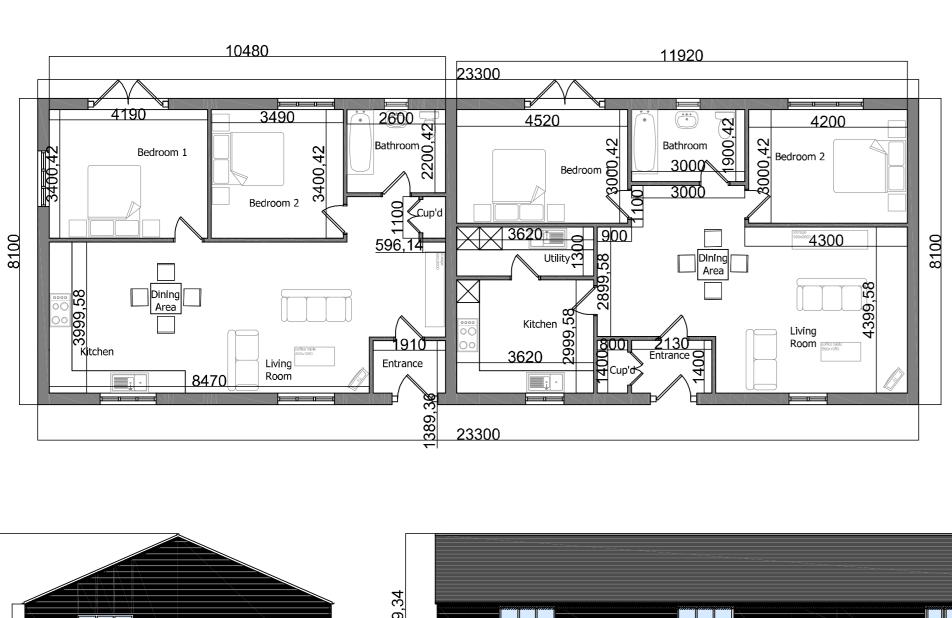






ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	DATE 16/05/2022	BY HLW
E	Amendments made in line with landscaping comments		
F	Bin and Cycle Storage Amended	06/06/2022	HLW
	© Telham Structur	es o)	

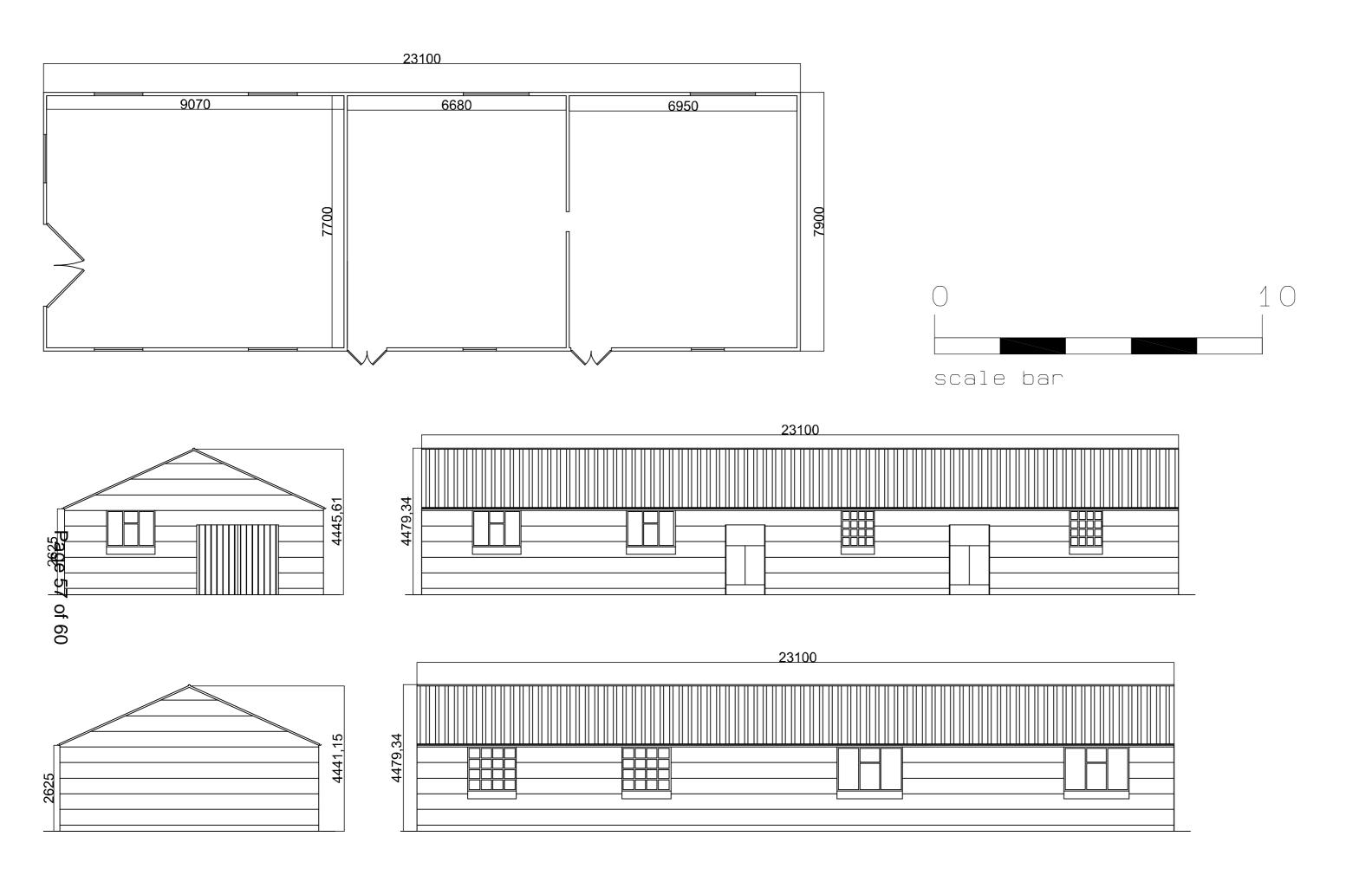
Drawing title:	Proposed Site Plan	
Scale: 1:100	Dale: August 2021	Drawing no:
Paper: A2	Drawn: HLW	──559.502F





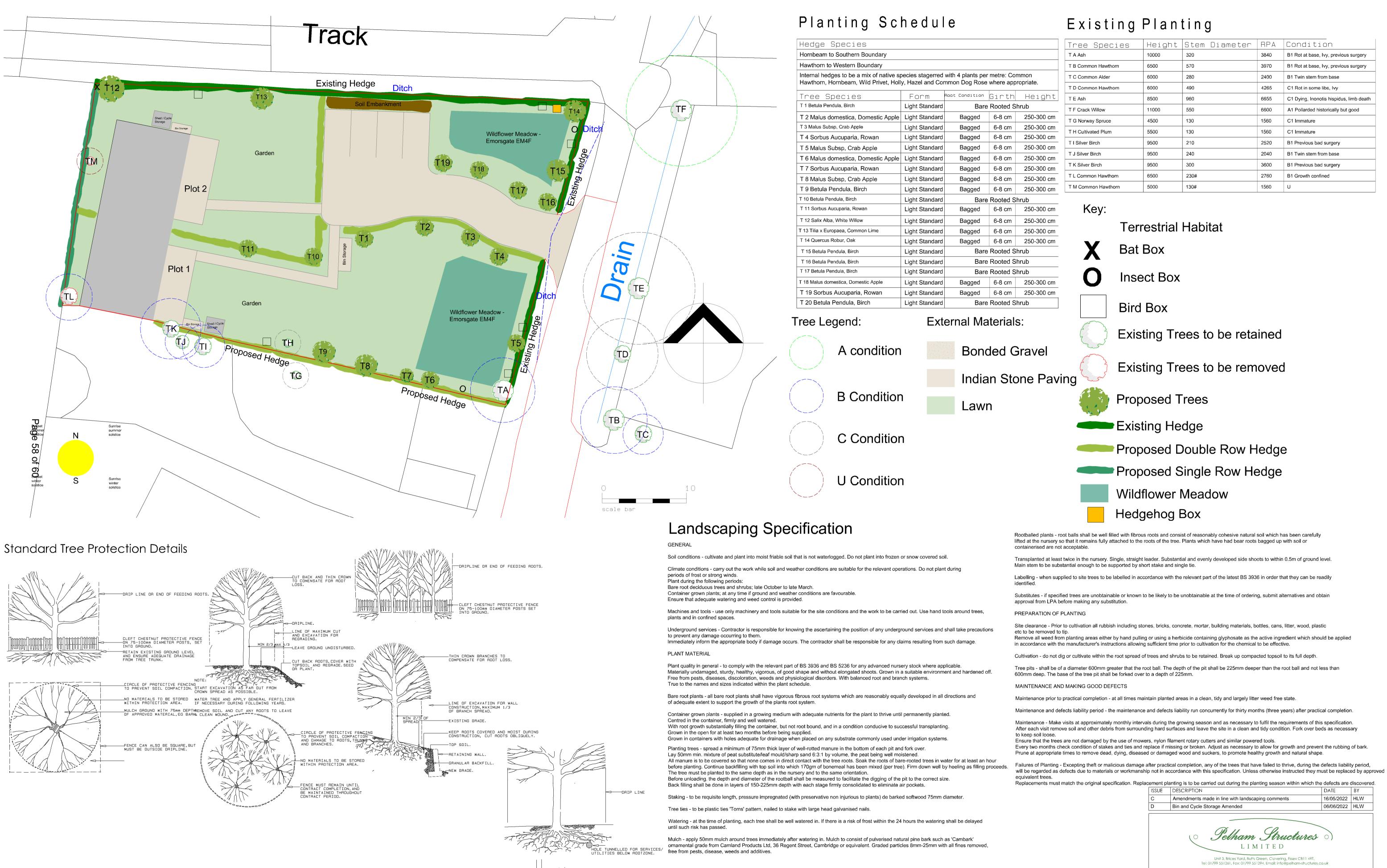








Plot 1&2 Existing Floor Plans and Elevations Land at Harbins Lane, Abbotsley



FINISH OPEN TRENCHES OUTSIDE DRIPLINE

Landscape Strategy Plan

Land at Harbins Lane, Abbotsley

Unit 3, Brices Yard, Butts Green, Claverina, Essex CB11 4RT, 559 - Land at Harbins Lane, Abbotsley Landscape Strategy Plan 1:250 June 2021 559.505D

HLW

Dimensions are in millimeters unless otherwise stated. Do not scale from this drawing. If in doubt, ask.

BY

16/05/2022 | HLW 06/06/2022 HLW

B1 Rot at base, Ivy, previous surgery

B1 Rot at base, Ivy, previous surgery

C1 Dying, Inonotis hispidus, limb death

A1 Pollarded historically but good

B1 Twin stem from base

C1 Rot in some libs, Ivy

B1 Twin stem from base

B1 Previous bad surgery

B1 Growth confined

C1 Immature

## Planning Appeal Decisions Since April 2022 Committee

Ref No	Appellant	Parish	Proposal	Site	Original Decision	Delegated or DMC	Appeal Determination	Date	Costs
20/021 69/ LBC	Mr John Kirkpatrick	Glatton	Removal of one internal wall, installation of an external boiler and replacement of main entrance door in a grade II listed building.	16 High Haden Road Glatton Huntingdon PE28 5RU	Refused	Delegated	Allowed	21/04 /22	Refused
Page 59 of 60	Holme Wood Property Development s	Holme	Residential development of up to 8 dwellings following demolition of existing buildings.	Agricultural Buildings Short Drove Holme	Non- determinatio n	N/A	Dismissed	20/05 /22	N/A
21/019 84/ FUL	Mr And Mrs Seymour	Hail Weston	Erection of two- bedroom bungalow and associated works	16 Pound Close Hail Weston St Neots PE19 5JT	Refused	Delegated	Dismissed	31/05 /22	N/A
21/000 35/FU L	Mr & Mrs McAra	St Neots	Proposed two new dwellings (semidetached)	Land At 48 Beauchamp Close Eaton Socon	Refused	DMC	Dismissed	31/05 /22	N/A

Agenda Item 4

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