

DELEGATED DECISION OFFICER REPORT

AUTHORISATION	INITIALS	DATE
File completed and officer recommendation:	AP	03/11/2020
Planning Development Manager authorisation:	TC	03/11/2020
Admin checks / despatch completed	CC	04.11.2020
Technician Final Checks/ Scanned / LC Notified / UU Emails:	BB	04/11/2020

Application: 20/01226/FUL **Town / Parish:** Frating Parish Council

Applicant: Sothinathan

Address: Tall Trees Clacton Road Frating

Development: Variation of condition 2 of approval 19/01113/FUL to alter approved plan to reflect new rooms in the loft.

1. Town / Parish Council

Frating Parish Council Frating Parish Council has no objection to this application.
26.10.2020

2. Consultation Responses

n/a

3. Planning History

91/01286/FUL	Conversion of dwelling and extensions to form residential care home plus living accommodation.	Refused	04.02.1992
92/00235/FUL	Conversion of dwelling and extensions to form nursing and residential care home for 16 residents, plus private living accommodation	Refused	19.05.1992
93/00645/FUL	(Tall Trees, Clacton Road, Frating) Change of use, workshop and store to meat preparation area	Approved	20.07.1993
95/00611/FUL	(Tall Trees, Clacton Road, Frating) Change of use - Workshop and store to meat preparation area (renewal of planning permission TEN/93/0645)	Approved	04.07.1995
98/00782/FUL	Change of use - workshop and store to meat preparation area (Renewal of planning permission TEN/95/0611)	Approved	11.08.1998
05/01461/FUL	Proposed detached garage	Approved	16.11.2005
05/01808/FUL	Proposed Conservatory	Approved	13.01.2006

18/30040/PREAPP	Proposal for one new dwelling.	Refused	10.03.2018
19/01113/FUL	One new dwelling with garage, parking and landscaping.	Approved	22.10.2019
19/01872/FUL	Proposed 5 Bungalows with associated parking, landscaping and access.	Refused	06.02.2020
20/01226/FUL	Variation of condition 2 of approval 19/01113/FUL to alter approved plan to reflect new rooms in the loft.	Current	

4. Relevant Policies / Government Guidance

NPPF National Planning Policy Framework February 2019
National Planning Practice Guidance

Tendring District Local Plan 2007

COM6 Provision of Recreational Open Space for New Residential Development

EN1 Landscape Character

EN6 Biodiversity

EN6A Protected Species

EN11A Protection of International Sites European Sites and RAMSAR Sites

HG1 Housing Provision

HG9 Private Amenity Space

HG14 Side Isolation

QL1 Spatial Strategy

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)

CP1 Sustainable Transport and Accessibility

HP5 Open Space, Sports & Recreation Facilities

LP1 Housing Supply

LP2 Housing Choice

LP3 Housing Density and Standards

LP4 Housing Layout

PPL3 The Rural Landscape

PPL4 Biodiversity and Geodiversity

SP1 Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

SPL1 Managing Growth

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, 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.

In relation to housing supply:

The NPPF requires Councils to boost significantly the supply of housing to meet objectively assessed future housing needs in full. In any one year, Councils must be able to identify five years’ worth of deliverable housing land against their projected housing requirements (plus an appropriate buffer to ensure choice and competition in the market for land, account for any fluctuations in the market or to improve the prospect of achieving the planned supply). If this is not possible, or housing delivery over the previous three years has been substantially below (less than 75%) the housing requirement, paragraph 11 d) of the NPPF requires applications for housing development needing to be assessed on their merits, whether sites are allocated for development in the Local Plan or not.

At the time of this decision, the supply of deliverable housing sites that the Council can demonstrate falls below 5 years and so the NPPF says that planning permission should be granted for development unless the adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework as a whole. Determining planning applications therefore entails weighing up the various material considerations. The housing land supply shortfall is relatively modest when calculated using the standard method prescribed by the NPPF (which applies until such time that the figures in the new Local Plan are adopted).

In addition, the actual need for housing (as set out in the emerging Local Plan) was found to be much less than the figure produced by the standard method when tested at the recent Examination in Public of the Local Plan, as recently endorsed by the Local Plan Inspector. Therefore, in weighing the benefits of residential development against the harm, the Inspector’s endorsement of the lower housing requirement figure is a strong material consideration which tempers the amount of weight that can reasonably be attributed to the benefit of additional new housing to address the perceived shortfall – given that, against the Local Plan housing requirement there is, in fact, a surplus of supply as opposed to a shortfall.

5. Officer Appraisal

Site Description

The application site is land currently forming part of the extensive grounds associated with Tall Trees located on the northern side of Frating Hill within the parish of Frating. There are examples of detached residential dwellings with large curtilages within the immediate vicinity to the east and west, although the area is typically rural in character, with agricultural land on the opposite side of Frating Hill. The site lies outside of a Settlement Boundary, as established within both the saved Tendring Local Plan 2007 and the emerging Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft (June 2017).

Proposal

This application seeks planning permission for the variation of Condition 2, the approved plans, of previously approved 19/01113/FUL. The changes proposed are detailed as follows:

- Increase in ridge height of 1.74 metres to facilitate the conversion of the loft space to create two bedrooms and en-suites with restricted head height.
- Two pitched roof dormers and two roof lights will be inserted on the rear roof slope while a rear facing window will be created in the gable at second floor level.

Assessment

The adopted Tendring District Local Plan (2007) "Saved" Policies QL9, QL10 and QL11 seek to ensure that all new development makes a positive contribution to the quality of the local environment and character, by ensuring that proposals are well designed, relate satisfactorily to their setting and are of a suitable scale, mass and form. These sentiments are carried forward in Policy SPL3 of the Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond Publication Draft (June 2017).

Changes to the proposed dwelling are largely concentrated at the rear and therefore will not have a significant impact on the character of the area. The footprint and overall design of the proposed dwelling will remain the same and the increase in ridge height is modest when compared to the scale of the dwelling. Due to the siting of the proposed dwelling, set back from the road and screened by mature hedging there will be no significant impact to the street scene or character of the area.

The provision of a second floor bedrooms looking north is considered acceptable given the considerable distance from any neighbouring properties along with existing planting that will offer a degree of screening.

Given the nature of the proposed changes and significant distance to neighbouring properties, there is not considered to be any adverse impacts to existing amenities.

There are no other impacts in comparison to the previously approved scheme.

Other Considerations

Frating Parish Council has no objection to the application.

No other letters of representation have been received.

6. Recommendation

Approval - Full

7. Conditions

- 1 The development hereby permitted shall begin before 22nd October 2022.

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 plans, drawing numbers P04, P02, P01b, P03, and the document titled 'Planning Support Statement'.

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

- 3 There should be no obstruction above ground level within a 2.4 m wide parallel band visibility splay as measured from and along the nearside edge of the carriageway across the entire site frontage. Such vehicular visibility splays shall be provided before the road junction/access is first used by vehicular traffic and retained free of any obstruction at all times.

Reason - To provide adequate inter-visibility between users of the access and the public highway in the interests of highway safety.

- 4 Prior to occupation of the development a vehicular turning facility, of a design to be approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority shall be constructed, surfaced and maintained free from obstruction within the site at all times for that sole purpose.

Reason - To ensure that vehicles can enter and leave the highway in a forward gear in the interest of highway safety.

- 5 Prior to the occupation of the proposed dwelling, the proposed private drive shall be widened to a width of 5.5 metres for at least the first 6 metres from the back of carriageway boundary and provided with an appropriate dropped kerb crossing of the footway/verge.

Reason - To ensure that vehicles can enter and leave the highway in a controlled manner and to ensure that opposing vehicles can pass clear of the limits of the highway, in the interests of highway safety.

- 6 No unbound material shall be used in the surface treatment of the vehicular access within 6 metres of the highway boundary.

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

- 7 There shall be no discharge of surface water onto the Highway.

Reason - To prevent hazards caused by water flowing onto the highway and to avoid the formation of ice on the highway in the interest of highway safety.

- 8 Prior to occupation of the proposed development, details of the steps that will be taken to physically protect retained trees shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - To ensure the protection of the retained trees on site.

- 9 Prior to the commencement of any above ground works, a scheme of hard and soft landscaping works for the site shall be submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall include any proposed changes in ground levels and also accurately identify spread, girth and species of all existing trees, shrubs and hedgerows on the site and indicate any to be retained, together with measures for their protection which shall comply with the recommendations set out in the British Standards Institute publication "BS 5837: 2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction.

Reason - To enhance the visual impact of the proposed works.

- 10 All changes in ground levels, hard landscaping, planting, seeding or turfing shown on the approved landscaping details shall be carried out during the first planting and seeding season (October - March inclusive) following the commencement of the development or in such other phased arrangement as may be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Any trees or shrubs which, within a period of 5 years of being planted die, are removed or seriously damaged or seriously diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species, unless the Local Planning Authority agrees in writing to a variation of the previously approved details.

Reason - To enhance the visual impact of the proposed works.

- 11 Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3, Schedule 2, Part 1 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (or any Order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification), the western side elevation window serving a bedroom at first floor level shall be glazed in obscure glass before the development hereby permitted is first occupied and shall thereafter be permanently retained in this approved form.

Reason - To protect the privacy and amenities of the occupiers of adjoining property.

- 12 No development or preliminary ground works of any kind shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the planning authority.

Reason - The Historic Environment Record shows there are extensive archaeological deposits within the area identified from cropwork evidence.

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.

Highways Informatives

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.

Under Section 148 of the Highways Act 1980 it is an offence to deposit mud, detritus etc. on the highway. In addition, under Section 161 any person, depositing anything on a highway which results in a user of the highway being injured or endangered is guilty of an offence. Therefore, the applicant must ensure that no mud or detritus is taken onto the highway, such measures include provision of wheel cleaning facilities and sweeping/cleaning of the highway.

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.

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.

Legal Agreement Informative - Recreational Impact Mitigation

This application is the subject of a legal agreement and this decision should only be read in conjunction with this agreement. The agreement addresses the following issues: mitigation against any recreational impact from residential developments in accordance with Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitat and Species Regulations 2017.

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