

# **CITY PLANS PANEL**

Meeting to be held in Civic Hall, Leeds on Thursday, 28th October, 2021 at 1.30 pm

# <u>MEMBERSHIP</u>

# Councillors

D Blackburn

K Brooks

C Campbell

P Carlill

D Cohen

R Finnigan

A Garthwaite

C Gruen

**G** Latty

J McKenna (Chair)

E Nash

P Wadsworth

N Walshaw

Please Note - Members of the public are now able to attend the meeting in person but please be mindful that Coronavirus is still circulating in Leeds. Therefore, even if you have had the vaccine, if you have Coronavirus symptoms: a high temperature; a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste, you should NOT attend the meeting and stay at home and get a PCR test. For those who are attending the meeting, please bring a face covering unless you are exempt.

Note to observers of the meeting: To remotely observe this meeting, please click on the 'View the Meeting Recording' link which will feature on the meeting's webpage (linked below) ahead of the meeting. The webcast will become available at the commencement of the meeting.

https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cld=947&Mld=11493&Ver=4

Agenda compiled by: John Grieve Governance Services Civic Hall

Tel: 0113 37 88662

# AGENDA

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
			SITE VISIT DETAILS	
1			APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS	
			To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2 of the Access to Information Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded)	
			(*In accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2, written notice of an appeal must be received by the Head of Governance Services at least 24 hours before the meeting)	

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2			EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC	
			To highlight reports or appendices which officers have identified as containing exempt information, and where officers consider that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report.	
			2 To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information.	
			3 If so, to formally pass the following resolution:-	
			RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows:-	
3			LATE ITEMS	
			To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration	
			(The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes)	
4			DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	
			To disclose or draw attention to any interests in accordance with Leeds City Council's 'Councillor Code of Conduct'.	
5			APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
			To receive apologies for absence (If any)	

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6			MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING	9 - 16
			To consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2021.	
			(Copy attached)	
7			MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES	
			To consider any matters arising from the minutes.	
8	Morley North		APPLICATION NO. 19/01988/RM - RESERVED MATTERS APPLICATION FOR THE LAYOUT, SCALE, APPEARANCE AND LANDSCAPING FOR 450 NEW HOMES, PURSUANT TO OUTLINE APPLICATION 16/02988/OT LAND OFF LANE SIDE FARM, VICTORIA ROAD, CHURWELL, MORLEY, LEEDS	17 - 48
			To consider a report by the Chief Planning Officer which sets out details of a reserved matters application for the layout, scale, appearance and landscaping for 450 new homes, pursuant to Outline Application 16/02988/OT Land off Lane Side Farm, Victoria Road, Churwell, Morley, Leeds	
			(Report attached)	
9			DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING	
			To note that the next meeting will take place on Thursday, 25th November 2021 at 1.30pm in the Civic Hall, Leeds.	
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# Third Party Recording

Recording of this meeting is allowed to enable those not present to see or hear the proceedings either as they take place (or later) and to enable the reporting of those proceedings. A copy of the recording protocol is available from the contacts named on the front of this agenda.

Use of Recordings by Third Parties-code of practice

- a) Any published recording should be accompanied by a statement of when and where the recording was made, the context of the discussion that took place, and a clear identification of the main speakers and their role or title.
- b) Those making recordings must not edit the recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or comments made by attendees. In particular there should be no internal editing of published extracts; recordings may start at any point and end at any point but the material between those points must be complete.





To all Members of City Plans Panel

# **Planning Services**

Ninth Floor East Merrion House 110 Merrion Centre Leeds LS2 8BB

Contact: Daljit Singh Tel: 0113 3787971 daljit.singh@leeds.gov.uk

Our ref: City Site Visits Date: 15.10.2021

Dear Councillor

### SITE VISITS - CITY PLANS PANEL - Thursday 28th October 2021

Now that the Government has further removed legal restrictions around social contact it has been agreed with the Chair of City Plans Panel to undertake site visits on the morning of the next City Plans Panel meeting.

A 16 seater minibus has been booked for the site visits; however, since local infection rates are still high and the Council is advocating a precautionary approach, the number of seats for members has been restricted to about half capacity, and control measures have been put in place (see below). To check numbers please can Members therefore contact <a href="mailto:PlansPanel@leeds.gov.uk">PlansPanel@leeds.gov.uk</a> as soon as possible if they wish to travel via the minibus or intend to meet on site.

For those travelling by mini-bus please meet outside the **Civic Hall, Portland Crescent entrance at 9.55am for a prompt start at 10.00am**. For those unable to use the minibus or who prefer to travel separately, the visit timings and details below should allow for this.

Time	Ward	Site	
10.00 am	MINBUS DEPARTS FROM OUTSIDE CIVIC HALL ENTRANCE		
10.30am-	Morley North	Application 19/01988/RM – Residential development at	
11.15	-	Lane Side Farm, Victoria Road, Morley (please meet at the	
		junction of Victoria Road and King George Avenue)	

Please notify <a href="mailto:PlansPanel@leeds.gov.uk">PlansPanel@leeds.gov.uk</a> if you will be attending.

Yours sincerely

Daljit Singh Group Manager

## **Planning Services**

#### Plan Panel Site Visits Risk Assessment; Control Measures and Guidance

- Anyone with symptoms of Covid 19 or required to self-isolate in accordance with the most current guidance must not attend Panel Visits.
- Officers who are classified as clinically extremely vulnerable and are at a high risk
  of severe illness or who have a number of conditions listed under the moderately
  vulnerable category leaving them at greater risk, or in a higher risk groups e.g.
  over 60s, BAME staff should only attend Panel visits following a personal risk
  assessment
- The use of lateral flow testing by participants prior to the visits is encouraged to help reduce the potential asymptomatic transmission of the Covid-19
- Face covering shall be worn on the minibus, and when entering enclosed spaces on visits.
- Hand sanitiser shall be used on boarding and leaving and shall be provided at the minibus entry/exit point.
- Travellers on the minibus shall sit on separate rows wherever possible.
- Time spent on the minibus will be minimised e.g. no detailed discussions regarding sites/proposals whilst parked up.
- The minibus will be well ventilated / windows opened (weather permitting).
- Interactions on site shall be conducted in a Covid-safe manner, respecting any anxieties of participants.

#### **CITY PLANS PANEL**

# THURSDAY, 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2021

**PRESENT:** Councillor N Walshaw in the Chair

Councillors D Blackburn, K Brooks, C Campbell, P Carlill, D Cohen, E Nash,

P Wadsworth and S Burke

#### SITE VISIT

A Members site visit was held in connection with the following applications: PREAPP/21/00259 – residential development at a site on land off Water Lane, Holbeck, Leeds, and Application Nos. 21/01869/FU & 21/01870/LI - Planning Approval and Listed Building Consent to provide upper floor residential apartments with retention of the ground floor for office use, at 2 Great George Street, Leeds and was attended by the following Councillors: K Brooks (for 2 Great George Street only), C Campbell, D Blackburn and N Walshaw.

## **COMMENT**

Prior to the start of the meeting Cllr Walshaw addressed the Plans Panel, advising them that Cllr McKenna was recovering from Covid and Cllr Gruen who would normally deputise for Cllr McKenna was absent due to a family bereavement. Therefore, as an experienced Plans Panel Member and Chair of Development Plans Panel he asked Members if they were agreeable to him being Chair for the Meeting.

**RESOLVED** - All Members were agreeable and Cllr Walshaw was elected to the Chair for the duration of the meeting.

#### 71 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals against refusal of inspection of documents.

#### 72 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

#### 73 Late Items

There were no late items.

#### 74 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interests.

## 75 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors McKenna, Gruen, Garthwaite and Latty.

Councillors Burke attended the meeting as substitute for Councillor Garthwaite.

Councillor Walshaw attended the meeting as Chair, in absence of Councillor McKenna.

# 76 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 be approved as a correct record.

# 77 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

Application Nos. 21/01869/FU & 21/01870/LI - Planning Approval and Listed Building Consent for alterations, including a rooftop extension, and a change of use, to provide 83 residential apartments with retention of the ground floor for office use, at 2 Great George Street, Leeds, LS2 8B.

The Chief Planning Officer submitted a report in relation to a planning application 21/01869/FU and listed building consent application 21/01870/LI for alterations, including a rooftop extension, and change of use, to provide 83 residential apartments with retention of the ground floor for office use, at 2 Great George Street, Leeds, LS2 8B.

Members had visited the site earlier in the day, photographs and slides were shown during the presentation.

Members were provided with the following information:

- The site was a former Victorian school but in recent years had been used as Council offices. The building and its wrought iron railings are Grade II Listed.
- This scheme is separate to proposals for Leonardo and Thoresby Buildings which Members of City Plans Panel had considered and approved on 8th July 2021.
- Since the publishing of the report, Historic England had submitted another representation. It was noted that this was the same as the previous one submitted and which has been detailed in the report.

- The proposals included regeneration and extension of the Grade II
  Listed building. The proposals included office space at ground level,
  with cycle storage, with residential dwellings at levels 1 to 7. A
  resident's gym would be sited at basement level as well as the plant
  room. It was noted that bins would be screened by fretwork.
- The Listed No.2 Great George Street would be altered internally with the addition of mezzanine floors to add extra space for the creation of new residential dwellings. The existing 20th century entrance would be removed and a new entrance to the west face of the building would be created. A new 3 storey glazed extension would be added to the roof top of the building for further residential accommodation and a communal roof amenity area.
- 83 residential units are proposed of the following types:
  - o 34 one bedroomed units
  - 43 two bedroomed units
  - 6 three bedroomed units
- It was noted that 3 of the units would be affordable units.
- The proposal would also create external publicly accessible landscaped space, that would serve as a north-south connection, with seating and planters to the western side of the building. To the east a further landscaped area is to be created for use by the office occupiers in the lightwell fronting Woodhouse Lane.
- It is proposed that the entrance onto Woodhouse Lane would become a secondary entrance for residents.
- Existing lifts would be refurbished.
- A financial viability review had been undertaken and was appended to the submitted report. The District Valuer, Brian Maguire was present at the meeting to answer any questions.

In response to questions from Members, the Plans Panel was informed of the following points:

- Members were advised of the 'Vacant Building Credits' which encourages developers to use such sites as No. 2 Great George Street. It was acknowledged that without the rooftop extension the proposed application would not be financially viable and there would not be any affordable units.
- In relation to the proposed housing mix, the Panel were advised that there was a demand for smaller units in the city centre.
- The building is located in a busy area of the city close to roads and footpaths. Therefore, it was the view of the developers that to mitigate noise the ground floor would be better suited to office space rather than residential units.
- Members requested that the developers and officers discuss the glass rooftop extension, in relation to lessening the distinct dark line edging to parts of the extension.

#### Members comments included:

The proposal was better than the previous one.

- Mezzanine floors in Victorian School buildings can look good if done well.
- Mezzanine floors can be difficult to heat. It was noted that at 10.43 of the submitted report it was proposed to link the building to the District Heating System.
- The Panel acknowledged the comments provided by Historic England and the Civic Trust but recognised that to bring the building back into use there was the need to have a rooftop extension and the mezzanine floor insertions.
- The Panel were pleased that the entrance on to Woodhouse Lane would be used as a secondary entrance as this had not been possible whilst in use for offices due to accessibility issues.
- Members were advised that as part of the conditions the brick and pilasters would be cleaned.
- Members requested original features such as the glazed brick and iron works were retained.
- Green space should be meaningful and well maintained. It was noted that the developers were in discussion with the developers of the other scheme to join the green space areas for better use.

It was acknowledged that details of the glass rooftop extension need to be lightweight but that it need to be right.

In relation to affordable housing, it was recognised that the number of affordable units was low, however it was policy compliant.

**RESOLVED** – To defer and delegate to the Chief Planning Officer as set out in the submitted report.

79 PREAPP/21/00259 - Redevelopment of an existing surface car park to provide 359 residential units in stepped blocks, with associated access, landscaping and parking provision at a site on Land Off Water Lane, Holbeck, Leeds.

The Chief Planning Officer submitted a report for a pre application for a redevelopment of an existing surface car park to provide 359 residential units in stepped blocks, with associated access, landscaping and parking provision at a site on Land Off Water Lane, Holbeck, Leeds.

Members had visited the site earlier in the day, photographs and slides were shown throughout the presentation.

The following attended the meeting to present the application on behalf of McLaren Living and to answer Members questions:

- Matt Biddle McLaren Group
- Tim Tolcher Architect
- Andrew Windress ID Planning
- Joe Raper Senior Heritage Planner ID Planning

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting to be held on Thursday, 28th October, 2021

# The Plans Panel were informed of the following:

- The proposals seek to create a multi-level development of residential apartments, of 9 to 26 storeys including ground floor, set within a landscaped area, with undercroft car parking and a smaller area of surface parking.
- The scheme proposed would be for 359 apartments comprising of the following:
  - 5% 1 bedroomed 1 person apartments
  - o 50% 1 bedroomed 2 person apartments
  - o 40% 2 bedroomed apartments
  - 5% 3 bedroomed apartments
- The proposal would also include internal communal amenity spaces and external landscaped communal spaces. Part of the external area would be a raised podium to the centre of the site, alongside roof terraced areas and ground floor surface landscaping.
- The scheme proposes 55 car parking spaces in an undercroft parking area and 300 secure cycle parking spaces.
- One of the key benefits of the site would be to link from Bath Road through Midland Mills into Water Lane subject to agreement with the adjacent landowner.
- Appearance would draw on the mill buildings with matched brickwork with strong expressed frames to facades, arranged vertically. Large glazed windows in a mill/warehouse style, would be recessed within a strong grid with deep reveals. It was proposed to have balconies on some of the 2 and 3 bedroomed units.
- It was noted that the developers would have a conversation with the developers of Midland Mills to seek consent to remove the wall in front of Midland Mills to open up the site.

#### Member's discussions included:

- Scope for play areas for young families.
- A wish to see the development fully compliant with housing mix.
- More private balconies including internal balconies.
- Parking provision for scope to include visitor parking.
- Difference between 1 bedroomed 1 person apartments and 1 bedroomed 2 person apartments. It was noted that there was a difference in square meterage and this formed part of the nationally prescribed space standards. Members did raise concerns that there would be no way to prevent 2 people living in inadequate space of a 1 bedroomed 1 person apartment. The Legal Adviser clarified that our Core Strategy Space Standards took precedence over national space standards.
- Members were of the view that the slides shown were below the usual standard and perhaps had not provided the most inspiring development. It was the view that the entrance was uninspiring and needed to show quality landscaping. It was acknowledged that work was still ongoing to develop the landscaping and there was still a

- conversation to be had with the developers of Midland Mills to join the spaces.
- Members questioned the basic research into the proposed housing mix and if this had differentiated between a family living in the 3 bedroomed units as opposed to 3 people sharing the 3 bedroomed units. The developers were agreeable to sharing information on the research undertaken. It was noted that the affordable units would be located within the development.

Members were asked to provide comments to the following questions as set out in the submitted report:

# 8.2 - Do Members have any comments on the proposed housing mix?

- Members wanted the development to be policy compliant.
- Would welcome information on the research undertaken.
- Clarification was required in relation to 1 bedroomed 1 person apartments and 1 bedroomed 2 person apartments.
- Clarification on demand for 3 bedroomed units in the area.

# 8.3 – Do Members support the emerging design of the development?

- Developers were requested to note the comments provided by Members during their discussions on landscaping.
- Members were of the view that they were unable to comment on the detailed design of the buildings as they had not seen detailed graphics to be able to comment on. However, there was support for the emerging mass and scale across the site with the lower buildings towards the Water Lane frontage and the taller element towards Bath Road.
- Members wished to see provision of more balconies.

# 8.4 – Do Members support the approach to car parking provision in this location?

 Members were concerned that parking in this location was already problematic. Members were of the view that parking should be made available for taxi's, visitors and deliveries.

In summing up the Area Planning Manager said that all comments had been noted with the following highlighted:

- Housing Mix Need to maximise in line with adopted policy, provide clarification in relation to the space standards and information on research for housing demand in the area.
- The massing and scale generally seem to be agreeable.
- The approach to less parking for residents was noted but Members wanted provision of sufficient space for visitors and deliveries.
- Provision of more balconies.
- Provision of quality green space.

# 80 Date and Time of Next Meeting

 $\label{eq:RESOLVED-To-note that the next meeting of City Plans Panel was scheduled for Thursday 28^{th} October 2021, at 1:30pm in the Civic Hall, Leeds.$ 

The meeting concluded at 15:30



# Agenda Item 8



Originator: Mark Jackson Tel: 0113 378 8136

TARGET DATE

# Report of the Chief Planning Officer

City Plans Panel

ADDI ICANT

Date: 28 October 2021

Subject: Reserved Matters Application 19/01988/RM

Reserved Matters application for the layout, scale, appearance and landscaping for 450 new homes, pursuant to Outline Application 16/02988/OT

Land off Lane Side Farm, Victoria Road, Churwell, Morley, Leeds

DATE VALID

Persimmon Homes	17 <sup>th</sup> April 2019	30 <sup>th</sup> May 2020
Electoral Wards Affected:		Specific Implications For:
Morley  Yes Ward Members consulte	ed	Equality and Diversity  Community Cohesion  Narrowing the Gap
(referred to in report)		

RECOMMENDATION: DEFER AND DELEGATE to the Chief Planning Officer for approval subject to the specified conditions identified below (and any amendments or additional conditions that the Chief Planning Officer may consider appropriate)

#### Summary of Proposed Conditions

- 1. Development in line with approved plans
- 2. Details of cycle parking and bin facilities
- 3. Details and provision of vehicle spaces to be laid out
- 4. EVCP to be installed to current standards
- 5. Details of layout of emergency access
- 6. Details of interim landscaping to proposed school site
- 7. Details of materials
- 8. Removal of permitted development rights to convert garages
- 9. Details of homes with indicated chimneys prior to construction of identified units
- 10. Full details of all retaining walls
- 11. Affordable housing mobility housing to be delivered in agreement with details submitted

12. Biodiversity improvements shall be carried out in accordance with details submitted

#### Introduction:

- 1 The application is brought before the Elected Members of the City Plans Panel following the resolution to defer the above application at the Plans Panel meeting of the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021.
- 2 The application relates to an outline planning consent that was granted in 2017 for the construction of up to 550 dwellings. The outline planning application 16/02988/OT was subject to conditions and a Section 106 legal agreement; the approval related to the principle of developing the site, and the proposed access only. All other matters were reserved. This Reserved Matters application seeks consent for the construction of 450 dwellings and is of scale, and importance to delivering housing across the city, to be brought before the City Plans Panel.
- 3 The resolution at the Plans Panel of the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 sought further information, clarification and discussion to be held in respect of:
  - Further information on the drainage issues;
  - Further clarification around the provision of a Primary School;
  - Further details around biodiversity improvements;
  - Further clarification on the proposed climate change measures;
  - Further discussions to take place on design quality including the street scene.
- 4 The following report outlines the work that has been carried out by the applicant and Officers since the previous Plans Panel meeting, to address the issues that were raised.
- 5 It should be stressed that the application is a Reserved Matters application and that the Outline planning consent provided a robust policy context and framework for this application to adhere to. The Outline consent is subject to a wide range of conditions and a Section 106 legal agreement being complied with. All the issues that were raised above, apart from design quality, were subjected to scrutiny and assessment at the Outline planning application stage. Nevertheless, further discussions have been undertaken and further information has been submitted to inform and assist the determination of this planning application.
- The recommendation brought back to Members is made in-light of the supplementary information and additional investigative reports being produced. The recommendation has not changed since the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 Plans Panel, but rather, this recommendation provides clarity and reassurances in respect of the issues that were raised. It is for the purposes of clarity that the original report and recommendation of the Chief Planning Officer is appended to the end of this report.

#### **Update:**

7 Since the Plans Panel meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021, the applicant has discussed the issues further with the Local Planning Authority, and carried out further work investigating the issues that were raised and providing additional information to demonstrate that the proposal is wholly acceptable in these regards.

- 8 Amongst the works that have been carried out since the Plans Panel are further information regarding the drainage strategy of the site and an ecological assessment with further recommendations relating to the biodiversity issues being identified on the Landscape Masterplan. The drainage and biodiversity information has been submitted together with an array of supporting information regarding all issues raised. The package of information has been reviewed, verified where necessary and assessed by Officers. The supporting information comprises of:
  - A Drainage Strategy;
  - A Technical Note on the Location of the School;
  - A further Ecological Assessment of the site;
  - An Energy Efficiency and Renewables Plan
  - A Car Charging Point Schedule and a Highways Technical Note;

# **Policy Update**

9 The planning assessment originally presented to Elected Members outlined all the relevant planning policies and assessed the issues in turn. The full planning assessment is appended at the end of this report; however, the following policies are most pertinent to the issues that the resolution of the Plans Panel raised;

# Relevant Policies from the Core Strategy are:

P10	High quality design.	
P12	Good landscaping.	
T2	Accessibility.	
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G4 Greenspace

G8 Biodiversity improvements.

EN1 Climate Change – Carbon Dioxide Reduction EN2 Sustainable design and construction

EN5 Managing flood risk.

EN8 Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

ID2 Planning obligations and developer contributions.

# Relevant Saved Policies from the UDP are:

N25 Landscaping

BD5 General Amenity issues.

# Relevant Natural Resources, Minerals and Waste Local Plan Policies are:

WATER1 Water efficiency, including incorporation of sustainable drainage

WATER4 Effect of proposed development on flood risk.

WATER6 Provision of Flood Risk Assessment.

WATER7 No increase in surface water run-off, incorporate SUDs.

10 The National Planning Framework has been amended as of the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021. The NPPF makes reference to the National Model Design Code. All paragraph references refer to the current NPPF.

## **Appraisal of Further Information Received:**

#### **Drainage Strategy**

- 11 The Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) were consulted on both the original Outline planning and application and this Reserved Matters application. The Outline consent imposed a suite of conditions to be discharged following the granting of permission; these conditions sought further information to be submitted and approved in respect of the drainage of the site and the surface water run-off rates. A conditions application referenced 19/04127/COND was submitted in August 2019 and this was accompanied by a drainage strategy showing the drainage strategy to be adopted. The conditions have yet to be discharged as they require calculations of surface water run-off rates and locations of foul water pipes. The details required for the conditions also require locations of any swales and drainage attenuation measures. Accordingly, for these details to be finalised and approved as part of the discharge of conditions application, an approved layout and exact numbers of houses is required.
- 12 Although the conditions have not been discharged in full at this stage, the Drainage Strategy that was approved as part of the discharge of conditions application has been submitted to accompany this application to form assurance that the drainage of the site is being addressed in a satisfactory way. A flood risk assessment has been carried out for the site and it is confirmed that the site falls within a 1% probability of flooding, and therefore, the site is not confirmed to be at risk from fluvial flooding. The developer has also been in contact with Yorkshire Water to ensure that the overall drainage strategy is acceptable to them.
- 13 The proposed drainage strategy seeks to ensure that surface water run-off rates do not exceed the existing rates of water discharge from the current Greenfield site. The overall strategy includes the provision of a water attenuation tank, a swale and permeable paving within private drive areas. The overall scheme also includes a variety of landscaping improvements, that include significant lengths of hedging; such landscaping will also help reduce surface water run-off rates across the site. The overall drainage strategy outlined above is considered by the LLFA to be acceptable.
- 14 The LLFA have been consulted on the discharge of conditions application and this Reserved Matters application. Through the course of discussions surrounding the overall layout of the site, the areas of open space have been designed to balance the requirements of land drainage, biodiversity net gains and the need for public recreational space. It was originally discussed prior to the Outline application being submitted that the site should where practical, use detention basins and SUDs to reduce surface water run-off rates to an acceptable level. Design considerations have led to a proposed strategy that would use an attenuation system sited in the lowest part of the site (north eastern corner of the site), together with an off-site swale to improve the water quality and slow the rate of discharge prior to it joining the existing watercourse at Cotton Mill Beck.
- 15 Swales are shallow, broad and vegetated channels designed to store and then release surface water runoff, and remove pollutants prior to meeting the existing watercourse. In this instance the swale is to be a 900mm deep construction located within the parcel of land owned and controlled by the applicant to the south east of the site. The land is also to be used for significant biodiversity improvements and the swale will contribute to the biodiversity within the site. The swale is also located within this location as it will connect to the existing culvert that links to Cotton Mill Beck.
- 16 The overall drainage strategy has been confirmed to be acceptable by the LLFA, however, the conditions imposed on the original Outline consent still remain in force and have yet to be discharged in full. Accordingly, in light of the information provided to date, it is considered that the strategy can meet the requirements of Core Strategy

Policy EN5 and Policies Water 1, 4, 6 and 7 of the Natural Resources, Minerals and Waste Local Plan.

# <u>Clarification Regarding the Requirement and Location of School</u>

- 17 Members will recall that the central portion of the site has been identified as a potential location for a future school serving a wider catchment area of Churwell/ Morley, including the future occupants of this site. The outline planning application was assessed by the Education Authority based on the then forecast, which identified a need for a two form entry school being provided in the event that 240 dwellings from the site were occupied.
- 18 A Section 106 legal agreement was prepared, which amongst other things stated that on the delivery of the 240<sup>th</sup> dwelling, the area allocated within the approved plan, equating to no less than 1.8 hectares was to be offered to the Education Authority so that they could build out a school on the site. Alternatively, should the demand in the wider area require new facilities before this, the Education Authority can serve a notice on the Owner (Persimmons) stating that they wish to pursue the development of the school site at a future date. The developer has never been expected to build out the school site and this is at the Education Authority's discretion.
- 19 At the time that the original application was assessed, the demand generated by the outline proposal for up to 550 dwellings only generated demand for single form entry school. The site offered by the developer is the equivalent of a two form entry school and was sought to ensure that capacity was there should other local SAP housing sites be brought forward (HG2-150 in particular). Although HG2-150, the large housing sites close to the White Rose Office Park, has reverted back to Green Belt within the Development Plan, this large housing scheme alone is considered to generate the most demand from all the SAP sites within the local area. The SAP site HG2-150 is not likely to come forward during this development plan period due to it being reverted back to Green Belt land following the SAP relief judgement handed down by the Inspectorate. However, a significant number of pupils are envisaged to be generated within this area, as a result of this proposal.
- 20 Ultimately, forecasting education needs in an area varies year on year and whilst it has never been envisaged that the developer would build the school, it was, and still is, required that they provide a space equivalent to that of a two form entry school so that the population generated by the development and school placement requirements for the wider catchment area can be accommodated for.
- 21 The site within this scheme equates to 1.8 hectares and this is based on the net and non-net areas of space required for a school, and which is outlined in Government Guidance: Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools. The size of the site allows for all facilities associated with schools; main buildings, play grounds/fields, car parks and pick up and drop off spaces. The intention has always been that the school will be developed by the Education Authority. Whilst the considerable CIL contributions generated by this scheme cannot be used to deliver the Primary School (due to the developer offering up the site) the monies could be used to expand secondary school capacity. Accordingly, the development provides significant benefits with the Education Authority having access to land for a further local Primary School and the means to increase capacity of secondary schools.
- 22 The site is not dissimilar to other sites of similar size that have been granted across the city. For instance, a large-scale housing scheme off Bradford Road in Tingley, was Page 21

refused by the Local Planning Authority, but subsequently approved by the Planning Inspectorate. The Inspectorate, based on the forecasts of the Education Authority, ensured that a proportion of the site was left purposely for a potential future school. Furthermore, City Plans Panel have approved an outline application for 800 dwellings on an allocated site in Wetherby which included land for a two form entry school. The land would be transferred from the landowner to the Council for the construction of the school at some stage during the construction of the development.

- 23 As previously stated, the school site has been required to enable the Education Authority to provide a school should this development, and other SAP sites, generate the need for such facilities at the time of occupation of the 240<sup>th</sup> dwelling. The location of the site is considered to be the optimal location. The siting of the potential school is centrally located within the site and therefore very accessible to those who reside on the estate; however, it is also set away from the main access junction with Victoria Road to prevent traffic flow issues around this access point. The location also allows a parcel of land to be provided that is the optimal shape to facilitate multiple design options, whilst also being in a location within the overall site that is close to a spine road that has been designed to be a 6.75 metre width and connected to shared footway and cycleways. The width of the road can safely accommodate future school buses.
- 24 Members will recall that road/ pedestrian safety were considered to be of the utmost importance, should the school be built. Unlike some other developments, which have allocated school sites within them, the location within the site is considered to provide the means to ensure that any future development is accessible and safe. The wide spine road and the shared path/cycle ways create a variety of safe routes that connect with the wider area (cycle routes through the site link with the Daisy Hill Estate and Victoria Road and beyond).
- 25 Members concerns regarding the future development of the school site are shared and have been discussed with the applicant and the Education Authority. Members raised concerns regarding future traffic generation and safe drop offs and pick ups, and with how the site could be left in the event that no school was required and/or brought forward.
- 26 Members will recall that on the previous recommendation of the Chief Planning Officer, a condition was to be imposed on any RM that required full details of how the school site would be left in the event that no school was required. Such a condition would ensure that the site is not left in a state which would be harmful to the visual amenities of the area, or in a way that would restrict its informal use of the residents who have occupied the first 240 dwellings.
- 27 At present the school is not required based on current population/ growth that has been forecasted, however, this may change in the future. However, the developer and the Education Authority have worked together to ensure that sufficient space is provided for a future school and to ensure that the site is the most practical for all future users. The developer has gone beyond what has been required from other developers in the past, to ensure that the road around the school is of sufficient width to accommodate school traffic and, to ensure that a network of wide pedestrian/ cycle ways can be provided linking the school with the wider site and Victoria Road/ Elland Road. The proposal is considered to be policy compliant in terms of education provision, subject to the proposal being subjected to a condition requiring interim details of how the site will be finished.

- 28 The LPA has a statutory duty to consider the conservation of biodiversity when making decisions on planning applications. The Core Strategy (policy G9) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 174 (d), both seek to provide biodiversity net gains to protect, enhance and establish ecological networks. Paragraph 180 further states that only where a proposal cannot mitigate or compensate for a loss in biodiversity should it be refused. Paragraph 180 also seeks to ensure that not only does the proposal enhance biodiversity, but it also makes the enhancements accessible to the public.
- 29 The policies seek to provide biodiversity firstly on the development site, but the policy and framework do recognise that there are significant benefits to financial contributions being made for off-site provisions.
- 30 The LPA has set out a target to achieve a 10% net gain on all proposals. However, whilst a Supplementary Planning Document is being prepared to support this, both local and national planning policy only require a net gain to be achieved and 10% gains cannot be insisted upon at present.
- 31 In respect of biodiversity improvements, conditions and a legal agreement formed part of the outline planning application and these secure improvements and management plans to maintain such areas. Members will recall that it was asked whether the proposal did provide a net gain in this instance and whether the scheme in this respect addresses the climate emergency declaration.
- 32 The applicant has commissioned a Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment for the proposal, based on the current state of the site and the proposed development within this RM application. The assessment uses the DEFRA Biodiversity Metric to calculate the number of biodiversity units that currently exist, and then predict the number of units that will be delivered following the biodiversity enhancement works. The applicant owns and controls the parcel of land which is to be developed, as shown on the red line boundary location plan, together with two parcels of land outside this boundary. The off site parcels of land are linked to the site, due to the existing Public Rights of Way and, as such, the delivery of biodiversity improvements in these locations is considered to be acceptable in the context of the NPPF. The overall biodiversity improvements proposed for the site include:
  - 74no. faunal refuge boxes (18 integrated swift boxes, 18 integrated house martin nest cups, 15 integrated house sparrow nest boxes, 8 regular bird boxes and 15 integrated bat boxes);
  - 8800m2 of meadow grassland;
  - 4515m2 of cornfield annuals/grassland;
  - 402no. individual trees to be planted;
  - 2373 linear metres of new ornamental hedgerows;
  - 1797 linear metres of native hedge;
  - 1.16ha of new scrubland;
  - Buffer planting around perimeter of site.
- 33 The existing site has comprises of mostly cereal crops and other neutral grassland. The biodiversity improvements increase the amount of hedgerows around the site significantly and, together with the proposed off site improvements, 4.22 further habitat units are created, above what is currently there. In the context of the biodiversity matrix,

the proposed scheme has been assessed as achieving a 10% increase in the number of habitat units created.

34 The conditions and legal agreement of the outline planning permission are still applicable to ensuring that the enhancements proposed are implemented and maintained. A further condition should be attached to any approval given for this RM application to ensure that the proposed enhancements within the Biodiversity net Gain Assessment dated 2 September 2021 are carried out. Accordingly, in line with local and national planning policy, the proposal would achieve a net gain in biodiversity terms and is policy compliant.

# Clarification of Climate Change Measures Proposed

- 35 Through the discussions at the Plans Panel meeting, uncertainty surrounded how the scheme could positively work towards the meeting the Climate Change Emergency that has been declared by the Council. Members considered that all dwellings should be net zero carbon.
- 36 Policy EN1 relates to energy usage and requires 10% of predicted energy needs of a completed development to be obtained from decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy. Policy EN2 relates to water standards of 110 litres per person per day.
- 37 The outline planning consent was subjected to a condition to ensure that policy EN1 was met. The development is a large scale residential development that will be phased and that will take time to build out. The applicant has proposed a stepped approach to ensure that the development will not only comply with policies EN1 and EN2, but exceed the requirements across the completed development.
- 38 In the first instance, 50 dwellings will include renewables, such as PV panels and will comply with Part L of Building Regulations (2013), to ensure that policy EN1, and the associated condition attached to the outline consent, is achieved. These dwellings will achieve a carbon emissions saving of 20%.
- 39 The build programme means that the approximately 150 dwellings are likely to be built out following changes in Building Regulations that is likely to come into force mid 2023. These dwellings will achieve a carbon emissions saving of 31% due to the inclusion of a range of renewable technologies. Such technologies are proposed to include:
  - Solar PV
  - Flue Gas Heat Recovery (Gas Saver);
  - Waste Water Heat Recovery (Mira Heat Capture)
  - Air Source Heat Pumps
- 40 The final phase of development is likely to affect 250 dwellings. All dwellings that are commenced on site from mid 2026 will be zero-carbon ready, which involves the construction of homes that air tight, and include renewable technologies. The homes allow occupants to have a carbon neutral lifestyle.
- 41 Further to the renewable energy and water standards provisions that are being proposed, as presented to Members at the Plans Panel, all dwellings shall be provided with Electric Vehicle Charging Points. The aims and objectives of policy EN8 are considered to have been met.

42 The proposal complies fully with the Core Strategy policies regarding climate change. Furthermore, the developer is committed to nationally agreed changes in the construction of new homes. Members did comment in the Plans Panel that the proposal should meet the standards that are to be achieved from 2026 onwards now, given that the developer has outlined how this will be achieved. It is should be noted that in planning policy terms this cannot be insisted on as the policy requirements, as outlined above, are clearly being met and, they will be exceeded across the majority of the development.

#### Discussions Surrounding Design and Layout

- 43 Members will recall that the proposed design and layout of the scheme was considered by some Members to be 'disappointing and ordinary'. It was also considered that further discussions should be held to understand the design and layout and address the issues raised regarding connectivity and the location of the potential future school.
- 44 Since the previous Plans Panel, the NPPF has been revised and notably it is acknowledged that the schemes should reflect the current national guidance regarding design, including that of the National Design Guide. Of note, within the National Design Guide it is considered that a well-designed place should encompass the three characteristics of Climate, Character and Community. Within this concept it is considered that the proposal should enhance nature; be accessible and easily navigated and provide a coherent pattern of development; provide a mix of uses; be attractive; and promote safe, social and inclusive public spaces.
- 45 It is acknowledged that when the application was first submitted, the housing density and layout was unacceptable. However, the scheme has been progressed with Planning Officers and officers from the Urban Design team to ensure that the scheme presented to Members is considered to be of a high quality.
- 46 The scheme has a spine road that circumnavigates the site and the as previously mentioned, where possible pedestrian and cycle routes have been accommodated that also connect with Victoria Road and Daisy Hill estate. The spine roads have been designed to accommodate a bus route if required in future and various segregated footpath/cycle routes provide street layouts that are welcomed and a positive contributions to place-making. The layout has routes that are direct and not convoluted and is considered to be a coherent layout that integrates open spaces in a way that will ensure that they can be safely used.
- 47 The layout and design has a clear hierarchy of buildings and a mixture of dwellings that has been identified as being required in a local housing needs assessment (including bungalows, detached and semi-detached properties and small terraced town houses). The heights and scales of the buildings respect the topography of the site and dwelling types are bespoke to this scheme. As a result of this proposal being bespoke to this application, the space and mobility standards have been fully complied with and all garden spaces meet at least the minimum 'Neighbourhoods for Living' guide.
- 48 The Highways Authority have commented further on the layout and in response a technical note was provided by the applicant. The Highways Authority have no objections to the proposal, subject to conditions ensuring the EVCP's are installed to current standards and the car parking areas are fully constructed and laid out prior to occupation of the dwellings.
- 49 The Highways Authority note that all parking arrangements are suitable for the dwelling types proposed with either sufficient off street parking in addition to a small garage, or off street parking and a garage of a larger scale to count as one off street parking space.

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The parking layout and garages are considered to sufficient to ensure that the proposal is fully compliant with policy T2. It is also agreed that a condition will be imposed to ensure that the Local Planning Authority has future control of any changes to the parking arrangements.

50 The overall layout is logical use of the space and respectful of the topography of the site and the wider suburban context. The proposed layout has logical routes for both vehicles and pedestrians/ cyclists and the dwellings have been designed to ensure that a human scale is achieved. As a result of the design and layout, it is considered that the design is inclusive and promotes a sense of place that can fosters the spirit of sustainable development. The estate is interspersed with various open spaces and access routes that will have a green setting; furthermore, with the incorporation of the range of biodiversity measures, the proposal is considered to create an attractive and unique estate which will be of a high design standard and wholly reflective of current national design policies.

# <u>Summary</u>

- 51 The Applicant has provided various supporting information to ensure that the concerns raised by Panel Members have been addressed. The supporting information further supports the original recommendation that the proposal does represent a sustainable form of development, which is of a high design quality.
- 52 With consideration being given to all other matters, the additional information provided is considered to be more than sufficient enough to alleviate the concerns raised by Panel Members and, to enable the support of the recommendation outlined at the head of this report.

# **APPENDIX 1**



Originator: Mark Jackson Tel: 0113 378 8136

Report of the Chief Planning Officer

City Plans Panel

**Date: 8 July 2021** 

**Subject: Reserved Matters Application 19/01988/RM** 

Reserved Matters application for the layout, scale, appearance and landscaping for 450 new homes, pursuant to Outline Application 16/02988/OT

Land off Lane Side Farm, Victoria Road, Churwell, Morley, Leeds

APPLICANTDATE VALIDTARGET DATEPersimmon Homes17th April 201930th May 2020

Electoral Wards Affected:	Specific Implications For:
Morley	Equality and Diversity
	Community Cohesion
Yes Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)	Narrowing the Gap

RECOMMENDATION: DEFER AND DELEGATE to the Chief Planning Officer for approval subject to the specified conditions identified below (and any amendments or additional conditions that the Chief Planning Officer may consider appropriate)

#### Conditions

- 1. Development in line with approved plans
- 2. Details of cycle parking and bin facilities
- 3. Details and provision of vehicle spaces to be laid out
- 4. Details of layout of emergency access
- 5. Details of interim landscaping to proposed school site
- 6. Details of materials
- 7. Removal of permitted development rights to convert garages
- 8. Details of homes with indicated chimneys prior to construction of identified units
- 9. Full details of all retaining walls
- 10. Affordable housing mobility housing to be delivered in agreement with details submitted

#### INTRODUCTION:

The application relates to an outline planning consent that was granted in 2017 for the construction of up to 550 dwellings. The outline planning application 16/02988/OT was subject to conditions and a Section 106 legal agreement; the approval related to the principle of developing the site, and the proposed access only. All other matters were reserved. This Reserved Matters application seeks consent for the construction of 450 dwellings and is of scale, and importance to delivering housing across the city, to be brought before the City Plans Panel.

# **PROPOSAL**

The proposal has been amended since it was first submitted and it relates to the erection of 450 units, which comprise of the following mix.

No of bedrooms/ Type	No of units	Proportion on site
Two bed apartment	23	5.2%
Two bed bungalow	8	1.8%

	1	
Two bed semi/ terrace	102	22.6%
Three bed semi/ terrace	125	27.7%
Three bed serilly terrace	120	27.770
Three bed detached	84	18.6%
Four bed semi/ terrace	20	4.5%
Four bed detached	88	19.5%
TOTAL	450	100%

The Affordable Housing provision is 15% (68 units in total) and comprises of the following mix.

No of bedrooms/ Type	No of units	Proportion on site
Two bed apartment	5	7%
Two bed bungalow	2	3%
Two bed semi/ terrace	13	19%
Three bed semi/ terrace	32	47%
Four bed semi/ terrace	8	12%
Four bed detached	8	12%

- The application is supported by a package of drawings and the following supporting documents:
  - Housing Needs Assessment
  - Planning Statement
  - Statement of Community Involvement

- Design and Access Statement
- Landscaping Strategy
- All of the technical reports such as Transport Assessment, Contaminated Land, Biodiversity and Ecological Reports, amongst others, were submitted as part of the outline application.

#### SITE AND SURROUNDINGS:

- 6 The application site extends to 24.02 hectares positioned to the east of Victoria Road between the settlements of Morley and Churwell. It is a broadly rectangular plot (excluding the area of engineering works for surface water drainage). To the west/ north-west, the site presents a 140 metre frontage directly onto Victoria Road; the red line boundary then runs to the rear of Laneside Farm itself and then to the rear of the detached and semi-detached dwellings that front the western side of Victoria Road for 316 metres. The red line boundary then adjoins the rear boundary of 6 and 8 Mountcliffe View for 18 metres and the side boundaries of 8 and 11 Mountcliffe View as well as the rear boundary of the All Saints Church for a further 94 metres. The northern boundary extends for 340 metres and runs along the rear gardens of Eastergate, Orchard Lea, the rear gardens of 19-31 Harwill Croft, the side gardens of 6, 17, 38 and 69 Harwill Road and the rear gardens of 75-91 Harwill Rise. Indeed, Harwill Road terminates adjacent to the site boundary between Nos.38 and 59. The southern boundary extends to 431 metres running adjacent to the garden of 138 Victoria Road and 2 George Grove, the rear gardens of 11-55 King George Avenue and 2-6 Daisy Hill Close and the side garden of 36 Daisy Hill Avenue. The main eastern boundary is more fluid in form but covers a distance of circa 450 metres positioned adjacent to the Green Belt.
- The site principally comprises agricultural fields that are utilised for pasture and associated with Broad Oaks Farm and the cluster of farm buildings that lie to the east, outside of the red line boundary. The site also incorporates high voltage overhead power lines, which runs across it from the southeast to the west, before continuing into the adjoining housing development through Westwood Side.
- Topographically, the site falls away from Victoria Road, sloping from a high point at Victoria Road to a lower point on the eastern boundary. The land then continues to fall more steeply to the east of the site towards the railway line. Located approximately 500m to the east of the site on the other side of the railway line is White Rose Shopping Centre. Pedestrian access is possible via a footbridge over the railway line and this footpath connection will remain as existing.
- The site is surrounded on three sides by existing residential development of mixed character. The dwellings that adjoin the site on Victoria Road vary from the stone buildings of Laneside Farm to circa 1930s red brick semi-detached and detached dwellings with front gable and round bay window detailing and more modern bungalows. It is considered that the 1930s post-war house type is the predominant character of the site frontage as it is also evident on the east side of Victoria Road. Further along Victoria Road, towards Mountcliffe View, the houses include some earlier Victorian/Edwardian terraces as well as more contemporary red brick circa 1960s/70s houses. The dwellings on Harwill Court and Harwill Road lie within a contemporary red brick housing estate of circa 1960s/70s comprising mostly two-storey semidetached dwellings whilst on the opposite side of the site, the houses on King Georges Avenue are of a similar post-War age but mostly red brick bungalows.

#### **RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY:**

- Outline planning permission application for residential development of up to 550 dwellings including means of access (Ref. 16/02988/OT) was approved on 19 October 2017. This permission was subject to a Section 106 legal agreement which secured the following obligations:
  - Affordable Housing provision 15% of total dwellings
  - Bus stop improvement contribution £40,000
  - Off-site highways works £1,500,000
  - Maintenance scheme for onsite Green Space
  - Providing a 1.8 hectare area of land for the provision of a primary school
  - Sustainable Transport Fund £491 per dwelling
  - Training and employment clause
  - Travel plan monitoring fee £4,750
  - A Section 106 management fee of £4,750
- 11 This consent places a duty for the Reserved Matters approval to be subitted within 3 years, which is 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020. This application was submitted in April 2019.

#### **HISTORY OF NEGOTIATIONS**

- 12 No pre-application enquiry was submitted for this Reserved Matters application.
- Officers have negotiated amendments to this application since its submission. The application was first submitted for 526 dwellings. A meeting was held between the applicants on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019 and Officers to discuss issues which related to design, layout, minimum internal spacing standards and the overall quality of the scheme. This meeting was followed by an email sent on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019 by the Planning Officer, which articulated the Local Planning Authority's design and layout concerns. It stated to address the layout issues, a number of units would need to be lost as it was considered the proposal constituted an over-development of the site.
- A draft revised layout was submitted on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 which removed 9 number of units, bringing the total to 517. It was not considered that these amendments addressed the fundamental concerns Officers had previously raised, and the amendments were considered to be relatively superficial. The outstanding design and layout objections were articulated in an email to the agents on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019 by David Feeney, Chief Planning Officer.
- 15 Revisions were again submitted on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 and these were re-advertised. The revisions reduced the numbers down by a further 6, to 511 in total. Again it was not considered these revisions addressed the fundamental concerns Officers had previously raised. A further meeting was held on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 with the agents. Most properties still did not meet the minimum spacing standards and the layout was still considered to be poor.
- Revised plans were then submitted on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, with the number of units reduced down to 486. The scheme was still considered to be unsatisfactory and the applicants were advised that the scheme was to be refused permission on the basis of the drawings relating to 486 dwellings.

17 The applicant has revised the scheme again to provide 450 dwellings and the proposed drawings submitted in March 2021 are the basis of this planning assessment.

#### PUBLIC/LOCAL RESPONSE:

- The application was originally publicised by 10 site notices, which were posted adjacent to the site on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2019, an advert was placed in the local press on 26th June 2019, letters of notification were sent out to all the contributors of the outline application.
- The second set of revisions were also advertised by 10 site notices which were posted adjacent to the site on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019.
- To date approximately 232 representations have been received. The points raised in these representations are highlighted below.
  - The development is not sustainable development
  - The proposal is totally contrary to the climate change emergency declared by Leeds City Council
  - Brownfield land should be developed ahead of greenfield land
  - Open spaces have cynically been placed under pylons
  - Public transport is located too far away from the site
  - Local roads cannot cope with additional traffic
  - Insufficient parking, garages will not be used for parking
  - Frontage parking looks 'ugly' not enough greenery in front of the properties
  - Loss of wildlife and nature
  - No additional infrastructure to support this development
  - The site was not allocated for housing development until after 2028
  - The proposal does not provide enough Affordable Housing, most provision is 1 and 2 bed flats. Demand is for 2 and 3 houses.
  - Local schools cannot cope with additional population
  - Loss of green space
  - Poor design
  - Scheme is over-intensive and cramped
  - Some plots are very close to existing properties on Harwill Road and would over-shadow these properties and appear over-bearing
  - Access to Broad oaks Farm should not be through the estate
  - The site is not allocated for housing until 2028
  - High density does not respect the neighbouring estates of Croft Houses and Harwills
  - Negative impact on property prices
  - Information within the SCI is incorrect. Adjacent home owners have not been contacted by Persimmon
  - Distances marked on the masterplan to existing properties on Victoria Road are incorrect.
  - The density, scale, character, design and proportion of plots are out of character with the property at Wycliffe and the other properties on Victoria Road, which are characterised by large houses on large plots, with lots of space in between the properties.
  - Parking should be discreetly located. Contrary to SPD 'Neighbourhood for Living'

- The proximity of houses to each other would render the detached or semidetached design redundant, giving the effective appearance of "a terraced wall of housing", which NFL states should be avoided.
- The plan show a connection to Harwill Road for pedestrians and cyclists.
   This include land owned by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party and there is no right for of access over this land
- It now appears that plots 95, 132, 137, 142, 257, 265, 289, 290, 309 & 377, do not conform to the minimum rear garden size guidance
- Only 15 of the 89 single garages are the 6x3m type, surely it would be better
  if they were all the same
- There are still not enough bungalows
- There is still a lack of rear garden access
- 21 Ward Members have also objected to the application. At the time the application was submitted, Morley North was represented by Councillor Tom Leadley who made the following representations:
  - Issues of drainage do not appear to have been carefully considered
  - S106 monies for off-site highway works are not adequate to mitigate the impact of this development
  - The safeguarded land for a school could be used to provide more houses upon the application site
  - Queries of public open maintenance
  - Planning submission provides contradictory information over size of green space
  - Gardens seem very small for some plots. The Planning submission should provide information on the garden area for each plot, as they provided the internal floor area
  - Housing mix is contrary to policy H4
  - Poor dull design. Design should pick up features from the good quality mid-20<sup>th</sup> century houses along the A643 in front of the site.
  - Lack of level details/ cross sections to see impact on the bungalows on King George Avenue
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> party land ownership prohibits pedestrian access onto Harwill Road
  - Scheme should include footpath access to Daisy Hill to shorten walks to Morley Rail Station
  - AH at 15% should be representative of the development as a whole
  - Green space upon a water tank would be poor
  - Even following the reduction in number of dwellings the proposal still remains unfit for approval
- 22 Councillor Finnigan has objected on the following grounds.
  - Proposal does not provide enough 2 bed homes. Contrary to Housing Mix policy
  - Fails on policy H9- minimum spacing standards
  - Design is poor and intense. Appears incongruous in comparison to properties on King George Avenue and the Harwill estate
  - Open space under electricity line and pylons is poor and not usable
  - Highways capacity concerns
  - Design is drab, utilitarian and very brick heavy, lacks fenestration
  - Garages are not used for parking, will result in frontages blighted by car parking

- Concerns over drainage
- Detached 4 bed executive style homes is not what Morley needs
- It not clear how Persimmon will incorporate polices EN1 and EN2
- In addition to these individual objections approximately 1050 batch letters of objection have been received. This is an identical letter which has been photocopied and signed by different individuals. The points raised in this letters are highlighted below.
  - Site was not allocated for housing until 2028
  - A single spine road is not acceptable for 500 dwellings
  - Will add congestion to local highway network
  - Affordable Housing should be 25% not 15% and be a better mix
  - Not sustainable development local schools do not have capacity
  - Density is over intense and higher than neighbouring estates
  - Site has poor public transport links

#### **CONSULTATION RESPONSES:**

#### 24 Education

Provision for additional Primary school places was considered at outline application, and land is safeguarded within this site for a potential new Primary school, and through an allocation in the SAP. The S106 only allows the occupation of 250 units until a new Primary school is constructed, to ensure an adequate number of places are available. The relatively low secondary yield from this site is unlikely to have a significant impact on future demand, and there is an excess of places available.

#### 25 Yorkshire Water

No comment to make on the Reserve Matters application, however we do require consultation on the drainage conditions which were imposed on the outline application.

#### 26 Mains Drainage

Object to a lack of information to support the drainage strategy and tank size. No levels have been provided so it's not possible to calculate run-off rates.

# 27 Highways

The comments received from Highways prior to the drawings submitted in March 2021 stated that there was no objection to access, subject to revisions to ensure that the requirements of the Section 38 Team (adoptions) are met.

#### 28 Landscape

No objection, landscaping strategy broadly appears to be acceptable.

# 29 Local Plans

Original comments objected to the lack of 4 bed units proposed regarding the affordable housing offer. The proposed scheme now provides 24% of affordable units as 4 bed. No objections to the green space provision as its size is in excess of the minimum requirements.

#### 30 Environmental Studies

No objection to this proposed development in terms of transportation noise.

#### 31 West Yorkshire Police

Security measures regarding lock types and lighting are recommended. Leeds has a high crime rate regarding the theft of cycles, and every property should include secure external storage for cycles.

#### 32 Contaminated Land

No objection subject to conditions placed on the outline application being discharged.

# 33 <u>Nature Conservation</u>

No objection.

#### 34 Design

Objected to original scheme owing to issues relating to design, layout, spacing, lack of variance, densities, sub-neighbourhoods, prominence of frontage parking. Scheme is contrary to the design guidance of Neighbourhoods for Living. Following further negotiations and design workshops, the revised scheme can now be supported.

## 35 Rights of Way

No objection subject to a raised table to cross the estate road being provided.

### 36 Travel Wise

The addendum to the Travel Plan is sufficient to allow the discharge of condition no 21 which was placed on the outline consent.

#### **PLANNING POLICIES:**

37 Section 38 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.

# **Development Plan**

- The Development Plan for Leeds currently comprises the following documents:
  - 1. The Leeds Core Strategy (as amended 2019)
  - 2. Saved Unitary Development Plan (UDPR) Policies (2006)
  - The Natural Resources & Waste Local Plan (NRWLP, Adopted January 2013) including revised policies Minerals 13 and 14 (Adopted September 2015).
  - 4. Any Neighbourhood Plan, once made
  - 5. Aire Valley Area Action Plan (adopted 2017)
  - 6. The Site Allocations Plan (adopted in July 2019). Following a statutory challenge, Policy HG2, so far as it relates to sites which immediately before the adoption of the SAP were within the Green Belt, has been remitted to the Secretary of State and is to be treated as not adopted. All other policies within the SAP remain adopted and should be afforded full weight.
- The application site was granted outline consent in 2017. The SAP allocated the site for housing and it is referred to within the SAP as site HG2-149. The allocation sets out site specific requirements including contributions to improve the local highway network and to provide a proportion of the site for a future school location. The outline consent, through the Section 106 agreement, ensures that these requirements are met. The site requirements also refer to a proposed Conservation Area, however, the proposal is not within a Conservation Area.

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# Relevant Policies from the Core Strategy are:

SP1 Location of development in main urban areas on previously developed land.

SP6 The Housing Requirement and Allocation of Housing Land

SP7 Distribution of Housing land and Allocations

H2 Housing development on non-allocated sites.

H3 Housing density

H4 Housing mix

H5 Affordable housing

H9 Minimum Spacing Standards

H10 Accessible Housing Standards

P10 High quality design.

P12 Good landscaping.

T2 Accessibility.

G4 Greenspace

G8 Biodiversity improvements.

EN1 Climate Change – Carbon Dioxide Reduction

EN2 Sustainable design and construction

EN4 District heating

EN5 Managing flood risk.

EN7 Protection of mineral resources (coal, sand, gravel).

EN8 Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

ID2 Planning obligations and developer contributions.

# Relevant Saved Policies from the UDP are:

GP5 General planning considerations

N23 Incidental open space around development.

N25 Landscaping

BD5 General Amenity issues.

LD1 Landscaping

# Relevant DPD Policies are:

GP1 Presumption in favour of sustainable development.

MINERALS3 Surface Coal resources

AIR Major development proposals to incorporate low emission

measures.

WATER1 Water efficiency, including incorporation of sustainable drainage

WATER4 Effect of proposed development on flood risk.

WATER6 Provision of Flood Risk Assessment.

WATER7 No increase in surface water run-off, incorporate SUDs.

LAND1 Land contamination to be dealt with.

LAND2 Development should conserve trees and introduce new tree

planting.

# Supplementary Planning Guidance and Documents

# 40 The following SPGs and SPDs are relevant:

- SPG13 Neighbourhoods for Living: A Guide for Residential Design in Leeds
- Street Design Guide SPD
- Parking SPD
- Travel Plans SPD
- Sustainable Construction SPD

#### National Planning Policy

- The revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), published in February 2019, and the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG), published March 2014, replaces previous Planning Policy Guidance/Statements in setting out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. One of the key principles at the heart of the Framework is a presumption in favour of Sustainable Development.
- 42 Relevant paragraphs are highlighted below.

Paragraph 12 Paragraph 34 Paragraph 59 Paragraph 64 Paragraph 91	Presumption in favour of sustainable development Developer contributions Boosting the Supply of Housing Need for Affordable Housing Planning decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive
0 1	and safe places
Paragraph 108	Sustainable modes of Transport
Paragraph 110	Priority first to pedestrian and cycle movements
Paragraph 111	Requirement for Transport Assessment
Paragraph 117	Effective use of land
Paragraph 118	Recognition undeveloped land can perform functions
Paragraph 122	Achieving appropriate densities
Paragraph 127	Need for Good design which is sympathetic to local Character and history
Paragraph 130	Planning permission should be refused for poor design
Paragraph 155	Inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided
Paragraph 163	Planning decisions should not increase flood risk
Paragraph 170	Planning decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment

#### **MAIN ISSUES**

- 1. Principle of development
- 2. Climate Change
- 3. Layout
- 4. Scale/ Density
- 5. Spacing Standards
- 6. Appearance/ Design
- 7. Designing Out Crime
- 8. Gardens Areas
- 9. Impact on Adjacent Occupiers
- 10. Highways
- 11. Affordable Housing
- 12. Greenspace/Landscaping
- 13. Drainage
- 14. Rights of Way
- 15. Other issues

# Principle of Development

- The principle of development has already been established through the granting of outline planning permission for residential development for up to 550 units. It is also noted here that the site is allocated with the SAP as housing site HG2-149 and the principle of developing the site for housing has been established previously. The outline consent is still extant and valid and it is the Reserved Matters which are being applied for under this application. The Reserved Matters are:
  - Layout
  - Scale
  - Appearance
  - Landscaping
- These issues will form the appraisal of this application. Many of the points raised in the objections are concerned with the principle of development, such as: the loss of green land; capacity on the local highway network; and the impact upon education facilities. These matters were considered under the outline application which was approved, and do not therefore form part of this application.

## Climate Change

- Leeds City Council has made a declaration of a Climate Emergency and, that the overall aim of the Local Planning Authority's Development Plan seeks to support this statement of intent. The Core Strategy and Unitary Development Plan seek to ensure that all development is sustainable and that wherever possible, a development minimises its impact upon global warming.
- Policies EN1, EN2 and EN8 consider ways to reduce carbon and energy use in developments. Policy EN1 relates to the reduction of carbon and emissions; EN2 seeks to ensure that development is of a sustainable design and construction, and; EN8 requires developments to provide electric vehicle charging points to facilitate. The proposed development will seek to use sustainable construction techniques and sustainably sourced materials.
- The outline planning consent conditioned details to be provided in relation to how the development will reduce carbon emissions and energy use. A separate condition was also imposed requiring electric vehicle charging points to be provided. These conditions remain in force and will need to be complied with. At this reserved matters stage, no further information in these respects is required and it is considered that the development will fully accord with these policies.
- The Reserved Matters application has sought to provide a layout that is logical, legible and accessible to pedestrians and cyclists. The layout seeks to connect the site to the wider area with a series of footpaths and green spaces. The layout is considered to be in accordance with the Neighbourhoods for Living SPD and the inclusion of a school that will be accessible to existing neighbourhoods as well as residents from this site, is welcomed, and shows that the scheme is supportive of the aims and objectives of the Climate Emergency declaration.

- The layout of the development has been amended significantly and the density of development has been scaled down; the proposal now relates to the construction of 450 dwellings, of which 68 are to be affordable (15% of the total).
- Prior to these revisions the proposal was compromised by the quantum of development, and the large proportion of detached houses. There were themes within the original layout which were considered to be poor and these are highlighted below for reference:
  - Lack of space between plots.
  - Dominance and amount of frontage parking.
  - Location of parking, some spaces seem to be located randomly and in front of other properties.
  - Orientation of some plots, deeper properties been located at splayed angles to smaller adjacent properties, causing dominance and over-shadowing issues.
  - Staggered positioning of some plots, is a particular issue when the adjacent plot is taller/ bigger.
  - Expanse of rear boundaries treatments (plots 434 and 450 for example).
  - Plots 110 and 11, surrounded by rear gardens, and totally dominated by parking. These plots would overshadow adjacent properties.
  - Awkward shaped, small gardens on the most of the terraced blocks. Fails the minimum standards 2/3 rule.
  - Lack of assimilation and patterning between some plots heights and types.
  - Lack of overall identity throughout the site, lack of focal points, landmarks, and an overall sense of identity and place.
- The site is broadly rectangular in shape and surrounded by residential developments on three sides; the fourth side is open fields allocated as Green Belt land. The site is accessed by a main spinal road that circulates the site, with a large 1.8 hectares space centrally located which is allocated for the provision of a school (to be provided following the building out of up to 240 dwellings). The site will comprise of an urban contemporary and rural contemporary character areas. The character areas are set out to create a transition between the existing urban built fringes of the site and the rural areas beyond the site to the southeast. The character areas are defined by materials and, together with the use of various green spaces, will create different focal points, landmarks and contribute to the overall character and identity of the site.
- Over-head electricity pylons run through the site, which constrain how the houses are positioned. The proposal is required to provide open space within the confines of the site and representations have stated that these spaces have been positioned where the pylons are sited due to the necessity to have such provisions on site, and the requirement for the dwellings to be set away from them. The revised scheme incorporates several areas of green space that vary in size and shape. The entrance to the site is fairly open with an area of green space that allows views in to the site and softens the visual impact of the estate from Victoria Road. The section of green space that runs along the line of the pylons allows a wide landscaped footpath to run from the northwest to the south east, and also provides a buffer between a significant number of dwellings and the allocated land for a school. The other large area of green space follows the general route of the existing public footpath and this leads to a large square parcel of open space. Other small pockets of green spaces are included where curves in the spinal road meet junctions with the tertiary roads.

- The scale of the site allows for a variety of focal points, feature areas and different land marks to be created that can be used to navigate through the site. Whilst upon entering the site dwellings form a line along the common shared boundary to the southwest, the apartments have a different scale to the wider houses to provide a focal point and visual node to navigate from. The various long open spaces provide various views through the site and landscaped buffers integrate the housing into the wider area and the green spaces.
- The proportion of the site that will facilitate the provision of the school in the future is fairly central within the site and this would maximise connectivity to the wider site and wider area, for pedestrians and cyclists. The siting of this land also ensures that the school is not a dominant focal point at the entrance to the site. A condition should be attached to any approval to ensure that should the phasing of the development allow dwellings to be occupied prior to the delivery of the school being delivered, the area to cater for the school shall be landscaped in a satisfactory way. This will ensure that the visual appearance of the site is acceptable throughout the development of the scheme in its entirety and that the parcel of land is maintained and not left in an unkempt state.
- The layout has been significantly improved upon when compared to the initial 55 submission; it is not considered that the proposal would constitute the overdevelopment of the site, when it is considered that the scale of the development has been reduced (including the number of detached properties) and the layout has improved the spaces between individual properties. Although the density of development is lower than the prescribed density within the Core Strategy, the character of the site is greatly improved to reflect the historic residential character of the area. Unlike the previous iterations of the scheme, the reduced density has improved the spacing between properties and although there is frontage parking to some house types, this has been significantly reduced across the overall layout. Although the car parking to the apartments is to the rear, unlike the original schemes the car parking courts have been removed and parking to individual plots is defined and logical. The prevailing characteristic of the development is not one that is dominated by car parking and hard landscaping; furthermore, the provision of extensive landscaping and green spaces creates visual interest and a sense of place.
- The adopted SPD 'Neighbourhood for Living' states 'the scale, massing, height of 56 proposed development should be considered in relation to its surroundings. It needs to respond well to that of adjoining buildings, the context of the development in terms of scale massing and height in relation to adjacent buildings, topography, and general patterns in the area'. The proposal has been amended and spaces between properties have been achieved to assimilate those of the surrounding areas. The relationships between the proposed units and the surrounding residential streets is considered to be acceptable and much improved upon compared with previous iterations of the scheme. Cross sections have been provided to demonstrate the relationships between the properties and the wider area in terms of height and massing; furthermore, the layout shows spaces between properties and densities of units that marry well to the surrounding street. For instance the properties that back on to the properties along Victoria Road have wider gaps that replicate the existing units; alternatively, the density of the dwellings along the boundaries with the properties on King Edward Avenue are closer together and laid out in a similar linear way. The spacing of the dwellings is not as great as the surrounding area due to the fact that current national and local planning policy requires higher, more efficient use of land. None the less, the proposal is considered to achieve a positive design and

layout of houses that will have a sympathetic relationship with the existing residential area, whilst efficiently developing the land.

The layout of the proposal is considered to respond to the form, density and character of the wider area. The proposal is considered to be acceptable with regards to policy P10 of the adopted Core Strategy and the design guidance of the adopted 'Neighbourhoods for Living', together with Paragraph 127 of the NPPF.

## Scale (Density)

- The site is also allocated for housing development through the SAP. Policy H3 of the adopted Core Strategy recommends a minimum of 40 dwellings per hectare in urban locations such as this.
- The submitted D&A provided the following information with regard to densities

Total Site Area	20.3 ha
Site area of POS	3.84 ha
Site area for school	1.8 ha
Other roads and footpaths	1.66ha
New Development Area	13 ha
Density of Development (net development only)	34.6 dwelling per ha

- This density is slightly under the guidance of policy H3. However this policy does allow for variances, to allow proposals to reflect local context and character. On balance it is considered that the density of the development is acceptable with regard to unit numbers, given that the proposal does reflect the general character of the area in terms of housing types and sizes. As such, the proposal complies with policy H3.
- The housing types vary in form from relatively narrow 'tall' properties, to much wider and shorter ones. The scale of the properties within the wider area vary significantly and it is considered a positive trait of the development to offer an array of house types and sizes. The reduced scale of the scheme, together with the re-arrangement of the layout, has improved the spaces between the properties and this proposal is not considered to appear awkward and unsympathetic to the topography of the site or wider area. The scale and heights of the proposed dwellings provides visual interest to the street scenes and the variety of house types and sizes enable the scheme to comply with the aims and objectives of policy H4 (housing tenure and mix).

#### Space Standards

Since the application was submitted revised plans have been submitted which now ensure the internal floor area of all the units types meets with the guidance of policy H9. The outline planning consent preceded the adoption of the amended Core Strategy and policy H9. As such no condition was attached to the outline planning consent and therefore there is no duty for them to comply with the specifics of this

policy. Nevertheless, the proposal does achieve dwellings that meet the overall internal floor area requirements and the garden spaces generally accord with guidance requiring them to be two thirds of this internal space.

# Appearance/ Design/ Elevations

- The design of the proposal utilises standard Persimmon House types, which have been constructed elsewhere on other sites within Leeds. The house types vary in height, scale and appearance and these are considered to be acceptable in terms of the general appearance of the street and the individual buildings. Issues were raised with the applicants regarding the design and detailing of the property types. In response to concerns raised with the applicant, an increased pallet of materials are now proposed, including artificial stone, render and different brick colours and a 'Village Range' has amended the standard house types by a variance in materials, and the use of art stone cills and heads. Moreover, house Type E has been removed from the scheme and a redesign of the apartments has been submitted.
- The apartments are set close to the main entrance of the site and the massing of the structures, together with the elevational treatments has been amended. The siting of the apartments has been improved and their position has been altered to ensure that the buildings are not close to the public highway. The design and siting of these buildings is considered to be acceptable with regards to policy P10 of the Core Strategy.
- Although it is acknowledged that the buildings proposed are similar to other schemes that Persimmon have delivered within the city, the proposal has included chimneys on properties that are most prominent with the street. The proposed traditional feature will provide further variety to the house types and additional visual interest. Such details will be the subject of a condition, should the application be approved and it is considered that adding design features such as this will enhance the schemes character and sense of place.
- It is acknowledged that the layout of the proposal does still have some car parking in front of some of the properties and that some of the groups of terraces will have bins stored to the front and no access to the rear. Whilst this is not the ideal situation, details of how the bins will be stored should be conditioned and it will be expected that the details include a covered store that will organise such features and ensure that bins are not an unwelcomed feature within the street. With regards to access, the proposal will have to meet building regulations and the size of the properties are expected to comply with such legislation. It is not considered that this issue alone would warrant the refusal of planning permission.
- Concerns have been raised that like other residential schemes within the wider area, garages would be converted into additional habitable accommodation. This has been the case on a nearby Persimmon scheme at May Avenue Churwell, which was completed in 2019. The garages provided meet current parking standards (and smaller garage sizes are accompanied with sufficient off street car parking) and contribute to the design and appearance of the dwellings. It is considered to ensure that the Local Planning Authority retains a degree of control over the long term existence of these garage/ storage spaces, permitted development rights that would allow the garage to be converted are removed from any permission granted. Provided that a condition is imposed, the satisfactory design and parking standards of these individual houses will be retained.

## **Designing Out Crime**

An Architectural Liaison officer has commented on the proposal and outlined the standards which doors and windows should meet. The layout of the proposal is considered to be acceptable in this respect as boundary treatments are proposed to define public and private spaces and natural surveillance is achieved where properties face the public open spaces. It is proposed to have strong boundary treatments to the rear gardens for privacy as well as security and overall the proposal is considered to be satisfactory in this regard.

#### Garden Areas

The application submission shows the detailed layout of the scheme and the private garden areas for each dwelling. The submitted layout shows that the majority of the gardens are two thirds the size of the internal space of the dwelling and have acceptable distances to the rear boundary to ensure acceptable privacy standards.

# Impact on Adjacent Occupiers

- The application site is surrounded by existing dwellings to 3 sides. 1960's bungalows lie to the north-west of the site along King Edward Avenue. Large Arts and Crafts semi-detached properties form the 1920/30's lie to the north of the site fronting Victoria Road and increasingly modern detached suburban properties lie to the southeast on Harwill Croft, and 1970's styled semi-detached properties on Harwill Rise. Many occupiers of these adjacent properties have objected to the application on overlooking, over-shadowing and dominance grounds.
- The distances to the adjacent properties meet the minimum guidance contained within 'Neighbourhoods for Living' which requires a distance of 18m between rear elevation of properties and 12m between a 'side to rear' relationship, based on the information provided. Typically the 'rear to rear' distances to the bungalows on King Edward Avenue are 21m, 30m to the properties on Victoria Road and 24m to the properties on Harwill Croft. The 'rear to side' distances are typically 12m with regard to properties situated on King George Avenue, 17m with regard to Victoria Road, no such relationships exist to the east, but with regard to Harwill Croft, several 'side to side' relationships vary between 9 m and 13.3m, which exceeds minimum guidance.
- Sectional drawings have been provided within the site. Parts of the development include building steeply pitched 2 storeys dwellings opposite existing bungalows (situated on King George Avenue), and the level of details submitted doesn't show the levels with such relationships. It is not known if any retaining structures are required to gardens, or the land level will be altered. The level of detail submitted in this respect is not adequate to make a full assessment, as they are level changes which are not shown on the submitted plans. In any event, there is a condition on the outline permission that requires details of levels to be submitted and approved.

#### **Highways**

A significant majority of the objections received on highways grounds to this application are concerned with the impact on the local highway network, as opposed to the internal arrangement of this proposed development. The traffic impact of the proposal was addressed, and access was approved, when the outline planning

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application (16/02988/OT) was approved in 2017. The Reserved Matters can only relate to the issues of car parking associated with the individual plots and the layout and specification of the proposed roads.

- The new dwellings are to be served from a hierarchy of streets, and the primary access is from the A643, Victoria Road. The access will lead to a main primary loop, which then leads onto secondary routes, shared surfaces (to private drives) and new paths (including the alterations to public right of way no.37 Morley). This layout is an amended scheme which is considered to better cater for cyclists and pedestrians, and the future increased movement adjacent the proposed school. The site is also served by a secondary emergency access, of which, full details of its layout and use should be the subject of a condition, should the application be approved
- In line with the comments that were made by the Local Highways Authority, the widths of the roads have been amended, and issues like garage dimensions have been changed in line with current guidance. The proposal is considered to have addressed the details raised by the Highways Authority and it is considered that the proposal would not give rise to any significant highway safety concerns. In this respect, subject to conditions, the proposal is considered to be acceptable in terms of both local (policy T2) and national (paragraph 109) planning policies.

#### Affordable Housing

- Affordable Housing (AH) is proposed at 15% provision. The table in paragraph 3 of this report highlights the proposed AH provision. The proposed AH contribution has been amended to increase the number of 3+ and 4 bed affordable dwellings.
- Policy H5 states that 'The affordable units should be a pro-rata mix in terms of sizes and house types of the total housing provision, unless there are specific needs which indicate otherwise, and they should be suitably integrated throughout a development site'. A number of objections have been received relating to the original proposed affordable housing and the fact that the affordable housing offer was not representative of the scheme as a whole.
- The applicant has supported their Affordable Housing offer with a submitted Housing Needs Assessment, which is based on the Council's SHMA with regard to the need for affordable flats. The SHMA and local waiting list data for affordable accommodation does show that there is a need for 4 bed units within the Morley and Churwell area. SHMA table 6.7 suggest that there is a 6% need for 4 bed affordable units within the Leeds district area whilst Table 6.4 refers to an imbalance of 3+ bed housing, not only 3 bed. Paragraph 6.14 of the SHMA also states that it "should be also noted that 60.8% of households considering an intermediate tenure dwelling aspire to a property with 3 or more bedrooms which would suggest scope for increasing the proportion of larger affordable dwellings on development sites".
- The affordable housing mix that is proposed is considered to be acceptable and compliant with policy H5. The Section 106 legal agreement that was entered into by the applicant in the Outline Planning application, secures the provision and delivery of the affordable housing proposed.

# Greenspace/ Landscaping

- The application proposes 3.84 ha of green space. Policy G4 would expect 2.1 ha of green space on site, given the quantum and mix of housing, therefore the application is providing well over the required amount on site. Taking this into account, it is acknowledged that some of the green space may be slightly compromised by the placement of the pylons, and utilising an area above a water storage tank, the amount of green space is in significant excess of the minimum requirements, and would still be usable and accessible to the public. The exact landscaping of the green space are subject to the landscaping conditions attached to the outline planning application. On balance, although it is acknowledged that there are elements of the Green Space that are compromised with the existing siting of pylons, the areas of Green Space provided are sufficient enough in quantity and of an acceptable quality overall to ensure that the proposal is compliant with policy G4.
- The updated Landscaping Masterplan shows hedging to the boundaries with the existing neighbouring residential streets, and also a significant green landscaping corridor to the southeast of the site. Whilst the Masterplan outlines the overall strategy to integrate the open spaces with the proposed built environment, the full details will still be subject to condition 6 of the outline permission that requires full details of numbers and species of planting. The Masterplan outlines the vision for the landscaping of the site and it is considered that it is acceptable, subject to details being provided through the existing condition.

## Mains Drainage

- Mains Drainage have stated the revised layout does not provide any additional drainage information and therefore the outline planning application conditions (Nos 15 to 20) still apply. The proposed site layout plan only shows a below ground attenuation tank located within the green space to the south east corner of the site, which is located in a different location to that previously shown (at outline stage).
- The outline planning consent was subject to several conditions relating to drainage of surface water run-off from the site. The conditions require the developer to submit for approval details of the drainage of surface water run-off from the development, together with details of the interim surface water drainage measures to be implemented during construction. The conditions remain in force and they sufficiently deal with the issues of drainage associated with this proposal.

#### Rights of Way

- Public Footpath No.37 Morley crosses the site at present, and the proposed schemes seeks to divert this. The Rights of Way Officer has raised no objection to this, but has stated a raised table to cross the estate road is required where the secondary access and the diverted section of the footpath meet the estate road and this needs to be shown on a revised map.
- It is noted that original layouts include a pedestrian and cycle link from the north-eastern part of the site, to the highway of Harwill Road, and an objector has stated this link includes land owned by them, private 3<sup>rd</sup> party, and there is no right of way over this land. The link with the internal road to Harwill Road would have been ideal, however, this is a private civil issue between land owners and the LPA do not have the jurisdiction to resolve this dispute. It is considered that whilst the link to Harwill Road would have improved connectivity across proposed and existing residential estates the refusal of consent on this ground alone cannot be warranted.

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#### Other issues

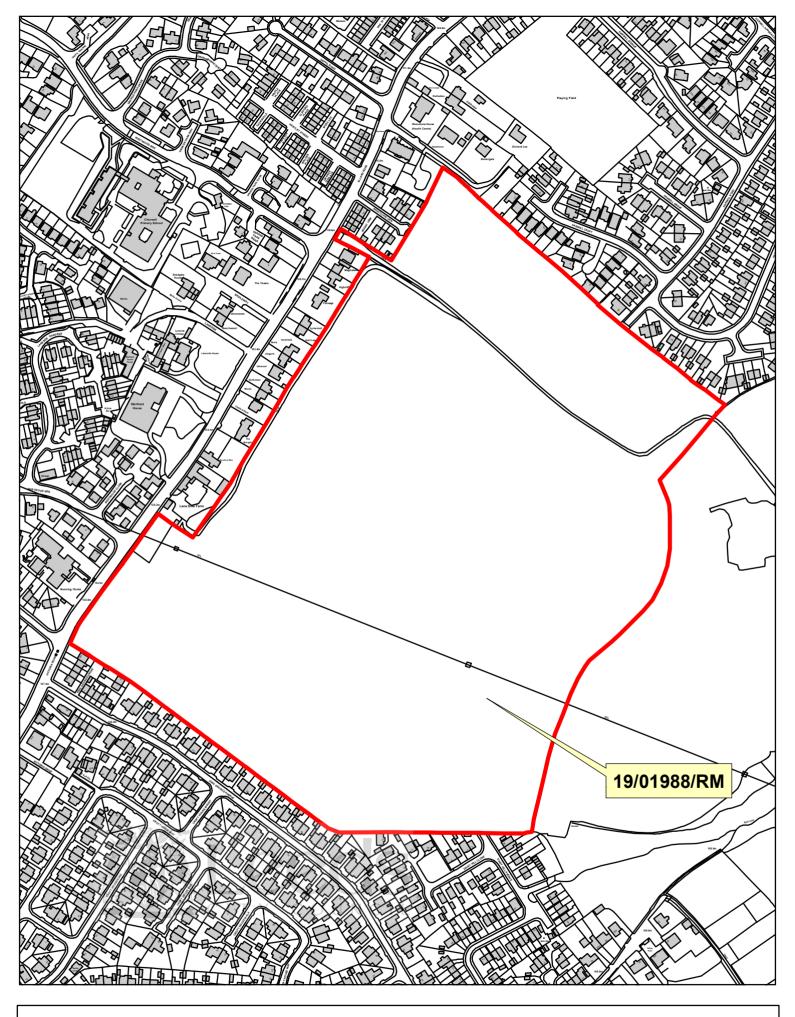
Issues raised by the representations received include certain aspects that are not relevant to this Reserve Matters application. These include the principle of development, loss of green land, the impact on local services, individual house values, amenity, and infrastructure. These were considered at the outline stage where planning consent was granted up to 550 units. The CIL payment would contribute towards additional infrastructure including education provisions. The S106 package linked to the Outline consent also includes contributions towards off-site improvements works, including those to the Millgarth round-about.

#### **CONCLUSION**

- The amended proposal is considered to be acceptable in terms of the scale, density, layout and design detailing of the propose dwellings. The amendments to the application have significantly reduced the number of dwellings across the site (approximately by 18% from the density permitted at Outline stage), and this has allowed a satisfactory layout to be achieved that provides a good mixture of housing that is required within the area. The site is an important strategic housing site, and the largest allocation within the south Leeds area and overall the design of the dwellings, together with the proposed layout, provides a housing scheme that responds to the general character.
- With consideration being given to all other matters, the proposal is considered to be acceptable and recommended for approval subject to conditions.

## **Background Papers**

Application Files: 16/02988/OT and 19/01988/RM



# **CITY PLANS PANEL**

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**SCALE: 1/3500** 



