

2023/0501

Ms Laura Teal

17 Willowbrook Close, Darton, Barnsley, S75 5PX

Single storey front extension

Site Description

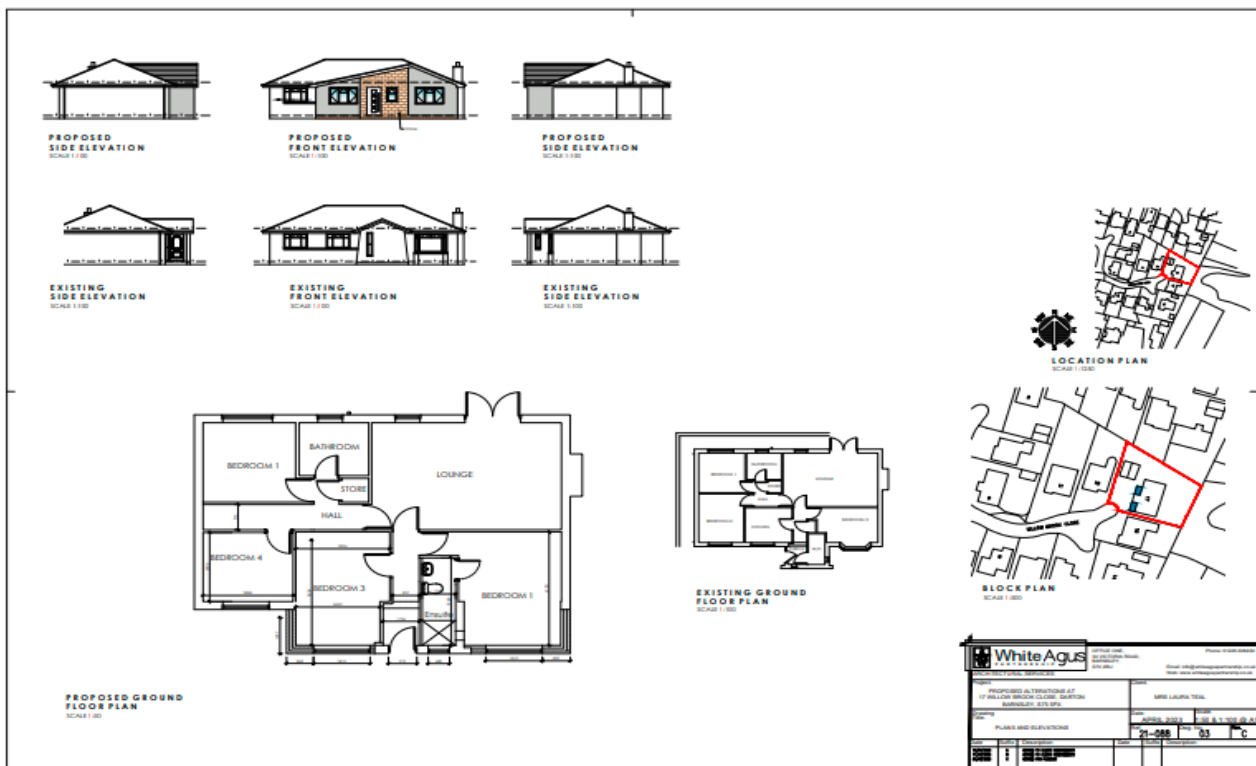
The dwelling is a single storey detached dwelling located in Darton. Willowbrook Close has a mixed street scene featuring both single storey and two storey dwellings constructed of a mix of brick and render. The dwelling has a small garden and driveway to the front leading to a detached garage to the side. The dwelling also has an existing front porch extension. To the northern boundary there are (TPO 11/1991) protected trees.

Planning History

2013/1259 - Selectively prune back and thin out by 20-25% side branches of Birch (T1) and (T2) within TPO 11/1991 (Approved with Conditions)

2021/1296 - Extension and alterations to existing bungalow (Approved with Conditions)

Proposed Development



The applicant is seeking approval for the erection of a single storey front extension. The extension will project 1.6 meters from the front elevation of the dwelling. The extension has a width of 9.1 meters. The extension will feature a pitched roof with a ridge height of 4 meters and an eaves height of 2.25 meters. The materials used will be matching roof tiles, matching render and stone.

Policy Context

Planning decisions should be made in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise and the NPPF does not change the statutory status of the development plan as the starting point for decision making. The Local Plan was adopted in January 2019 and is also now accompanied by seven masterplan frameworks which apply to the largest site allocations (housing, employment and mixed-use sites). In addition, the Council has adopted a series of Supplementary Planning Documents and Neighbourhood Plans which provide supporting guidance and specific local policies and are a material consideration in the decision-making process.

The Local Plan review was approved at the full Council meeting on 24th November 2022. The review determined that the Local Plan remains fit for purpose and is adequately delivering its objectives. This means no updates to the Local Plan, in whole or in part, are to be carried out ahead of a further review. The next review is due to take place in 2027 or earlier if circumstances, require it.

Local Plan Allocation – Urban Fabric

To the extent that development plan policies are material to an application for planning permission the decision on the application must be taken in accordance with the development plan unless there are material considerations that indicate otherwise (section 70(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

In reference to this application, the following policies are relevant:

Policy SD1: Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development – States that proposals for development will be approved where there will be no significant adverse effect on the living conditions and residential amenity of existing and future residents. Development will be expected to be compatible with neighbouring land and will not significantly prejudice the current or future use of neighbouring land. Policy GD1 below will be applied to all development.

Policy GD1: General Development – Development will be approved if there will be no significant adverse effect on the living conditions and residential amenity of existing and future residents. Development will be expected to be compatible with neighbouring land and will not significantly prejudice the current or future use of neighbouring land.

Policy D1: High quality design and place making – Development is expected to be of a high-quality design and will be expected to respect, take advantage of and reinforce the distinctive, local character and other features of Barnsley.

Supplementary Planning Document: House extensions and Other Domestic Alterations

This document establishes the design principles that specifically apply to the consideration of planning applications for house extensions, roof alterations, outbuildings & other domestic alterations. The general principles are that proposals should;

- Be of a scale and design which harmonises with the existing building;
- Not adversely affect the amenity of neighbouring properties;
- Maintain the character of the street scene; and
- Not interfere with highway safety

The above principles are to reflect the revised principles in the NPPF, which promote high quality design and a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings.

National Planning Policy Framework

The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies and how these are expected to be applied. The core of this is a presumption in favour of sustainable development. Proposals that align with the Local Plan should be approved unless material considerations indicate otherwise. In respect of this application, relevant policies include:

Section 12: Achieving well designed places - The Government attaches great importance to the design of the built environment. Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, creates better places in which to live and work and helps make development acceptable to communities. It is important to plan positively for the inclusion of high-quality design for all developments, including individual buildings, public and private spaces and wider area development schemes. Within section 12, paragraph 134 states *"development that is not well designed should be refused, especially where it fails to reflect local design policies and government guidance on design, taking into account any local design guidance and supplementary planning documents such as design guides and codes"*.

Consultations

The LPA's Forestry Officer was consulted and originally objected to the application due to the impact of the proposed side extension on the adjacent TPO protected trees. The side extension has since been omitted from the plans and the objection retracted.

Representations

Neighbour notification letters were sent to surrounding properties, no comments were received.

Assessment

Principle of Development

The site falls within urban fabric which has no specific land allocation; however, the site and surrounding area is made up principally of housing. Extensions to residential properties are considered acceptable where they do not have a detrimental impact on the amenity of surrounding residents, visual amenity and highway safety.

Visual Amenity

The proposal includes a front extension, and the front elevation is the most important elevation for its impact on the character of the street scene. The size of front extensions needs to be as modest as possible. There are no examples of similar front extensions in the street scene however the extension harmonises with the existing front elevation and is of a modest size with a forward's projection of 1.6 meters from the original front wall of the dwelling. The size of proposed extension is considered acceptable, it complements the dwelling's character and doesn't detrimentally affect the street scene as there are a variety of style of front elevation present.

The SPD states that *'materials should normally be of the same type, colour and texture to the existing house or as close a match as possible'*. In this case, the proposed materials will match the existing dwelling with matching off-white render being used which will intensifies the use of render on the property. A stone frontage as existing is also retained. The extension utilises a pitched roof with matching roof tiles which is akin to the existing dwelling's hipped roof and therefore acceptable.

The proposed extension partially conforms to the SPD in terms of its external materials and roof type, however it will have little impact upon the character of the street scene due to the mix of materials present in the street scene and it being of a modest size and scale. The proposed development is therefore not considered to be contrary to Local Plan Policy D1: High Quality Design and Place Making and is considered acceptable in terms of visual amenity.

Residential Amenity

No objections were received from the neighbouring properties. The proposed front extension will not have a significant detrimental impact on any neighbouring property by way of overshadowing or being overbearing. This because of the modest projection of the front extension. In terms of overlooking no windows are proposed on the side elevations of the extension. The proposal is considered to be in compliance with Local Plan Policy GD1: General Development and is acceptable in terms of residential amenity.

Highway Safety

There will be no impact upon highway safety.

Recommendation

Approve with conditions