

DELEGATED DECISION OFFICER REPORT

AUTHORISATION	INITIALS	DATE
File completed and officer recommendation:	SB	16/12/2019
Planning Development Manager authorisation:	TF	23/12/2019
Admin checks / despatch completed	CC	23/12/2019
Technician Final Checks/ Scanned / LC Notified / UU Emails:	AP	23/12/19

Application: 19/01565/FUL **Town / Parish:** Thorpe Le Soken Parish Council

Applicant: Mrs Margaret Chalmers

Address: June Cottage High Street Thorpe Le Soken

Development: Proposed dropped kerb.

1. Town / Parish Council

Thorpe Le Soken Parish Council

2. Consultation Responses

ECC Highways Dept

The information that was submitted in association with the application has been fully considered by the Highway Authority.

The proposal is off the High Street which is subject to a 30-mph speed limit and where on street parking is at a premium. The property retains adequate room and provision for off street parking, therefore:

From a highway and transportation perspective the impact of the proposal is acceptable to Highway Authority subject to the following measures:

1. No unbound materials shall be used in the surface treatment of the proposed vehicular access within 6 metres of the highway boundary
Reason: To ensure that loose materials are not brought out onto the highway, in the interests of highway safety and in accordance with Policy DM 1.

2. The vehicular access shall be constructed at right angles to the highway boundary and to the existing carriageway. The width of the access at its junction with the highway shall not be more than 3.6 metres (4 low kerbs), shall be retained at that width for 6 metres within the site and shall be provided with an appropriate dropped kerb vehicular crossing of the footway.

Reason: to ensure that vehicles can enter and leave the highway in a controlled manner in the interest of highway safety in accordance with policy DM1.

3. Areas within the curtilage of the site for the purpose of the reception and storage of building materials shall be identified clear of the highway.

Reason: To ensure that appropriate loading / unloading facilities are

available to ensure that the highway is not obstructed during the construction period in the interest of highway safety in accordance with policy DM1.

The above conditions are to ensure that the proposal conforms to the relevant policies contained within the County Highway Authority's Development Management Policies, adopted as County Council Supplementary Guidance in February 2011.

Informative 1: On the completion of the Development, all roads, footways/paths, cycle ways, covers, gratings, fences, barriers, grass verges, trees, and any other street furniture within the Site and in the area it covers and any neighbouring areas affected by it, must be left in a fully functional repaired/renovated state to a standard accepted by the appropriate statutory authority.

Informative 2: Any work within or affecting the highway is to be laid out and constructed by prior arrangement with, and to the requirements and satisfaction of, the Highway Authority, details to be agreed before the commencement of works.

The applicants should be advised to contact the Development Management Team by email at: development.management@essexhighways.org or by post to:

SMO1 ' Essex Highways
Colchester Highways Depot,
653 The Crescent,
Colchester.
CO4 9YQ.

3. Planning History

01/01541/FUL	Dropped kerb	Approved	18.10.2001
19/01565/FUL	Proposed dropped kerb.	Current	

4. Relevant Policies / Government Guidance

NPPF National Planning Policy Framework February 2019

National Planning Practice Guidance

Tendring District Local Plan 2007

QL9 Design of New Development

QL10 Designing New Development to Meet Functional Needs

QL11 Environmental Impacts and Compatibility of Uses

TR1A Development Affecting Highways

TR7 Vehicle Parking at New Development

Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft (June 2017)

SPL3 Sustainable Design

Local Planning Guidance

Essex County Council Car Parking Standards - Design and Good Practice

Status of the Local Plan

The 'development plan' for Tendring is the 2007 'adopted' Local Plan. Paragraph 213 of the NPPF (2019) allows local planning authorities to give due weight to adopted albeit outdated policies according to their degree of consistency with the policies in the NPPF. Paragraph 48 of the NPPF also allows weight to be given to policies in emerging plans according to their stage of preparation, the extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies and the degree of consistency with national policy. As of 16th June 2017, the emerging Local Plan for Tendring is the Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft.

Section 1 of the Local Plan (which sets out the strategy for growth across North Essex including Tendring, Colchester and Braintree) was examined in January and May 2018 and the Inspector's initial findings were published in June 2018. They raise concerns, very specifically, about the three 'Garden Communities' proposed in north Essex along the A120 designed to deliver longer-term sustainable growth in the latter half of the plan period and beyond 2033. Further work is required to address the Inspector's concerns and the North Essex Authorities are considering how best to proceed.

With more work required to demonstrate the soundness of the Local Plan, its policies cannot yet carry the full weight of adopted policy, however they can carry some weight in the determination of planning applications. The examination of Section 2 of the Local Plan will progress once matters in relation to Section 1 have been resolved. Where emerging policies are particularly relevant to a planning application and can be given some weight in line with the principles set out in paragraph 48 of the NPPF, they will be considered and, where appropriate, referred to in decision notices. In general terms however, more weight will be given to policies in the NPPF and the adopted Local Plan.

5. Officer Appraisal (including Site Description and Proposal)

Site Description

The application site is located to the north east of High Street, inside the development boundary and conservation area of Thorpe Le Soken. The site serves a bungalow constructed of white render with a tiled roof. The front and side of the site is concrete for parking. The front drive side boundaries are made up of a hedge to one side and a fence to the other.

Proposal

The application proposes a dropped kerb to allow for access onto the site.

Representations

No letters of representation were received.

Assessment

The main considerations are the highway safety and the impact on visual amenity.

Policy Considerations

The adopted Tendring District Local Plan (2007) Policies QL9 and QL11 seek to ensure that all new development makes a positive contribution to the quality of the local environment and protects or enhances local character. Policy SPL3 of the Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft (June 2017) carries forward the sentiments of these saved policies.

Policy TR1a states that proposals for development affecting highways will be considered in relation to the road hierarchy to reducing and preventing hazards and inconvenience to traffic and to the effects on the transport system including the physical and environmental capacity to accommodate the traffic generated. Policy TR7 states that the adopted car parking standards will be applied.

Highway Safety, Impact on Visual Amenity and Conservation Area

Essex County Council Highways has been consulted on this application and confirm that from a highway and transportation perspective the impact of the proposal is acceptable subject to conditions relating to access width, storage of building materials and that no unbound materials are to be used.

The site is located within the Thorpe Le Soken Conservation area. The dropped kerb will not have any adverse visual impact on the area and other nearby properties have dropped kerbs to provide access, which sets a precedent for development.

It is therefore considered that subject to compliance with the imposed conditions there would be no significant adverse impact on the highway, visual amenity, Conservation area nor will it result in any adverse impact on neighbouring properties.

Conclusion

It is considered that the proposed development is consistent with the National and Local Plan Policies identified above, and in the absence of any material harm resulting from the development, the application is recommended for approval.

6. Recommendation

Approval - Full

7. Conditions / Reasons for Refusal

- 1 The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason - To comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

- 2 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plan: block plan titled June Cottage, High Street, Thorpe Le Soken, Essex, CO16 0EF scaled at 1:500 scanned on 12th December 2019.

Reason - For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

- 3 No unbound material shall be used in the surface treatment of the vehicular access.

Reason - To avoid displacement of loose material onto the highway in the interests of highway safety.

- 4 The vehicular access shall be constructed at right angles to the highway boundary and to the existing carriageway. The width of the access at its junction with the highway shall not

be more than 3.6 metres (4 low kerbs) and shall start from the end of the existing dropped kerb for No. 162, shall be retained at that width for 6 metres within the site and shall be provided with an appropriate dropped kerb vehicular crossing of the footway.

Reason - To ensure that vehicles can enter and leave the highway in a controlled manner in the interest of highway safety in accordance with policy DM1.

- 5 Areas within the curtilage of the site for the purpose of the reception and storage of building materials shall be identified clear of the highway.

Reason - To ensure that appropriate loading / unloading facilities are available to ensure that the highway is not obstructed during the construction period in the interest of highway safety in accordance with policy DM1.

8. Informatives

Positive and Proactive Statement

The Local Planning Authority has acted positively and proactively in determining this application by assessing the proposal against all material considerations, including planning policies and any representations that may have been received and subsequently determining to grant planning permission in accordance with the presumption in favour of sustainable development, as set out within the National Planning Policy Framework.

Are there any letters to be sent to applicant / agent with the decision? If so please specify:	YES	NO
Are there any third parties to be informed of the decision? If so, please specify:	YES	NO