

Originator: Glen Allen

Tel: 0113 2478023

# Report of the Chief Planning Officer

## NORTH AND EAST PLANS PANEL

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Subject: 15/00889/FU - Single storey side and rear extension at 8 Kings Mount

Moortown, Leeds, LS17 5NS

APPLICANT
Mr & Mrs Gary and Kirsty
Neilson and Wilson

**DATE VALID**16 February 2015

**TARGET DATE** 13 April 2015

Implications For:
and Diversity nity Cohesion ng the Gap

# **RECOMMENDATION: GRANT PERMISSION subject to the following conditions:**

- 1. Standard 3 Year time limit
- 2. Development to be carried out in accordance with approved plans.
- 3. Submission of materials to be used.
- 4. No windows to be inserted in side elevation facing number 6 Kings Mount during or subsequent to construction of the extensions hereby permitted.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This application is brought to Plans Panel as the next door neighbour is Councillor R Charlwood who has objected to the proposals details of which are discussed in the body of this report.

## 2.0 PROPOSAL

- 2.1 The proposal seeks a single storey rear and side extension that wraps around the property. The extension proposed consists of a full width rear flat roof extension projecting 4 metres from the rear elevation of the property. This then projects out by an additional 300 mm to form the kitchen extension at that part of the house which forms the 'wrap-around'. The side elemant of the extension is shown to be set 150mm away from the common boundary with number 6 Kings Mount. The rear elevation of the single storey extension will have a window serving a study/bedroom, sliding glass doors in the middle section serving the proposed family/garden room and then a further window serving a proposed kitchen. Due to levels differences the Family/Garden room will access onto an external patio area which has a raised planter to the side and steps down to the lawned area.
- 2.2 The side extension is a smaller part of the development having been reduced in size through negotiations with the applicant. This consists of a step in from the boundary of an additional 150 mm and a reduction in height over the original submission of 850 mm resulting in an overall height of side extension of 2.8 metres above the applicant's ground level. The land levels drop further on the neighbour's side of the boundary by a further 0.3-0.4 metres. This part of the extension is some 3.8 metres long and projects out from the side wall of the original dwelling by 2.45 metres.

## 3.0 SITE AND SURROUNDINGS:

- 3.1 The site is a detached dwelling situated in a row of predominantly detached 2 storey dwellings fronting Kings Mount. The dwellings are generally evenly spaced and set in mature gardens. The houses are of brick and with tiled roofs. The houses would appear to date from the 1930's and include features such as bay windows, chimneys, timber detailing and recessed doorways.
- 3.2 The land slopes downhill from the west to the east and also slopes from the south to the north, hence the rear gardens of the properties are to the north of the dwellings on this side of Kings Mount and all in varying degrees slope to the north away from the houses themselves. Likewise, dwellings to the west of the application site sit on higher ground than the application site and those to the east are on lower ground.
- 3.3 Kings Mount itself runs in a roughly north east south west orientation to the south of the application site. Other than public highway the remaining land in the immediate vicinity is in exclusively residential use.

# 4.0 RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY:

4.1 None

## 5.0 HISTORY OF NEGOTIATIONS:

5.1 The application was submitted with no pre-application advice given. During the processing of the application concern was raised regarding the originally submitted drawings, in particular the relationship of the side extension in relation to a window that exists in the side elevation of the neighbouring property at number 8 Kings Mount that serves the kitchen in that property. As a result of those concerns the drawings that are the subject of this report were submitted. These reduced the overall height of the side element of the extension by 850mm and set it from the common boundary by an additional 150mm.

# 6.0 PUBLIC/LOCAL RESPONSE:

- 6.1 The application has been advertised by the delivery of 6 letters to occupiers of nearby and adjacent dwellings. The time for comment to this consultation exercise which was undertaken twice due to the receipt of amended drawings expired on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2015. The second round of neighbour consultation resulted in one letter of objection from the occupier of number 6 Kings Mount, comments made are:
  - Objections are raised on the grounds of significant massing on the boundary: The extension is flat roofed and will be a flat wall extending in excess of 2 meters above the boundary fence.
  - An extension this high and right on the boundary will detract from the amenity currently enjoyed.
  - It is unnecessary for the extension to be both flat roofed and right up to the boundary fence/wall. A large extension would still be able to be built that doesn't impact on No.6 Kings Mount in this way.

# 7.0 CONSULTATIONS RESPONSES:

7.1 None

## 8.0 PLANNING POLICIES:

8.1 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 Development Plan for Leeds currently comprises the Core Strategy, saved policies within the Leeds Unitary Development Plan (Review 2006) and the Natural Resources and Waste Development Plan Document (2013).

# Adopted Local Policies:

# 8.2 Adopted Core Strategy:

• P10 - Design

## Saved UDP Policies:

- GP5 seeks to ensure that all development proposals resolve the detailed planning considerations, including residential amenity for existing and future occupiers.
- T2 states that new development should not cause new problems for highway safety and efficiency, or exacerbate existing risks and congestion.
- BD6 All alterations and extensions should respect the scale, form, detailing and materials of the original building.

# Relevant Supplementary Planning Guidance includes:

8.4 Supplementary Planning Guidance "Householder Design Guide" – that includes guidance that the design and layout of new extensions and that they should have regard to the character of the local area the impact on their neighbours.

HDG1: All alterations and extensions should respect the scale, form, proportions, character and appearance of the main dwelling and the locality. Particular attention should be paid to:

- i) the roof form and roof line;
- ii) window details;
- iii) architectural features;
- iv) boundary treatments and;
- v) materials.

Extensions or alterations which harm the character and appearance of the main dwelling or the locality will be resisted.

HDG2 All development proposals should protect the amenity of neighbours. Proposals which harm the existing residential amenity of neighbours through excessive overshadowing, overdominance or overlooking will be strongly resisted.

Supplementary Planning Document: "Street Design Guide".

# National Planning Policy

8.5 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, March 2012) gives a presumption in favour of sustainable development and has a strong emphasis on high quality design. The following section is particularly relevant:

7 Requiring good design

## 9.0 MAIN ISSUES

- 9.1 The main issues in connection with this development are:
  - Design
  - Impact on Neighbours Amenity

## 10.0 APPRAISAL

## Design

- 10.1 By its very nature the design is a simple form, creating additional internal space for the occupiers of the dwelling. Given that the proposal is single storey in height with the side extension set back from the front elevation of the house it is considered that the flat roof finish raises no specific design concerns.
- 10.2 The drawings indicate that the finishing materials proposed are to vary across the development and not necessarily match the materials of the original dwelling. To this end a condition is recommended that these materials are submitted for approval in order that they can be fully assessed.

# Impact on Neighbours Amenity

10.3 The initial drawings showed a more bulky side extension. As outlined above it was considered that this single storey side extension would have an adverse impact on the outlook of a window serving the kitchen of the next door property at number 6 Kings Mount. Amended drawings were received which reduced the size of this part

of the extension so that it lies 850 mm lower than the roof of the 'wrap around' part of the proposal and is set in from the common boundary by an additional 150 mm. The remainder of the side extension abuts the common boundary. These are relatively small amounts, and given that number 6 is set at a lower level, do not mitigate the impact of this part of the extension as much as they might otherwise do. The extension will still project significantly above the boundary fence.

- 10.4 The materials to be used on the side element of the extension are shown to be matching materials to that of the main side wall of the dwelling which means that in terms of neighbours amenity, the impact will be one of bringing that wall in closer proximity to the window that serves the kitchen of number 6. Originally that side window would have been a secondary window to the kitchen, however due to the existence of a single storey extension on the rear of number 6; Kings Mount, it is now the only window allowing direct light into that room. The room is not totally devoid of other light sources as 'borrowed' light does come from that extension, however it is evident from a site visit that the kitchen is somewhat darker even on sunny days than would have otherwise have been the case.
- 10.5 The "wrap around" element and the rear extension have greater height and this scales from the application plan at 3.6m (as scaled from the ground level on the applicants land). The rear projection is similar to that of the extension at No.6. The overall height, in combination with the change in levels, proximity to the boundary and extent of projection all add to the impact on the residents No.6.
- 10.6 However, to balance against this impact, it should be remembered that there are no planning restrictions on the dwelling at number 8 Kings Mount and the occupiers of that property could construct a single storey extension along the entire length of their property up to a height of 3 metres from the ground level of the applicants property. The proposal indicates the single storey side element of the extension to be circa 3.0 metres above the ground level of the adjoining property at number 6 Kings Mount (a difference of circa 0.4 metres). Having regard to all of these factors it is considered that a reason for refusal could not be substantiated on harm to the amenities of the residents of No.6.
- 10.7 In respect of the impact on the amenities of occupiers at number 10 Kings Mount there are no concerns as there are no windows in their side elevation that directly overlook the proposed extension and there is a full driveway width and an existing garage structure that separates the side of the rear extension facing that property.

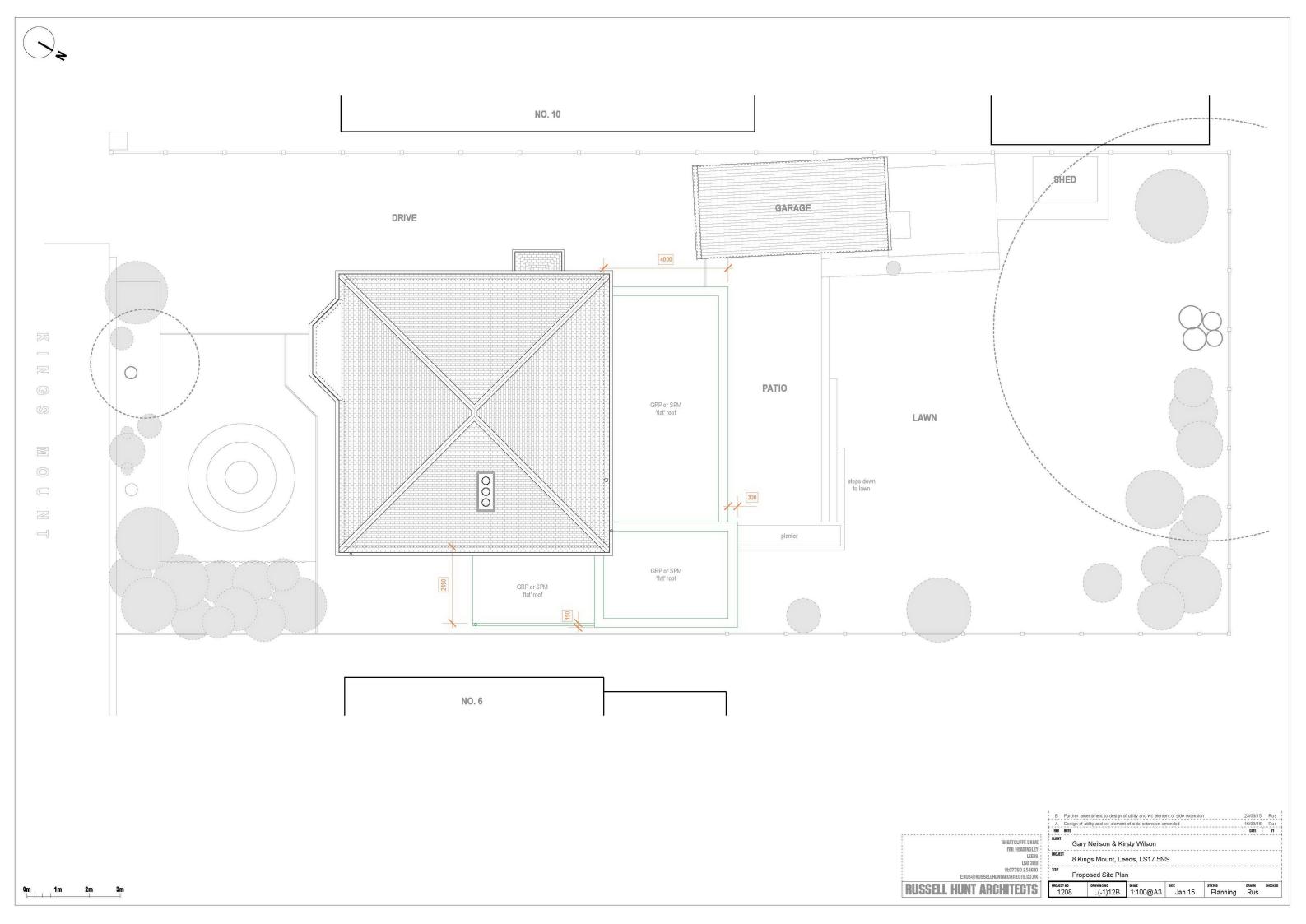
## 11.0 CONCLUSION

11.1 It is considered that whilst there is some impact on the amenities of occupiers of number 6 Kings Mount, in that the side wall of the single storey side extension will be noticeably closer to the sole window serving their kitchen, this is not sufficiently harmful to justify a reason for refusal, especially given the strong fall-back position of the applicants that a much larger and more imposing structure could be built under their Permitted Development Rights. It is therefore concluded that planning permission should be granted subject to the conditions at the head of this report.

# **Background Papers:**

Application files: 15/00889/FU

Certificate of ownership: Signed by applicants as sole owners





# **NORTH AND EAST PLANS PANEL**

© Crown copyright and database rights 2014 Ordnance Survey 100019567

PRODUCED BY CITY DEVELOPMENT, GIS MAPPING & DATA TEAM, LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

**SCALE: 1/1500** 

