Notice of Eastern BCP Planning Committee

Date: Thursday, 20 March 2025 at 10.00 am

Venue: HMS Phoebe, BCP Civic Centre, Bournemouth BH2 6DY

Membership:

Chair: Cllr P Hilliard

Vice Chair: Cllr M Le Poidevin

Cllr J Clements Cllr D A Flagg Cllr M Gillett

Cllr G Martin Cllr Dr F Rice Cllr J Salmon Cllr T Slade Cllr M Tarling Cllr L Williams

All Members of the Eastern BCP Planning Committee are summoned to attend this meeting to consider the items of business set out on the agenda below.

The press and public are welcome to view the live stream of this meeting at the following link:

https://democracy.bcpcouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MId=6109

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Jill Holyoake on 01202 127564 or email democratic.services@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office: Tel: 01202 118686 or email press.office@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

This notice and all the papers mentioned within it are available at democracy.bcpcouncil.gov.uk

GRAHAM FARRANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE

12 March 2025







Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

Declaring interests at meetings

Familiarise yourself with the Councillor Code of Conduct which can be found in Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

Before the meeting, read the agenda and reports to see if the matters to be discussed at the meeting concern your interests



What are the principles of bias and pre-determination and how do they affect my participation in the meeting?

Bias and predetermination are common law concepts. If they affect you, your participation in the meeting may call into question the decision arrived at on the item.

Bias Test	Predetermination Test
In all the circumstances, would it lead a fair minded and informed observer to conclude that there was a real possibility or a real danger that the decision maker was biased?	At the time of making the decision, did the decision maker have a closed mind?

If a councillor appears to be biased or to have predetermined their decision, they must NOT participate in the meeting.

For more information or advice please contact the Monitoring Officer (janie.berry@bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

Selflessness

Councillors should act solely in terms of the public interest

Integrity

Councillors must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships

Objectivity

Councillors must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias

Accountability

Councillors are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this

Openness

Councillors should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing

Honesty & Integrity

Councillors should act with honesty and integrity and should not place themselves in situations where their honesty and integrity may be questioned

Leadership

Councillors should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs

AGENDA

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence from Members.

2. Substitute Members

To receive information on any changes in the membership of the Committee.

Note – When a member of a Committee is unable to attend a meeting of a Committee or Sub-Committee, the relevant Political Group Leader (or their nominated representative) may, by notice to the Monitoring Officer (or their nominated representative) prior to the meeting, appoint a substitute member from within the same Political Group. The contact details on the front of this agenda should be used for notifications.

3. Declarations of Interests

Councillors are requested to declare any interests on items included in this agenda. Please refer to the workflow on the preceding page for guidance.

Declarations received will be reported at the meeting.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2025.

7 - 10

11 - 18

5. Public Issues

To receive any requests to speak on planning applications which the Planning Committee is considering at this meeting.

The deadline for the submission of requests to speak is 10.00am on Wednesday 19 March 2025 [10.00am of the working day before the meeting]. Requests should be submitted to Democratic Services using the contact details on the front of this agenda.

Further information about how public speaking is managed at meetings is contained in the Planning Committee Protocol for Public Speaking and Statements, a copy of which is included with this agenda sheet and is also published on the website on the following page:

https://democracy.bcpcouncil.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=613

Summary of speaking arrangements as follows:

Speaking at Planning Committee (in person or virtually):

• There will be a maximum combined time of five minutes to speak in objection and up to two persons may speak within the five minutes.

- There will be a further maximum combined time of five minutes to speak in support and up to two persons may speak within the five minutes.
- No speaker may speak for more than half this time (two and a half minutes) UNLESS there are no other requests to speak received by the deadline OR it is with the agreement of the other speaker.

Anyone who has registered to speak by the deadline may, as an alternative to speaking/for use in default, submit a written statement to be read out on their behalf. This must be provided to Democratic Services by 10.00am of the working day before the meeting, must not exceed 450 words and will be treated as amounting to two and a half minutes of speaking time.

Please refer to the full Protocol document for further guidance.

Note: The public speaking procedure is separate from and is not intended to replicate or replace the procedure for submitting a written representation on a planning application to the Planning Offices during the consultation period.

6. Schedule of Planning Applications

To consider the planning applications as listed below.

See planning application reports circulated with the agenda, as updated by the agenda addendum sheet to be published one working day before the meeting.

Councillors are requested where possible to submit any technical questions on planning applications to the Case Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting to ensure this information can be provided at the meeting.

The running order in which planning applications will be considered will be as listed on this agenda sheet.

The Chair retains discretion to propose an amendment to the running order at the meeting if it is considered expedient to do so.

Members will appreciate that the copy drawings attached to planning application reports are reduced from the applicants' original and detail, in some cases, may be difficult to read. To search for planning applications, the following link will take you to the main webpage where you can click on a tile (area) to search for an application. The link is:

https://www.bcpcouncil.gov.uk/Planning-and-building-control/Search-andcomment-on-applications/Search-and-comment-on-applications.aspx

Councillors are advised that if they wish to refer to specific drawings or plans which are not included in these papers, they should contact the Case Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting to ensure that these can be made available. To view Local Plans, again, the following link will take you to the main webpage where you can click on a tile to view the local plan for that area. The link is: <u>https://www.bcpcouncil.gov.uk/Planning-and-building-control/Planning-policy/Current-Local-Plans/Current-Local-Plan.aspx</u> **27 Wolverton Road, Bournemouth BH7 6HU** Boscombe East and Pokesdown ward 7-2024-9356-C Change of use of dwellinghouse (Class C3) into House in Multiple

19 - 32

a)

Occupation (Class C4)

No other items of business can be considered unless the Chair decides the matter is urgent for reasons that must be specified and recorded in the Minutes.

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- 1 -

BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH AND POOLE COUNCIL

EASTERN BCP PLANNING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 February 2025 at 10.00 am

Present:-

Cllr M Le Poidevin – Vice Chair, in the chair

Present: Cllr C Adams (In place of Cllr T Slade), Cllr P Canavan (In place of Cllr G Martin), Cllr M Gillett, Cllr B Hitchcock (In place of Cllr Dr F Rice), Cllr J Salmon and Cllr T Trent (In place of Cllr J Clements)

82. <u>Apologies</u>

Apologies were received from Cllr J Clements, Cllr D Flagg, Cllr G Martin, Cllr P Hilliard, Cllr Dr F Rice, Cllr T Slade, Cllr M Tarling and Cllr L Williams.

In Cllr Hilliard's absence, the Vice Chair took the chair for this meeting.

83. <u>Substitute Members</u>

Notification was received of the following substitute members:

- Cllr C Adams for Cllr T Slade
- Cllr P Canavan for Cllr G Martin
- Cllr B Hitchcock for Cllr Dr F Rice
- Cllr T Trent for Cllr J Clements

84. <u>Declarations of Interests</u>

There were no declarations of interest.

85. <u>Confirmation of Minutes</u>

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2025 were confirmed as a accurate record.

86. <u>Public Issues</u>

The Chair advised that there were a number of requests to speak on the planning applications as detailed below.

87. <u>Schedule of Planning Applications</u>

The Committee considered planning application reports, copies of which had been circulated and which appear as Appendices A - D to these minutes in the Minute Book. A Committee Addendum Sheet was published on 19 February 2025 and appears as Appendix E to these minutes.

88. Hengist Caravan Park, Wick Lane, Bournemouth, BH6 4LE

East Southbourne and Tuckton ward

7-2024-951-AG

Engineering works to infill the existing residential caravan park to stabilise the surrounding banks

Public Representations Objectors Martin Giles

Ward/Other Councillors ♦ Cllr Bernadette Nanovo, supporting

Resolved to GRANT permission in accordance with the recommendation set out in the officer's report as updated in the Committee Addendum dated 19.2.25.

NOTE: As per the recommendation, the Committee agreed to REFUSE permission if the s106 agreement was not signed due to the failure to provide suitable biodiversity net gain.

Voting: Unanimous

89. <u>156 River Way, Christchurch, BH23 2QU</u>

Commons ward

8/24/0151/FUL

Sever rear garden of 156 River Way. Construct 1 x 4 bed dwelling with garage, associated parking and amenity space. Demolish existing garage to create access to new dwelling, to include bin presentation point to the front of the site

The Chair reported that notification had been received from Cllr M Phipps that she wished to withdraw her call in and allow the application to be dealt with under delegated powers. Members of the committee and the person registered to speak in support of the application indicated that they would be happy to support this approach.

RESOLVED to delegate power to the Head of Planning Operations to determine the application.

Voting: For – 6, Against – 1, Abstain – 0

90. Royal Arcade, Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, BH1 4BT

Boscombe West ward

7-2023-16746-AX

Change of use of the upper floors to mixed office and business startup space; a mix of retail and other commercial uses at ground floor including the creation of a food hall area with pop up eateries; loss of 4 retail units to provide lift access to upper floors and ground floor toilets; partial loss of 2 retail units to provide bin stores; replacement of external ground floor doors and windows to alley; installation of cycle parking and roof mounted photovoltaics – Regulation 3

Public Representations

No speakers registered

Resolved to GRANT permission in accordance with the recommendation set out in the officer's report.

Voting: Unanimous

91. <u>44 Minterne Road Christchurch BH23 3L</u>

Mudeford, Stanpit and West Highcliffe ward

8/24/0720/HOU

Demolition of existing garage. Erection of 2 storey side extension, single storey rear extension & creation of 1st floor accommodation

Public Representations Objectors ↔ None registered

Resolved to REFUSE permission in accordance with the recommendation set out in the officer's report.

Voting: For – 6, Against – 0, Abstain – 1

The meeting ended at 11.31 am

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PLANNING COMMITTEE - PROTOCOL FOR SPEAKING / STATEMENTS AT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 5 Schedule 4

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The following protocol facilitates opportunities for applicant(s), objector(s) and supporter(s) to express their views on planning applications which are to be considered at a Planning Committee meeting. It does not therefore relate to any other item considered at Planning Committee in respect of which public speaking/questions shall only be permitted at the discretion of the Chair.
- 1.2 This protocol is separate from and is not intended to replicate or replace the procedure for submitting a written representation on a planning application to the Council during the consultation period.
- 1.3 The email address for any person who wishes to register a request to speak and / or submit a statement for the purposes of this protocol or to correspond with Democratic Services on any aspect of this protocol is <u>democratic.services@bcpcouncil.gov.uk</u>

2. Order of presentation of an application

- 2.1 The running order in which planning applications are heard will usually follow the order as appears on the agenda unless the Planning Committee otherwise determines.
- 2.2 In considering each application the Committee will normally take contributions in the following order:
 - a) presenting officer(s);
 - b) objector(s);
 - c) applicant(s) /supporter(s);
 - d) councillor who has called in an application (who is not a voting member of the Planning Committee in relation to that application) / ward councillor(s);
 - e) questions and discussion by voting members of the Planning Committee, which may include seeking points of clarification.

3. Guidance relating to the application of this protocol

- 3.1 The allocation of an opportunity to speak / provide a statement to be read out at Planning Committee under this protocol is not intended as a guarantee of a right to speak / have a statement read out.
- 3.2 The Chair has absolute discretion as to how this protocol shall be applied in respect of any individual application so far as it relates to the conduct of the

meeting and as provided for in this protocol including whether in any circumstance it should be waived, added to or otherwise modified. This discretion includes the opportunity to speak (or submit a statement), varying the speaking time allowed and the number of speakers. In the event of any uncertainty as to the interpretation or application of any part of this protocol a determination by the Chair will be conclusive.

3.3 A failure to make a request to speak / submit a statement in accordance with any one or more of the requirements of this protocol will normally result in the request / submission of the statement not being treated as validly made and therefore not accepted.

4. Electronic facilities relating to Planning Committee

4.1. All electronic broadcasting and recording of a Planning Committee meeting by the Council and the provision of an opportunity to speak remotely at such a meeting is dependent upon such matters being accessible, operational and useable during the meeting. As a consequence, a meeting other than a wholly virtual meeting may proceed, including consideration of all applications relating to it, even if it cannot be electronically broadcast, recorded and/or any person is unable to speak / be heard at the time when the opportunity to do so on an application is made available.

5. Attending in person at a Planning Committee meeting / wholly virtual meetings

5.1. Unless otherwise stated on the Council's website and/or the agenda Planning Committee will be held as a physical (in person) meeting. A Planning Committee meeting will only be held as a wholly virtual meeting during such time as a decision has been taken by BCP Council that committee meetings of the Council may be held in this way. In the event of there being a discretion as to whether a Planning Committee meeting shall be held as a wholly virtual meeting, then the Head of Planning in consultation with the Chair shall be able to determine whether such a discretion should be applied.

6. Provisions for speaking at Planning Committee (whether in person or remotely)

- 6.1. Any applicant, objector or supporter who wishes to speak at a Planning Committee meeting must register a request to speak in writing with Democratic Services at <u>democratic.services@bcpcouncil.gov.uk</u> by **10.00 am of the working day before the meeting.**
- 6.2. A person registering a request to speak must:
 - a) make clear as to the application(s) on which they wish to speak and whether they support or oppose the application; and
 - b) provide contact details including a telephone number and/or email address at which they can be reached / advised that they have been given an opportunity to speak.

- 6.3. There will be a maximum combined time of **five** minutes allowed for any person(s) objecting to an application to speak. A further combined **five** minute maximum will also be allowed for any supporter(s). Up to **two** people may speak during each of these allotted times (the applicant(s) and any agent for the applicant(s) will each count as separate speakers in support). No speaker may speak for more than half this time (i.e. **two and a half minutes)** unless:
 - a) there is no other speaker who has also been allotted to speak for the remainder of the five minutes allowed;
 - b) or the other allotted speaker fails to be present or is unable to be heard (in the case of remote speaking), at the Planning Committee meeting at the time when the opportunity to speak on the application is made available; or
 - c) the other allotted speaker expressly agrees to the speaker using more than half of the total speaking time allowed.
- 6.4. If more than two people seek to register a wish to speak for either side, an officer from Democratic Services may ask those seeking the opportunity to speak to appoint up to two representatives to address the Planning Committee. In the absence of agreement as to representatives, entitlement to speak will normally be allocated in accordance with the order when a request was received by Democratic Services. However, in the event of an applicant(s) and / or the agent of the applicant(s) wishing to speak in support of an application such person(s) will be given the option to elect to speak in preference to any other person registered to speak in support.
- 6.5. A person registered to speak may appoint a different person to speak on their behalf. The person registered to speak should normally notify Democratic Services of this appointment prior to the time that is made available to speak on the application.
- 6.6. A person may at any time withdraw their request to speak by notifying Democratic Services by email or in person on the day of that meeting. However, where such a withdrawal is made after the deadline date for receipt of requests then the available slot will not be made available for a new speaker. In cases where more than two requests to speak within the allocated five minutes were received by the deadline, Democratic Services will, where practicable, reallocate the slot in date receipt order.
- 6.7. During consideration of a planning application at a Planning Committee meeting, no question should be put or comment made to any councillor sitting on the Planning Committee by any applicant, objector or supporter whether as part of a speech or otherwise.

7. Questions to person speaking under this protocol

7.1. Questions will not normally be asked of any person who has been given the opportunity to speak for the purpose of this Protocol. However, the Chair at their absolute discretion may raise points of clarification.

8. Speaking as a ward councillor or other BCP councillor (whether in person or remotely)

- 8.1. Any ward councillor shall usually be afforded an opportunity to speak on an application at the Planning Committee meeting at which it is considered. Every ward councillor who is given the opportunity to speak will have up to **five** minutes each.
- 8.2. At the discretion of the Chair, any other councillor of BCP Council not sitting as a voting member of the Planning Committee may also be given the opportunity to speak on an application being considered at Planning Committee. Every such councillor will have up to **five** minutes each.
- 8.3. Any member of the Planning Committee who has exercised their call in powers to bring an application to the Planning Committee for decision should not vote on that item but subject to any requirements of the Member Code of Conduct, may have or, at the discretion of the Chair, be given the opportunity to speak in connection with it as a ward councillor or otherwise in accordance with the speaking provisions of this protocol. Such a member will usually be invited after speaking to move themselves from the area where voting members of the Planning Committee are sitting and may be requested to leave the room until consideration of that application has been concluded.

9. Speaking as a Parish or Town Council representative (whether in person or remotely)

9.1. A Parish or Town Council representative who wishes to speak as a representative of that Parish or Town Council must register as an objector or supporter and the same provisions for speaking as apply to any other objector or supporter applies to them. This applies even if that representative is also a councillor of BCP Council.

10. Content of speeches (whether in person or remotely) and use of supporting material

10.1. Speaking must be done in the form of an oral representation. This should only refer to planning related issues as these are the only matters the Planning Committee can consider when making decisions on planning applications. Speakers should normally direct their points to reinforcing or amplifying planning representations already made to the Council in writing in relation to the application being considered. Guidance on what constitutes planning considerations is included as part of this protocol. Speakers must take care to avoid saying anything that might be libellous, slanderous, otherwise abusive to

any person or group, including the applicant, any officer or councillor or might result in the disclosure of any personal information for which express consent has not been given.

- 10.2. A speaker who wishes to provide or rely on any photograph, illustration or other visual material when speaking (in person or remotely) must submit this to Democratic Services **by 12 noon two working days before the meeting**. All such material must be in an **electronic** format to be agreed by Democratic Services and will usually be displayed on the speaker's behalf by the presenting officer. The maximum number of slides to be displayed must not exceed **five**. Material provided after this time or in a format not agreed will not be accepted. The circulation or display of hard copies of such material at the Planning Committee meeting itself will normally not be allowed. In the interests of fairness, any material to be displayed must have already been submitted to and received by the Council as part of a representation/submission in relation to the application by the date of agenda publication for that Planning Committee meeting.
- 10.3. The ability to display material on screen is wholly dependent upon the availability and operation of suitable electronic equipment at the time of the Planning Committee meeting and cannot be guaranteed. Every person making a speech should therefore ensure that it is not dependent on such information being displayed.

11. Remote speaking at Planning Committee

- 11.1. In circumstances where the Council has put in place electronic facilities which enable a member of the public to be able to speak remotely to a Planning Committee meeting, a person may request the opportunity to speak remotely via those electronic facilities using their own equipment. In circumstances other than a wholly virtual meeting this would be as an alternative to attending the meeting in person. The provisions of this protocol relating to speaking at Planning Committee shall, unless the context otherwise necessitates, equally apply to remote speaking.
- 11.2. The opportunity to speak remotely is undertaken at a person's own risk on the understanding that should any technical issues affect their ability to participate remotely the meeting may still proceed to hear the item on which they wish to speak without their participation.
- 11.3. A person attending to speak remotely may at any time be required by the Chair or the Democratic Services Officer to leave any electronic facility that may be provided.

12. Non-attendance / inability to be heard at Planning Committee

- 12.1. It is solely the responsibility of a person who has been given an opportunity to speak on an application at a Planning Committee meeting (whether in person or remotely) to ensure that they are present for that meeting at the time when an opportunity to speak is made available to them.
- 12.2. A failure / inability by any person to attend and speak in person or remotely at a Planning Committee meeting at the time made available for that person to speak on an application will normally be deemed a withdrawal of their wish to

speak on that application. This will not therefore usually be regarded as a reason of itself to defer or prevent an application from being heard.

12.3. This protocol includes provisions enabling the opportunity to provide a statement as an alternative to speaking in person / as a default option in the event of a person being unable to speak at the appropriate meeting time.

13. Submission of statement as an alternative to speaking / for use in default

- 13.1. A person (including a councillor of BCP Council) who has registered to speak, may submit a statement to be read out on their behalf as an alternative to speaking at a Planning Committee meeting (whether in person or remotely).
- 13.2. Further, any person speaking on an application at Planning Committee may, at their discretion, additionally submit a statement which can be read out as provided for in this protocol in the event of not being able to attend and speak in person or remotely at the time when an opportunity is made available for that person to speak on the application. The person should identify that this is the purpose of the statement.

14. Provisions relating to a statement

- 14.1 Any statement submitted for the purpose of this protocol:
 - a) must not exceed 450 words in total unless the statement is provided by a ward councillor or any other councillor who is not voting on the application under consideration in which case the statement may consist of up to 900 words;
 - b) must have been received by Democratic Services by 10.00am of the working day before the meeting by emailing <u>democratic.services@bcpcouncil.gov.uk</u>
 - c) when submitted by a member of the public (as opposed to a councillor of BCP Council), will be treated as amounting to **two and a half minutes** of the total time allotted for speaking notwithstanding how long it does in fact take to read out;
 - d) must not normally be modified once the deadline time and date for receipt of the statement by Democratic Services has passed unless such modification is requested by an officer from Democratic Services; and
 - e) will normally be read out aloud by an officer from Democratic Services having regard to the order of presentation identified in this protocol.
- 14.2 A person who has been given the right to speak and who has submitted a statement in accordance with this protocol may at any time withdraw that statement prior to it being read out by giving notice to Democratic Services. Where such withdrawal occurs after the deadline date for registering a request to speak has passed, then a further opportunity for a statement to be submitted will not be made available. If the statement that has been withdrawn was submitted as an alternative to speaking, then if the person

withdrawing the statement wishes instead to exercise their opportunity to speak in person they should notify Democratic Services on or before the time of withdrawing the statement.

15. Assessment of information / documentation / statement

- 15.1. BCP Council reserves the right to check any statement and any information / documentation (including any photograph, illustration or other visual material) provided to it for use at a Planning Committee meeting and to prevent the use of such information / documentation in whole or part, in particular, if it:
 - a) is considered to contain information of a kind that might be libellous, slanderous, abusive to any party including an applicant or might result in the disclosure of any personal information for which express consent has not been given; and / or
 - b) is identified as having anything on it that is considered could be an electronic virus, malware or similar.
- 15.2 The Head of Planning in consultation with the Chair shall have the absolute discretion to determine whether any such statement / information / documentation should not be used / read out in whole or part. If circumstances reasonably permit, Democratic Services may seek to request a person modify such statement / information / documentation to address any issue identified.

16. Guidance on what amounts to a material planning consideration

16.1. As at the date of adoption of this protocol, the National Planning Portal provides the following guidance on material planning considerations:

"A material consideration is a matter that should be taken into account in deciding a planning application or on an appeal against a planning decision. Material considerations can include (but are not limited to):

- Overlooking/loss of privacy
- Loss of light or overshadowing
- Parking
- Highway safety
- Traffic
- Noise
- Effect on listed building and conservation area
- Layout and density of building
- Design, appearance and materials
- Government policy
- Disabled persons' access
- Proposals in the Development Plan
- Previous planning decisions (including appeal decisions)
- Nature conservation

However, issues such as loss of view, or negative effect on the value of properties are not material considerations."

https://www.planningportal.co.uk/faqs/faq/4/what_are_material_considerations #:~:text=A%20material%20consideration%20is%20a,Loss%20of%20light%20 or%20overshadowing

Note

For the purpose of this protocol:

- (a) reference to the "Chair" means the Chair of Planning Committee and shall include the Vice Chair of Planning Committee if the Chair is at any time unavailable or absent and the person presiding at the meeting of a Planning Committee at any time that both the Chair and Vice Chair of Planning Committee are unavailable or absent;
- (b) reference to the Head of Planning includes any officer nominated by them for the purposes of this protocol and if at any time the Head of Planning in unavailable, absent or the post is vacant / ceases to exist, then the Development Management Manager or if also unavailable / absent or that post is vacant/no longer exists then the next most senior officer in the development management team (or any of them if more than one) who is first contactable;
- (c) reference to 'ward councillor' means a councillor in whose ward the application being considered at a meeting of Planning Committee is situated in whole or part and who is not a voting member of the Planning Committee in respect of the application being considered; and
- (d) a "wholly virtual meeting" is a Planning Committee meeting where no one including officers and councillors physically attend the meeting; however, a meeting will not be held as a "wholly virtual meeting" unless legislation permits

Adopted by the Planning Committee on 17.11.22 and updated on 20.7.23



Planning Committee

Application Address	27 Wolverton Road, Bournemouth, BH7 6HU
Proposal	Change of use of dwellinghouse (Class C3) into House in Multiple Occupation (Class C4)
Application Number	7-2024-9356-C
Applicant	West Property Ltd
Agent	West Property Ltd
Ward and Ward Members	Boscombe East & Pokesdown Cllr Eleanor Connolly Cllr George Farquhar
Report Status	Public
Meeting Date	20 March 2025
Summary of Recommendation	Grant in accordance with the details set out below for the reasons as set out in the report
Reason for Referral to Planning Committee	28 Objection Letters
Case Officer	Laura Sims
ls the proposal EIA Development?	No

Description of Proposal

- 1. Planning consent is sought for a change of use existing (Class C3) residential dwelling to a (Class C4) House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) for 6 persons.
- 2. The application does not include any external alterations. The applicant would provide en-suite facilities to all bedrooms and provide two communal living rooms and kitchens.

3. The applicant has served notice under Certificate B during the application process as the rear access pathway to the highway is in varied ownership.

Description of Site and Surroundings

- 4. Wolverton Drive is located within the Boscombe East and Pokesdown Ward of Bournemouth. The application site is set on the corner of Wolverton Road and Langton Road and is a detached two storey dwelling facing northeast onto Wolverton Road. To the rear is a garden, a garage to the western boundary has been demolished and allows for one off road parking space. The host property has a large flat roof wrap-around-dormer to the western and southern elevation.
- 5. Properties within the near vicinity of the site are detached or semi-detached dwellings which are predominantly single family dwellinghouses.

Relevant Planning History

- 7-2020-9356-B Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for proposed alterations to elevations to replace windows, form French doors and Juliet Balcony, roof extension to dwellinghouse to form new 2nd floor level with roof lights, formation of parking spaces and erection of a cycle store – Refused
- 7-2020-9356-A Alterations, roof extension to form new 2nd floor level and change of use of dwellinghouse (Class C3) into House in Multiple Occupation (Class C4) – Withdrawn

Constraints

8. There are no specific constraints.

Public Sector Equalities Duty

- 9. In accordance with section 149 Equality Act 2010, in considering this proposal due regard has been had to the need to —
- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Other relevant duties

- 10. In accordance with regulation 9(3) of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) ("the Habitat Regulations), for the purposes of this application, appropriate regard has been had to the relevant Directives (as defined in the Habitats Regulations) in so far as they may be affected by the determination.
- 11. With regard to sections 28G and 28I (where relevant) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, to the extent consistent with the proper exercise of the function of determining this application and that this application is likely to affect the flora, fauna or geological or physiographical features by reason of which a site is of special scientific interest, the duty to take reasonable steps to further the conservation and

enhancement of the flora, fauna or geological or physiographical features by reason of which the site is of special scientific interest.

- 12. For the purposes of section 40 Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, in assessing this application, consideration has been given as to any appropriate action to further the "general biodiversity objective".
- 13. For the purposes of this application, in accordance with section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998, due regard has been had to, including the need to do all that can reasonably be done to prevent, (a) crime and disorder in its area (including antisocial and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); (b) the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area; and (c) re-offending in its area.
- 14. For the purposes of this report regard has been had to the Human Rights Act 1998, the Human Rights Convention and relevant related issues of proportionality.

Consultations

15. Highways - No objection subject to conditions

The proposal involves converting the existing dwelling at 27 Wolverton Road, currently classified under C3 residential usage, into a House in Multiple Occupation (HMO). The site is located on Wolverton Road and is in zone A. Although no proposed plans have been submitted, the supporting statement indicates that the property provides two existing parking spaces, which exceeds the one parking space required for an HMO under the SPD.

Similarly, despite the lack of proposed plans, the supporting statement includes provision for secure storage for 6 bikes at the side of the property, meeting the SPD requirement of one cycle store per bed for HMOs.

The proposal meets the necessary requirements for parking and cycle storage based on the information provided in the supporting statement. As such, there are no objections to the development from the Local Highway Authority.

16. Waste and recycling - No objection

A House of Multiple Occupancy would be issued with a standard household location of 1 x 180 litre refuse bin, 1 x 240 litre recycling bin, and 1 x 23 litre food waste bin. Larger HMOs with 5 or more people living in them may also apply and pay for additional bins (1 x 180 litre refuse bin and 1 x 240 litre recycling bin and 1 x 23 litre food waste bin).

If the HMO generates more waste than the standard and the additional allowance, the landlord/managing agent must either arrange for the removal of the waste themselves, or pay a registered waste carrier to do so. The landlord would need a waste carrier's licence to remove the waste themselves, and pay for waste disposal at a licenced facility such as our <u>household recycling centres</u>.

An occupant of the proposed dwelling will need to ensure the bins are presented for collection at the kerbside and returned to the property boundary following emptying.

Representations

17. Site notices were posted in the vicinity of the site on the 11/12/2024 with an expiry date for consultation of 04/01/2025.

18. 33 letters of objections were received. 29 objections and 4 in support of the proposal. The summary of objection comments are as follows:

- Noise pollution to neighbouring properties
- Increase in traffic congestion
- Parking issues from increase in number of residents
- Increase in on-street parking causing limited emergency service access
- HMO will lead to anti-social behaviour
- Overcrowding and out of character to the area
- Overlooking towards neighbouring properties

Key Issues

19. The key issues involved with this proposal are:

- Principle of the HMO use
- Impact on character and appearance of the area
- Impact on neighbouring residents
- Parking/traffic/highway safety considerations
- Waste and recycling
- Living conditions for future occupants
- 20. These issues will be considered along with other matters relevant to this proposal below.

Policy context

21. Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 states that planning applications must be determined in accordance with the development plan for an area, except where material considerations indicate otherwise. The development plan in this case comprises the:

Bournemouth Local Plan: Core Strategy (2012)

- CS16 Parking Standards
- CS18 Increasing Opportunities for Cycling and Walking
- CS24 Houses of Multiple Occupation
- CS41 Quality Design

Supplementary Planning Documents

BCP Parking Standards SPD (2021) Waste and Recycling Guidance Dorset Heathlands Planning Framework SPD 2020

National Planning Policy Framework 2024

Section 12 – Achieving well-designed and beautiful places

Planning Assessment

Principle of the HMO use

- 22. A change of use is sought for the property from a residential dwellinghouse to a Class C4 HMO with proposed external alternations to the ground floor fenestration involve removing an existing garage door and replacing this with a proposed window of same design and stature to match the existing street scene frontage.
- 23. Planning permission would not normally be required for the change of use to C4. However, the Council made an Article 4 Direction on the 15th December 2010 under Article 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995, as amended. An 'Article 4 Direction' is a planning tool that can be used to remove permitted development rights from a particular type of development. The Direction relates to development consisting of a change of use of a building to a use falling within Class C4 (houses in multiple occupation), from a use falling within Class C3 (dwellinghouses) and removes permitted development rights for this type of development from when the Direction came into force on the 16th December 2011. Therefore, planning permission is required for the change of use from Class C3 to Class C4.
- 24. As the Council has issued an Article 4 Direction to prevent these types of development taking place without planning permission, consideration must be given to the reasons behind this. In introducing the Article 4 direction the Council considered that the concentration of HMO properties was causing tension to existing residents. Commonly, university and coastal towns experience higher rates of HMO uses and consequently higher rates of associated negative impacts on the amenities of local residents and on the character of the area. These tensions and issues are recognised nationally and can include anti-social behaviour; noise and nuisance from properties and on the street; imbalanced and unsustainable communities; negative impacts on the physical environment and streetscape; pressures on parking provision; untidy gardens; higher than average occurrence of to-let boards and the accumulation of rubbish. Even though high concentrations of HMOs are associated with specific wards, a Borough wide Article 4 Direction has been introduced in order to limit the likelihood of the impacts associated with concentrations of HMOs being dispersed to other parts of the town. A Borough wide approach therefore enables the Council to deal with problems associated with concentrations of HMOs in a timely fashion controlling the emergence of new concentrations of HMOs and limiting additional numbers in areas already impacted upon.
- 25. Policy CS24 of the Bournemouth Core Strategy refers to Houses in Multiple Occupation. Saved Policy 6.17 of the District Wide local Plan 2002 (DWLP) has not been engaged with this proposal as this is aimed at larger (Sui Generis) HMO uses. Policy CS24 states that the change in use of Class C3 to Class C4 will only be permitted where no more than 10% of dwellings in the area adjacent to the application property are within Use Class C4 or larger 'Sui Generis' HMO use. In light of this policy an assessment of the existing numbers of HMO uses has taken place, which involves using a data base of registered HMO uses, examining Council Tax exemptions for student housing, and other data, as well as a site visit to the area. This assessment determines if there are a high number of HMO uses in the locality. Assessing the proposal in line with the policy identifies 2 properties within 100m of the application site on the streets that form part of the policy requirement. The adjacent roads include:-

- Wolverton Road
- Langton Road
- Gladstone Road East.
- 26. In this particular case the area generally contains traditional family sized houses and is not within the catchment area typically associated with university students and HMO properties. Reference to available records and the HMO catchment map identifies that the number of known HMOs dwellings in the catchment area is 2 out of 117 properties and records show that no HMOs have been granted planning permission in the identified area, and therefore, the officer finds this proposal to be acceptable in principle and in accordance with policy CS24.

Impact on character and appearance of the area

- 27. There would be no changes to the exterior of the proposed site, the wrap-around dormer and removal of the garage was complete at time of the visit. The proposed use of as a C4 HMO would introduce a more intensive occupation with a more transient resident and potentially short-term occupants. However, in this location and as there is not an overconcentration the application is considered to safeguard the character and appearance of the area in accordance with CS24 and CS41 of the Core Strategy. As this is a C4 use and there is not an overconcentration the impact will be compatible with other residential properties in this location.
- 28. Some neighbouring dwellings have parking areas to the front of the dwellings, no changes are proposed to the existing off-road landscaping. Therefore, the officer finds the proposal to be acceptable and in line with the aims of Policy CS41.

Impact on neighbouring properties

- 29. No additional windows are proposed to the dwelling. The site visit confirmed that the existing windows facing Number 22 Langton Road at ground floor level are much smaller than standard windows and appear to be high level. There are two first floor windows one of which is obscured the other is clear.
- 30. There are no side elevation windows to Number 22 therefore any change of use to the rooms would not cause any harmful overlooking towards the neighbouring dwelling. There would also be no additional windows introduced to the rear elevation facing Number 25 Wolverton Road.
- 31. No adverse impacts would occur from the conversion of this building. Regarding Policy CS24 and its supporting text for HMO uses, an overconcentration of HMO uses within a locality can result in a cumulatively materially harmful degree in the view of the LPA if such would exceed 10%. In this case,
- 32. Within the 100m search area 117 dwellings were found with 2 being confirmed as HMOs this provides a local HMO saturation rate of 1.7%. When including the application site, this increases to 2.7% which is significantly lower than 10%.
- 33. It is therefore considered that the use of the property as a HMO would not in this case result in adverse HMO-associated activity / use concerns to a degree that would be detrimental to neighbouring properties.

Parking/traffic/highway safety considerations

- 34. The proposal has not provided any information or size specifications of the off road parking space however this is existing to the dwelling with a dropped kerb serving the area. The parking standards state that HMOs must provide one parking space, therefore the proposal is considered to comply with policy.
- 35. Cycle provision for 6 bikes is required for this application. The consultation response from the Local Authority Highway Officer deemed the principle of a 6 bike cycle store to be acceptable. Details will be secured via condition.
- 36. The car parking spaces and cycle storage area provided is in line with the policy requirements CS16, CS18 and BCP Parking Standards SPD (2021), which is considered acceptable.

Waste and Recycling

37. The proposed site would require 3 bins, 1 x 180 litre refuse bin, 1 x 240 litre recycling bin, and 1 x 23 litre food waste bin. These must be provided to the dwelling. Information of its store has not been included however the highways consultation and waste and recycling consultation have not raised this as a concern.

Living conditions of future occupiers

- 38. This scheme proposes six bedrooms with one person per room occupancy levels that has been specified. All rooms are above the national minimum standard size for HMO use. The following make up of rooms would be offered: -
- **Ground Floor:** One bedroom with ensuite (17.6m2), one living room, one kitchen and one dining room with W/C and utility
- **First Floor:** Three bedrooms (17.6m2, 16.41m2 and 12.2m2) all with ensuites and a communal snug/office room.
- **Second Floor:** Two bedrooms (14m2 and 16.5m2) both with ensuites and a kitchenette/living room.
- 39. All habitable rooms would have clear outlooks and daylight.

Heathland Mitigation

- 40. The site is within 5km of a designated Dorset Heathlands SPA (Special Protection Area) and Ramsar Site, and part of the Dorset Heaths candidate SAC (Special Area of Conservation) which covers the whole of Bournemouth. As such, the determination of any application for an additional dwelling(s) resulting in increased population and domestic animals should be undertaken with regard to the requirements of the Habitat Regulations 1994. It is considered that an appropriate assessment could not clearly demonstrate that there would not be an adverse effect on the integrity of the sites, particularly its effect upon bird and reptile habitats within the SSSI.
- 41. Therefore, as of 17th January 2007 all applications received for additional residential accommodation within the borough is subject to a financial contribution towards mitigation measures towards the designated sites. However, in this case, no contribution is required because the contribution for a Class C4 HMO (up to 6 residents) is the same as that for a single dwelling having regard to Appendix B of the Dorset Heathlands Planning Framework 2020-2025.

Planning Balance/Conclusion

- 42. Overall, it is considered that the proposal is not adjacent or located within 100m "of more than 10% of dwellings" that "are within a Use Class C4 or Sui Generis HMO use" as set out within Policy CS24 of the Core Strategy and therefore the change of use would not lead to an overconcentration of such uses and cause significant impact to neighbouring properties.
- 43. The proposed development is considered to have an acceptable impact and respects the established character and appearance of the surrounding area. The proposed development would have an acceptable impact on neighbouring amenity and provides an acceptable standard of accommodation for future occupants
- 44. Therefore, having considered the appropriate development plan policy, including the NPPF, it is considered that subject to compliance with the conditions attached to this permission, the development would be in accordance with the Development Plan, would not materially harm the character or appearance of the area or the amenities of neighbouring and proposed occupiers and would be acceptable in terms of traffic safety and convenience. The Development Plan Policies considered in reaching this decision are set out above.

Recommendation

- 45. GRANT permission for the reasons as set out in this report subject to the following conditions:
- 1. Development to be carried out in accordance with plans as listed: The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans:

Floor Plan Existing Layout

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning

2. Cycle Storage

The development hereby permitted must not be occupied or utilised until a scheme showing precise details of the proposed cycle parking facilities including floor plans and elevations are submitted to the Local Planning Authority. Any such scheme requires approval to be obtained in writing from the Local Planning Authority. The approved scheme must be constructed before the change of use is commenced and, thereafter, must be maintained, kept free from obstruction and available for the purpose specified.

Reason: To ensure the proper construction of the parking facilities and to encourage the use of sustainable transport modes.

Informatives

Informative Note: Parking Permit

The applicant should note and inform future residents that residents may be excluded from being able to purchase permits associated with existing or future parking permit schemes controlled by the Council in the area. This is to encourage the use of sustainable modes of travel amongst future residents in line with Council aims to promote sustainable travel.

Informative Note: Registration required with Environmental Health

The property subject to the application will be a House in Multiple Occupation under the provision of the Housing Act 2004. It is a requirement that these premises be registered with Environmental Health and Consumer Services. In addition, the property must comply with the Council's standards and statutes governing occupying levels, provision of amenities, means of escape from fire. It must also be properly managed. For further details of your statutory obligations contact Environmental Health and Consumer Services on (01202) 451083.

Background Documents:

Documents uploaded to that part of the Council's website that is publicly accessible and specifically relates to the application the subject of this report including all formal consultation response and representations submitted by the applicant in respect of the application.

Notes: This excludes all documents which are considered to contain exempt information for the purposes of Schedule 12A Local Government Act.

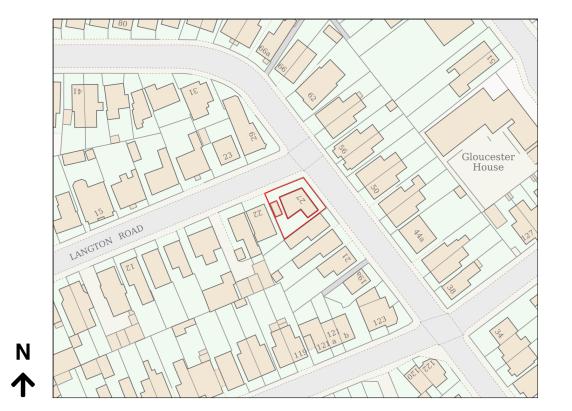
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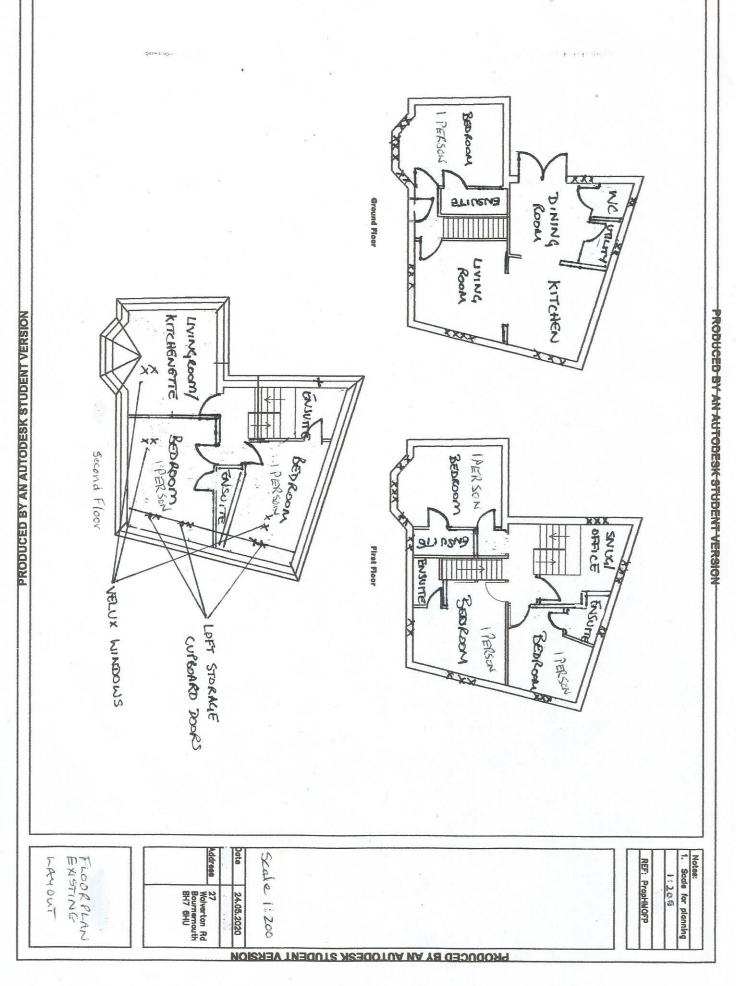


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