

## DELEGATED DECISION OFFICER REPORT

| AUTHORISATION   | INITIALS | DATE       |
|---|----------|------------|
| File completed and officer recommendation:                  | CC       | 22/09/2020 |
| Planning Development Manager authorisation:                 | SCE      | 22.09.2020 |
| Admin checks / despatch completed                           | CC       | 23.09.2020 |
| Technician Final Checks/ Scanned / LC Notified / UU Emails: | BB       | 23/09/2020 |

**Application:** 20/01019/FUL **Town / Parish:** Harwich Town Council

**Applicant:** Mr and Mrs Gilbert

**Address:** 24 Gordon Way Dovercourt Harwich

**Development:** Proposed single storey side and rear extension.

### 1. Town / Parish Council

Ms Lucy Ballard, Town  
Clerk Harwich Town  
Council  
02.09.2020

Harwich Town Council has no objection to this application.

### 2. Consultation Responses

Building Control and  
Access Officer  
14.08.2020

No adverse comments at this time.

### 3. Planning History

20/01019/FUL Proposed single storey side and rear extension. 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

SP1 Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

SPL3 Sustainable Design

### **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 Paragraph 213 of the NPPF (2019) allows local planning authorities to give due weight to adopted albeit outdated policies according to their degree of consistency with the policies in the NPPF.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, with further hearing sessions in January 2020. The Inspector issued his findings in respect of the legal compliance and soundness of the Section 1 Plan in May 2020. He confirmed that the plan was legally compliant and that the housing and employment targets for each of the North Essex Authorities, including Tendring, were sound. However, he has recommended that for the plan to proceed to adoption, modifications will be required – including the removal of two of the three Garden Communities 'Garden Communities' proposed along the A120 (to the West of Braintree and on the Colchester/Braintree Border) that were designed to deliver longer-term sustainable growth in the latter half of the plan period and beyond 2033.

The three North Essex Authorities are currently considering the Inspector's advice and the implications of such modifications with a view to agreeing a way forward for the Local Plan. With the Local Plan requiring modifications which, in due course, will be the subject of consultation on their own right, its policies cannot yet carry the full weight of adopted policy, however they can carry some weight in the determination of planning applications – increasing with each stage of the plan-making process.

The examination of Section 2 of the Local Plan (which contains more specific policies and proposals for Tendring) will progress once modifications to the Section 1 have been consulted upon and agreed by the Inspector. 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)**

Proposal

This application seeks permission for the erection of a single storey side and rear extension.

Application Site

The site is located to the south of 'Gordon Way', within the development boundary of Harwich. The site serves a semi-detached two storey dwelling, the exterior walls are constructed from brickwork and timber cladding with a pitched tiled roof. The surrounding streetscene is comprised from dwellings of a similar design and appearance.

Assessment

Design and Appearance

One of the core planning principles of The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as stated at paragraph 130 is to always seek to secure high quality design. Saved Policies QL9, QL10 and QL11 aim to ensure that all new development makes a positive contribution to the quality of the local environment, relates well to its site and surroundings particularly in relation to its form and design and does not have a materially damaging impact on the amenities of occupiers of nearby properties. Emerging Policy SP1 reflects these considerations.

The proposed rear extension will measure 4.1 metres deep on the east elevation, 8.3 metres wide at the rear, 5.4 metres deep to the west, it then measure 1.1 metres deep to the front where it meets with the proposed side extension. It will have a maximum height of 3.7 metres.

The proposed side extension will be constructed on the west elevation and measures 2.6 metres wide by 3.5 metres deep, it will have a maximum height of 3.3 metres.

The proposed extensions are deemed to be of a size and scale in keeping with the existing dwelling. The application site can accommodate for a proposal of this size and scale whilst retaining adequate private amenity space.

The proposed side and rear extensions will be constructed using materials to match those of the existing dwelling. The exterior walls will be finished using a matching brickwork and the roof will be pitched and finished with matching roof tiles.

The proposal will be visible to the streetscene both from the front elevation and at the gap between the host dwelling and the neighbouring dwelling to the west. However, as the proposal will be constructed from matching materials it is deemed to be of a design in keeping with the existing dwelling and surrounding area. The proposal is not considered to have any adverse effects on the visual amenities of the area.

#### Impact to Neighbouring Amenities

The NPPF, Paragraph 17, states that planning should always seek to secure a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings. In addition, Policy QL11 of the saved plan states that amongst criteria 'development will only be permitted if the development will not have a materially damaging impact on the privacy, daylight or other amenities of occupiers of nearby properties'. These sentiments are carried forward in Policy SPL3 of the Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft (June 2017).

The proposal is of a single storey nature and therefore has no significant threat of overlooking onto neighbouring properties. The proposal is therefore not thought to have a significant impact on the loss of privacy.

The proposal is to be built away from the shared neighbouring boundary line to the east of the site and will have no significant impact or harm to the amenities of this dwelling.

Due to its siting on the site the proposal is built away from the neighbouring dwelling west of the site and is not considered to have any significant impact on the amenities of this neighbouring dwelling.

The proposed side and rear extension are therefore not thought to pose any significant threat nor harm to the loss of privacy not daylight, nor thought to cause any other harm to the amenities of the adjacent neighbours.

#### Highway issues

The proposal will result in the loss of a parking space due to the demolition of the existing garage, however there is adequate parking located at the front of the site.

#### Other Considerations

Harwich Town Council has no objection to this application.

Building control have no adverse comments at this time.

No other letters of representation have been received.

#### Conclusion

It is considered that the proposed development is consistent with the National and Local Plan Policies identified above. In the absence of material harm resulting from the proposal 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; Drawing No. 15-2020-04 Revision P, and Drawing No. 15-2020-03 Revision P

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

### 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.

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

