
2021/0665 – Full Application

Applicant: Mrs Kate Watson

Proposal: Erection of 3no freestanding sculptural pieces

Address: Adjacent to Play Area side of Doncaster Road, Stairfoot, Barnsley

2021/0745 – Full Application

Applicant: Mrs Kate Watson

Proposal: Installation of public art feature

Address: Grassed area at the Side of the Roundabout on the Corner of Doncaster Road and Grange Lane, Stairfoot, Barnsley

The applications are referred to the Board as the Council is the applicant. No representations have been received.

Site Location & Description

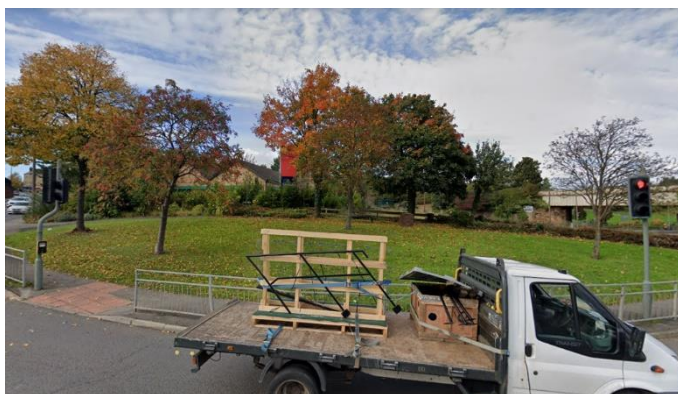
2021/0665

The site is a playground located within the Stairfoot designated Local Centre and also within a greenspace known as Stairfoot Rose Garden. The site is bounded by a mix of stone walls and railings with Doncaster Road located directly south. The site features a children's play area, trees and lawn.



2021/0745

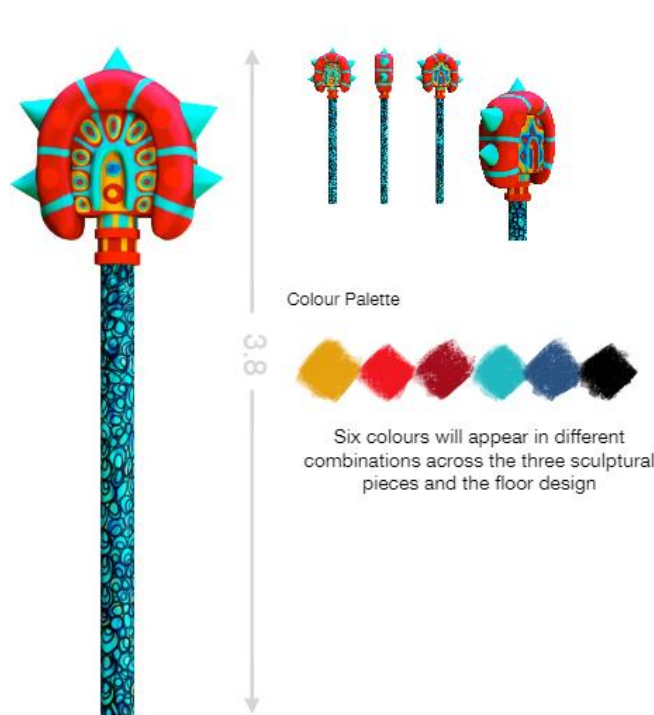
The site is a grassed verge situated on the northern side of Stairfoot Roundabout between Doncaster Road and Grange Lane. The site increases in height to the north with trees and a footpath framing the view of the verge from the highway. The site is located on the fringe of Stairfoot Local Centre within the designated Urban Fabric.



Proposed Development & Background

2021/0665

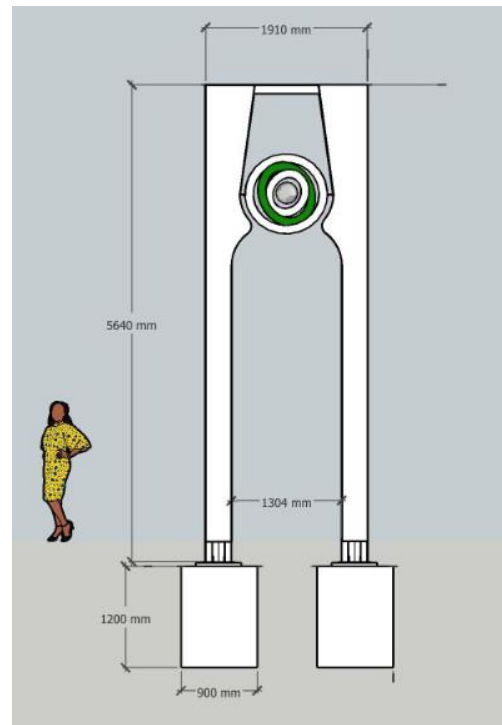
The artwork consists of three 4m tall freestanding sculptural pieces. Each of the three pieces comprises of a hardwood tantalised, painted and lacquered pole and a fibreglass sculptural form that is specifically designed to sit and be attached at the top of pole. The three sculptural pieces will be positioned close by one another. The collective pieces are a playful celebration of the industrial and transport heritage of Stairfoot. The artworks are confident, bold and brightly coloured and will be a distinct, positive and eye catching.



2021/0745

The piece 'Can you see us', incorporates key industrial notes from the past using the profile of the Codd Bottle negative form as the overriding form as a negative space, (The main Codd Bottle production factory was in Stairfoot...) the piece references the coal industry with a precious and focused piece of coal set within the central focal point and the two supporting forms are clad with stainless steel. The surface design used prismatic reflective rectangles in a tessellated brick pattern. Within the structure as the central focal point, there are three concentric stainless steel flat washer forms which rotate by wind around two axis. In the centre

is a resin sphere representing the iconic Codd Bottle marble, which itself contains a piece of coal. The artwork dimensions are; Length 2039mm, Width 186mm, Height 5400mm



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 is the statutory development plan for the borough. The Council has also adopted a series of Supplementary Planning Documents which are also material considerations.

Local Plan

Relevant Local Plan policies include:

GD1 – General Development

D1 – High Quality Design and Placemaking

TC1 – Town Centres

GS1 – Green Space

T4 – New Development and Transport Safety

NPPF

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. At the heart is a presumption in favour of sustainable development. Development proposals that accord with the development plan should be approved unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Where the development plan is absent, silent or relevant policies are out-of-date, permission should be granted unless any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the Framework as a whole; or where specific policies in the Framework indicate development should be restricted or unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Consultations

Comments have been received from the following consultees:-

Urban Design (20210745 only) – No objections.

Parks Supervisor (20210665) – Revision to location of the art work due to conflict with the play area and tree canopies. No objections to the revised design.

Representations

The application was publicised by neighbour notification letters and a site notice.

20210665

One comment was received in support of the application and a request for similar pieces be placed in nearby new development sites.

20210745

No comments received.

Assessment

Principle of Development

The proposed artwork columns within the Stairfoot Rose Garden are located within the designated Local Centre of Stairfoot and within the Centre's designated Greenspace. It is not considered that the proposal conflicts with either Local Plan Policies TC1 or GS1.

The 'Can You See Us' sculpture is located within the designated Urban Fabric set out within the Local Plan Policies Maps, this is a land use without a specific allocation. Therefore it is not considered that this proposal is prejudicial to the existing use of the land upon which it is situated or that of neighbouring uses on adjacent land.

Both proposals are acceptable in principle subject to the visual and residential amenity evaluations as well as a highway safety review set out below.

Visual Amenity

Both artworks are considered highly advantageous additions to the local area in which they are sited. There are only positive aesthetic and visual characteristics resulting from the installation of the artwork in both the Rose Garden and adjacent to Stairfoot Roundabout and though the LPA are conscious that artwork/sculptures can be a subjective topic for local communities, it is not considered that this detracts from the positive elements introduced into those area by installation of the artwork.

By consequence, the LPA consider both proposals under 20210665 and 20210745 in line with LP Policy D1 – High Quality Design and Placemaking.

Residential Amenity

It is not anticipated that the sculptures will incur any significant amenity impacts for adjacent residential properties as they are significantly distant from such properties and do not emit any light or sound. It is appreciated that the installation within the Rose Garden in Stairfoot town centre may incur some noise through the construction period for local residential properties, however this will only be temporary and is, in any event, not a material planning consideration. Likewise, the sculptures within the Rose Garden are tall, slim and a minimum of 35m from a residential property therefore nullifying the likelihood of overshadowing or overbearance.

To conclude, the proposal is considered in accordance with LP Policy GD1 – General Development in respect of residential amenity.

Highway Safety

The installation within the Rose Garden is set back significantly from the highway in an oblique location that should not interfere with or distract road users.

The 'Can You See Me' sculpture is in a highly visible location on the northern side of Stairfoot Roundabout. That being said, the sculpture is set back from the highway on a turfed area divisible from the footway. The artwork does not resemble a highway sign or signal and will not emit any light that could distract road users. Indeed artwork and sculptural pieces are common adjacent to high intensity road junctions, as evidenced by the sculptural pieces on Whinby Road on entry to Capital Park and the piece loaned from Yorkshire Sculpture Park adjacent to the Town Hall in Barnsley Town Centre. Likewise, the 'You Can See Me' sculpture is likely to be far less of a distraction to road users, with its muted colours, than the bright colours of the illuminated signage promoted by businesses adjacent to the Roundabout.

In conclusion, both developments are found to be sound and in accordance with LP Policy T4 – New Development and Transport Safety.

Conclusion

There are no concerns with either proposal covered by either 2021/0665 or 2021/0745 from a planning policy perspective as the sculptures conform in land use terms with the requirements of the development plan. In addition both proposals do not generate any issues from a residential or visual amenity perspective and, in respect of the latter, will contribute in a positive manner to the public space in both locations while reinforcing the cultural values of Barnsley and its populace. No other material considerations have been identified against the proposal which means that the Officer recommendation is to grant planning permission.

Recommendation

Grant subject to conditions

20210665
Conditions

1/. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.

Reason: In order to comply with the provision of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2/. The development hereby approved shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the plans and specifications as approved unless required by any other conditions in this permission.

Plan Nos
HD/PTP/1026/01 – Stairfoot Artwork, Doncaster Road, Stairfoot – Location Plan

Cross-Sectional Drawing Including Foundations - Stairfoot Public Art Commission
Visualisations of Artwork in Situ – Stairfoot Public Art Commission

Reason: In the interests of the visual amenities of the locality and in accordance with Local Plan Policy D1 High Quality Design and Place Making.

20210745

1/. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.

Reason: In order to comply with the provision of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2/. The development hereby approved shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the plans and specifications as approved unless required by any other conditions in this permission.

Plan Nos

Artwork Elevations and Dimensions

EBC Sketch No. EBC00854-100 (P1) – Foundations

EBC Sketch No. EBC00854-400 (P1) – Baseplates

EBC Sketch No. EBC00854-401 (P1) – Columns

HD/PTP/1026/03 – Stairfoot Artwork, Doncaster Road, Stairfoot – Site Location Plan

Reason: In the interests of the visual amenities of the locality and in accordance with Local Plan Policy D1 High Quality Design and Place Making.