

## **Planning and Highways Committee**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 6 July 2023**

**Present:** Councillor Lyons - In the Chair

**Councillors:** Shaukat Ali, Andrews, Chohan, Curley, Davies, Gartside, Hassan, Hewitson, Hughes, Kamal and Riasat

**Apologies:** Councillor Johnson, J Lovecy and Ludford

**Also present:** Councillor Ahmed Ali, Member for Rusholme ward for application 135848/FO/2022.

#### **PH/23/45. Supplementary Information on Applications Being Considered**

A copy of the late representations received had been circulated in advance of the meeting regarding applications 135028/FO/2022 & 135029/LO/2022, 135848/FO/2022 and 136171/FO/2023.

#### **Decision**

To receive and note the late representations.

#### **PH/23/46. Minutes**

#### **Decision**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 1 June 2023 as a correct record.

#### **PH/23/47. 135028/FO/2022 & 135029/LO/2022 - Land bound by King Street West, St Marys Parsonage, Garden Lane and Smithy Lane, Manchester, M3 2JP - Deansgate Ward**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing for the erection of 14 storey building and the refurbishment of the existing buildings at 3 Smithy Lane and Carriage Works on Garden Lane / St Mary's Parsonage with ground floor extension to form office accommodation (Class E) with front of house and commercial floorspace at ground floor (Class E) with associated landscaping and other works following demolition of existing buildings at 27-29 King Street West and the Grade II Listed 31-33 King Street West and link bridge from Carriage Works on Garden Lane / St Mary's Parsonage to 3 St Mary's Parsonage.

The report further included the application for Listed Building Consent for the demolition of 31-33 King Street West and the refurbishment of the existing buildings at 3 Smithy Lane and Carriage Works on Garden Lane / St Mary's Parsonage with ground floor extension with associated landscaping and other works following demolition of existing buildings and link bridge from Carriage Works on Garden Lane / St Mary's Parsonage to 3 St Mary's Parsonage in association with the erection of

the 14-storey building.

Objections had been received from Historic England and Save Britain's Heritage about the loss of 31-33 King Street West and the impact of the new build on the retained listed buildings and the surrounding Conservation Area.

The report described that the applications would need to be referred to the Secretary of State for a decision if Members were minded to approve this proposal.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee who spoke in favour of the applications.

Councillor Curley acknowledged this was a good report; however, he recommended that the Committee undertake a site visit, referring to the significant proposal that was being considered by the Committee. He further referenced the need to obtain the correct balance between conservation, heritage and development key to support growth for the city. Councillor Hughes seconded this proposal.

### **Decision**

The Committee resolved to defer the application, to undertake a site visit, to understand more the implications of this application.

#### **PH/23/48. 135544/FO/2022 & 135545/LO/2022 - 466 - 472 Moss Lane East, Manchester, M14 4PJ - Moss Side Ward**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing for the demolition of 470-472 Moss Lane East and conversion of 466 – 468 Moss Lane East, in order to facilitate the erection of a 7-9 storey building to form purpose-built student accommodation (sui generis) and provide in total 261 student bedrooms with a mix of studios and en-suite rooms set within clusters bedrooms.

Listed Building Consent was also sought for internal and external alterations and extension, in the form of a link building to the Grade II listed 466 to 468 Moss Lane East to facilitate its conversion to purpose-built student accommodation.

17 individual representations had been received, 12 of which objected and 5 of which supported the proposed development. Objections had also been received from Platt Claremont Residents Association, Moss Side Tenants Union, Great Southern to Western Community Action Network, The Victorian Society and from Councillor Emily Rowles on behalf of the Moss Side Councillors.

The Committee heard from a resident who spoke on behalf of a number of neighbourhood and community groups to raise concerns about the application. The points of objection were in relation to the height of the proposed development and the impact this would have in terms of the loss on light and privacy to adjacent properties. She asked if the Committee could visit the site to obtain an appreciation as to the impact this development would have on neighbouring properties. She further made reference to the impact that car parking and increased deliveries would have on the local neighbourhood, and the lack of disabled onsite parking. She concluded by asking the Committee to reject the application.

The applicant's agent addressed the Committee. He stated that this development would address the need for high quality student accommodation and the site had been identified to meet demand. He said that the site was located near to the University campus and a letter of support had been submitted by the University. He referred to the location of the proposed development and its relationship to public transport links, commenting that this would negate the need for residents to use cars. He made reference to the model of the accommodation to be delivered which included 10% of rooms being offered at an affordable rent for students, the accessibility of rooms for disabled or mobility impaired students. He said that the site would benefit from a 24hour concierge and that a management plan would be devised to facilitate student 'move in' and 'move out' dates.

The Planning Officer responded to the issue of massing, loss of light and privacy that had been referred to by the objector, noting that these had been addressed within the report. He stated that the ornate heritage features of the frontage of the building would be reinstated and would frame the modern development. He stated that this was a car free scheme, and this would be a condition of tenancy agreements and the site would be exempt from the local resident parking scheme, referring again to the sustainability of the location. In response to a question, he advised that the 10% of rooms offered at an affordable rent would be included in a legal agreement if the application was to be approved.

Councillor Hewitson recommended that the Committee undertake a site visit to understand the scale of the proposed development and the impact this would have on neighbouring properties. Councillor Hughes seconded this proposal.

## **Decision**

The Committee resolved to defer the application to undertake a site visit to understand the impact the proposed development would have on the local neighbourhood, owing to concerns expressed regarding the height of the development.

### **PH/23/49. 135848/FO/2022 - Site of Former Victoria Park Probation Centre, Laidon Road, Manchester - Rusholme Ward**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing for the erection of a residential development (Use Class C3), comprising 72 units, along with associated hard and soft infrastructure, access and associated works following demolition of existing buildings.

The application related to a site of a former day nurse and probation offices and community centre that had been vacant for several years. The application now under consideration was for the development of 72 homes (41 apartments and 31 houses). 16 objections had been received.

The applicant addressed the Committee who spoke of the benefits of the proposal. Noting that the application sought to renovate a site that was currently derelict and subject to arson and other related anti-social behaviour. In particular he made reference to the support from local Members and residents to the application. He

further advised that the proposal included six affordable homes on the site and that in partnership with Arcon Housing a grant application would be made to Homes England to increase this offer.

The Committee heard from Councillor Ahmed Ali, ward member for Rusholme, who spoke in support of the application.

The Planning Officer reiterated that currently the abandoned buildings on the site had been fire damaged and were subject to anti-social behaviour, adding that the proposal would improve the site and deliver affordable housing.

Councillor Andrews proposed that the recommendation of Minded to Approve subject to a legal agreement in respect of affordable housing to be delivered at the site and a reconciliation clause be moved. Councillor Shaukat Ali seconded this proposal.

### **Decision**

The Committee is Minded to Approve subject to a legal agreement in respect of affordable housing to be delivered at the site and a reconciliation clause.

#### **PH/23/50. 136541/FH/2023 - 35 Whalley Avenue, Chorlton, Manchester, M21 8TU - Chorlton Park Ward**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing for a proposal that sought permission for the installation of a rear dormer together with four rooflights to the front elevation and replacement glazing to the roof of the existing single storey side and rear extension to provide additional living accommodation for a family dwellinghouse. The property is not listed, nor is it located within a conservation area.

Five neighbouring dwellings were notified of the proposed development and eight letters of objection were received. The key issues raised were concerns relating to the proposal's impact upon visual and residential amenity.

The Planning Officer did not have anything to add to the report.

The applicant addressed the Committee who spoke in support of the application.

Councillor Andrews proposed that the recommendation to approve the application be moved. Councillor Hughes seconded this proposal.

### **Decision**

The Committee resolved to approve the application, for the reasons and subject to the conditions set out in the officer's report.

#### **PH/23/51. 134707/FH/2022 - 1D Cotton Lane, Manchester, M20 4GL - Withington Ward**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning, Building Control

and Licensing that proposed the erection of a two-storey rear extension to provide additional living accommodation. The application site is a semi-detached dwelling house in use as a House of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) with 5no. bedrooms. The HMO was registered in 2019 and has been in use as a lawful HMO for at least 10 years. The proposal adds no additional bedrooms and only increases the size of shared living space and 1no. first floor bedroom.

The proposal was subject to consultation by way of 8 letters to adjacent properties. 2 objections from neighbours were received focussed on the perceived anti-social behaviour of the current occupiers. The proposal also received an objection from 2 Ward Councillors citing complaints made by residents about anti-social behaviour.

The Planning Officer did not have anything to add to the report.

Councillor Shaukat Ali proposed that the recommendation to approve the application be moved. Councillor Riasat seconded this proposal.

### **Decision**

The Committee resolved to approve the application, for the reasons and subject to the conditions set out in the officer's report.

### **PH/23/52. 136171/FO/2023 - Land bounded by Brigham Street, Meech Street and the rear of Connie Street, Manchester - Clayton and Openshaw Ward**

The Committee considered the report of the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing for a proposed development that would form part of the first phase of Project 500, which sought to provide 378 new, low carbon affordable homes on 27 sites owned by the Council across the city. Many of the sites are located in north and east Manchester and new development would respond to high demand for affordable housing.

Project 500 is being delivered by registered providers. This application relates to an area of grassed open space with a broadly rectangular configuration covering an area 0.56 hectares. The site had been previously developed and is in a residential area. It is enclosed by a mix of low railings and higher railings to neighbouring alleyways. Two storey terraced housing frontages to Connie Street and Meech Street respectively is located to the west and south of the site. Pockets of open space separate the site from two storey housing to the north. Two storey houses and flats are located to the east of the site along Brigham Street.

One objection had been received and raised concerns regarding additional noise and disturbance and traffic generation and additional on-street car parking. There were concerns that the development would undermine the privacy of existing residents and potentially increase the occurrence of anti-social behaviour. There was also a concern that ground disturbance during construction may increase the risk of rodent infestation.

The Planning Officer did not have anything to add to the report.

The Committee welcomed the proposal as a positive development for the city in terms of the ambition to build and deliver social and affordable homes.

Councillor Riasat proposed that the recommendation to approve the application be moved. Councillor Kamal seconded this proposal.

### **Decision**

The Committee resolved to approve the application, for the reasons and subject to the conditions set out in the officer's report.