

**Location** Stanhope Court 53 - 55 Stanhope Road London N12 9DZ

**Reference:** 15/02559/FUL Received: 23rd April 2015  
Accepted: 23rd April 2015

Ward: Woodhouse Expiry 18th June 2015

Applicant: Varleigh Ltd

Proposal: Formation of mansard roof with 9 no, rooflights to provide 1 no. self-contained flat

**Recommendation:** Approve subject to s106

#### RECOMMENDATION I:

That the applicant and any other person having a requisite interest be invited to enter by way of an agreement into a planning obligation under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and any other legislation which is considered necessary for the purposes seeking to secure the following:

1. Paying the council's legal and professional costs of preparing the Agreement and any other enabling agreements;
2. All obligations listed below to become enforceable in accordance with a timetable to be agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority;
  
3. 3. Highways (traffic order) £2,000.00  
"A contribution towards the cost of required changes to an existing traffic order or creation of a new order related to the development."
  
4. Monitoring of the Agreement £100.00  
"Contribution towards the Council's costs in monitoring the obligations of the agreement."

#### RECOMMENDATION II:

That upon completion of the agreement the Assistant Director of Development Management and Building Control approve the planning application under delegated powers subject to the following conditions:

- 1 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans: Site Location Plan; 150317-01; 150317-02; 150317-03; 150317-04; 150317-05; 150317-06; 150317-07; 150317-08; 150317-09.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning and so as to ensure that the development is carried out fully in accordance with the plans as assessed in accordance with Policies CS NPPF and CS1 of the Local Plan Core Strategy DPD (adopted September 2012) and Policy DM01 of the Local Plan Development Management Policies DPD (adopted September 2012).

2 This development must be begun within three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

3 Prior to the first occupation of the units, copies of Pre-completion Sound Insulation Test Certificates shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority, confirming compliance with Requirement E of the Building Regulations 2010 (or any subsequent amendment in force at the time of implementation of the permission).

Reason: To protect the amenities of future and neighbouring residential occupiers in accordance with Policies DM02 and DM04 of the Development Management Policies DPD (adopted September 2012) and the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (adopted April 2013).

4 No construction work resulting from the planning permission shall be carried out on the premises at any time on Sundays, Bank or Public Holidays, before 8.00 am or after 1.00 pm on Saturdays, or before 8.00 am or after 6.00pm pm on other days.

Reason: To ensure that the proposed development does not prejudice the amenities of occupiers of adjoining residential properties in accordance with policy DM04 of the Development Management Policies DPD (adopted September 2012).

5 The internal layout of the proposed unit shall remain as shown on the hereby approved plans and must not be changed without the prior written permission of the local planning authority.

Reason:

To safeguard the amenities of future occupiers.

6 a) No development other than demolition works shall take place until details of the materials to be used for the external surfaces of the building(s) and hard surfaced areas hereby approved have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

b) The development shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the materials as approved under this condition.

Reason: To safeguard the character and visual amenities of the site and wider area and to ensure that the building is constructed in accordance with Policies CS NPPF and CS1 of the Local Plan Core Strategy (adopted September 2012), Policy DM01 of the Development Management Policies DPD (adopted September 2012) and Policies 1.1, 7.4, 7.5 and 7.6 of the London Plan 2011.

### RECOMMENDATION III:

0 That if an agreement has not been completed by 12/11/2015 that unless otherwise agreed in writing, the Assistant Director of Development Management and Building Control

should REFUSE the application 15/00317/FUL under delegated powers for the following reasons:

1. The development fails to provide a legal undertaking to enable an amendment to the Traffic Regulation Order and contribution towards the associated monitoring costs to mitigate the on-street parking impact in the vicinity of the site, contrary to policy DM17 of the Development Management Policies DPD and the Planning Obligations SPD.

**Informative(s):**

- 1 In accordance with paragraphs 186 and 187 of the NPPF, the Local Planning Authority (LPA) takes a positive and proactive approach to development proposals, focused on solutions. The LPA has produced planning policies and written guidance to assist applicants when submitting applications. These are all available on the Council's website. A pre-application advice service is also offered. The LPA has negotiated with the applicant/agent where necessary during the application process to ensure that the proposed development is in accordance with the Development Plan.
- 2 The applicant is advised that any development or conversion which necessitates the removal, changing, or creation of an address or addresses must be officially registered by the Council through the formal 'Street Naming and Numbering' process.

The London Borough of Barnet is the Street Naming and Numbering Authority and is the only organisation that can create or change addresses within its boundaries. Applications are the responsibility of the developer or householder who wish to have an address created or amended.

Occupiers of properties which have not been formally registered can face a multitude of issues such as problems with deliveries, rejection of banking / insurance applications, problems accessing key council services and most importantly delays in an emergency situation.

Further details and the application form can be downloaded from: <http://www.barnet.gov.uk/naming-and-numbering-applic-form.pdf> or requested from the Street Naming and Numbering Team via [street.naming@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:street.naming@barnet.gov.uk) or by telephoning 0208 359 7294.

- 3 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) applies to all 'chargeable development'. This is defined as development of one or more additional units, and / or an increase to existing floor space of more than 100 sq m. Details of how the calculations work are provided in guidance documents on the Planning Portal at [www.planningportal.gov.uk/cil](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/cil).

The Mayor of London adopted a CIL charge on 1st April 2012 setting a rate of £35 per sq m on all forms of development in Barnet except for education and health developments which are exempt from this charge. Your planning application has been assessed at this time as liable for a £4213.65 payment under Mayoral CIL.

The London Borough of Barnet adopted a CIL charge on 1st May 2013 setting a rate of £135 per sq m on residential and retail development in its area of authority. All other uses and ancillary car parking are exempt from this charge. Your planning application has therefore been assessed at this time as liable for a £16252.65 payment under Barnet CIL.

Please note that Indexation will be added in line with Regulation 40 of Community Infrastructure Levy.

Liability for CIL will be recorded to the register of Local Land Charges as a legal charge upon your site payable should you commence development. Receipts of the Mayoral CIL charge are collected by the London Borough of Barnet on behalf of the Mayor of London; receipts are passed across to Transport for London to support Crossrail, London's highest infrastructure priority.

You will be sent a 'Liability Notice' that provides full details of the charge and to whom it has been apportioned for payment. If you wish to identify named parties other than the applicant for this permission as the liable party for paying this levy, please submit to the Council an 'Assumption of Liability' notice, which is also available from the Planning Portal website.

The CIL becomes payable upon commencement of development. You are required to submit a 'Notice of Commencement' to the Council's CIL Team prior to commencing on site, and failure to provide such information at the due date will incur both surcharges and penalty interest. There are various other charges and surcharges that may apply if you fail to meet other statutory requirements relating to CIL, such requirements will all be set out in the Liability Notice you will receive. You may wish to seek professional planning advice to ensure that you comply fully with the requirements of CIL Regulations.

If you have a specific question or matter you need to discuss with the CIL team, or you fail to receive a 'Liability Notice' from the Council within 1 month of this grant of planning permission, please email us at: [cil@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cil@barnet.gov.uk).

Relief or Exemption from CIL:

If social housing or charitable relief applies to your development or your development falls within one of the following categories then this may reduce the final amount you are required to pay; such relief must be applied for prior to commencement of development using the 'Claiming Exemption or Relief' form available from the Planning Portal website: [www.planningportal.gov.uk/cil](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/cil).

You can apply for relief or exemption under the following categories:

1. Charity: If you are a charity, intend to use the development for social housing or feel that there are exception circumstances affecting your development, you may be eligible for a reduction (partial or entire) in this CIL Liability. Please see the

documentation published by the Department for Communities and Local Government at [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/6314/19021101.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6314/19021101.pdf)

2. Residential Annexes or Extensions: You can apply for exemption or relief to the collecting authority in accordance with Regulation 42(B) of Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations (2010), as amended before commencement of the chargeable development.

3. Self Build: Application can be made to the collecting authority provided you comply with the regulation as detailed in the [legislation.gov.uk](http://legislation.gov.uk)

Please visit <http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/applications/howtoapply/whattosubmit/cil> for further details on exemption and relief.

## **Officer's Assessment**

### **1. Site Description**

Stanhope Court is a block of six flats located at 53-55 Stanhope Road, just off North Finchley High Road. The block has an L-Shaped footprint and is three stories high with a flat roof. The street is mainly characterised by residential 2 story single family dwellings, although there are purpose built flats situated further up the road.

### **2. Site History**

Reference: F/01176/10

Address: Stanhope Court, 53 - 55 Stanhope Road, London, N12 9DZ

Decision: Approved subject to conditions

Decision Date: 24 May 2010

Description: Formation of mansard roof to provide two new self contained flats.

Reference: F/03632/09

Address: Stanhope Court, 53 - 55 Stanhope Road, London, N12 9DZ

Decision: Refused

Decision Date: 1 December 2009

Description: Formation of additional storey to provide two self contained flats.

### **3. Proposal**

The proposal relates to the formation of a mansard roof to provide a 1no. 3 bedroom self contained flat. The proposed roof will increase the height of the building by 2.4 metres (from 8.6 metres to 11 metres).

The proposed flat will have 3 bedrooms and a gross internal area (GIA) of 86.17sqm.

### **4. Public Consultation**

Consultation letters were sent to 140 neighbouring properties.

7 responses have been received, comprising 7 letters of objection

The objections received can be summarised as follows:

- the construction on the top of the court will burden the building with a huge load and weight
- concerns raised regarding parking
- no plan for smoke lobbies
- reduction in the value of neighbouring properties
- reduce light to neighbouring properties
- the current building is an eyesore, adding another storey would exacerbate the 'ugliness' of the structure and devalue the aesthetics of the road
- the flat will be converted into a HMO at a later date
- the building would be taller than any of the neighbouring properties
- loss of enjoyment of neighbouring gardens and overlooking

### **5. Planning Considerations**

#### **5.1 Policy Context**

## National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Practice Guidance

The determination of planning applications is made mindful of Central Government advice and the Local Plan for the area. It is recognised that Local Planning Authorities must determine applications in accordance with the statutory Development Plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise, and that the planning system does not exist to protect the private interests of one person against another.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published on 27 March 2012. This is a key part of the Government's reforms to make the planning system less complex and more accessible, and to promote sustainable growth.

The NPPF states that 'good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, is indivisible from good planning, and should contribute positively to making places better for people'. The NPPF retains a presumption in favour of sustainable development. This applies unless any adverse impacts of a development would 'significantly and demonstrably' outweigh the benefits.

## The Mayor's London Plan 2015

The London Development Plan is the overall strategic plan for London, and it sets out a fully integrated economic, environmental, transport and social framework for the development of the capital to 2050. It forms part of the development plan for Greater London and is recognised in the NPPF as part of the development plan.

The London Plan provides a unified framework for strategies that are designed to ensure that all Londoners benefit from sustainable improvements to their quality of life.

## Barnet's Local Plan (2012)

Barnet's Local Plan is made up of a suite of documents including the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Documents. Both were adopted in September 2012.

- Relevant Core Strategy Policies: CS NPPF, CS1, CS5.
- Relevant Development Management Policies: DM01, DM02.

The Council's approach to development as set out in Policy DM01 is to minimise the impact on the local environment and to ensure that occupiers of new developments as well as neighbouring occupiers enjoy a high standard of amenity. Policy DM01 states that all development should represent high quality design and should be designed to allow for adequate daylight, sunlight, privacy and outlook for adjoining occupiers. Policy DM02 states that where appropriate, development will be expected to demonstrate compliance to minimum amenity standards and make a positive contribution to the Borough. The development standards set out in Policy DM02 are regarded as key for Barnet to deliver the highest standards of urban design.

## Supplementary Planning Documents

Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (adopted April 2013)

- Provides detailed guidance that supplements policies in the adopted Local Plan, and sets out how sustainable development will be delivered in Barnet.

## **5.2 Main issues for consideration**

The main issues for consideration in this case are:

- Whether harm would be caused to the character and appearance of the existing building, the street scene and the wider locality;
- Whether harm would be caused to the living conditions of neighbouring residents.

## **5.3 Assessment of proposals**

### *Character and appearance*

The Borough has an attractive and high quality environment that the Council wishes to protect and enhance. It is therefore considered necessary to carefully assess both the design and form of new development to ensure that it is compatible with the established character of an area that is defined by the type and size of dwellings, the layout, intensity, and relationship with one another and their surroundings. Proposals involving the redevelopment of sites in residential localities are required to reflect the particular character of the street in which the site is located and the scale and proportion of the houses.

The Council recognises that flat developments can make an important contribution to housing provision, in particular smaller units and that they can make more efficient use of urban land, however they normally involve an intensification of use creating more activity and can adversely affect the appearance of a street through, for example, the provision of car parking and refuse facilities, that can have an unacceptable impact on the established character of an area.

The proposal would result in a mansard roof extension to create an additional unit. It is considered that the proposed roof alterations would be acceptable.

A proposal on the site was approved by the sub-committee (ref F/01176/10 dated 24 May 2010) which was identical in appearance however proposed two units instead of one.

Given that the physical manifestations of the proposal has not changed since the previous application it is considered acceptable under the current proposal.

The proposed mansard roof extension is considered to be a subordinate addition to the property in scale, that would complement its character and appearance. It is considered that the development would respect the scale, bulk, height and pattern of the surrounding buildings in line with the Council's relevant policies.

### *The living conditions of neighbouring residents*

One of the Council's key objectives is to improve the quality of life for people living in the Borough and therefore development that results in unacceptable harm to neighbours amenity is unlikely to be supported. Good neighbourliness is a yardstick against which proposals can be measured.

The Council's policies seek to ensure adequate outlook for occupiers adjoining new development, and that new residential developments should provide and preserve adequate residential amenity, however the policies, and the preamble in the preceding paragraphs, do not offer any guidance for assessment. It is therefore necessary for a judgement to be made by the decision maker with regard to this issue in each case.



It is the requirement of the Sustainable Design & Construction SPD to protect and enhance the character of the boroughs built environment and to give a reasonable degree of privacy to properties by requiring a minimum distance of 21 metres between the windows of habitable rooms facing one another.

The flat is to be lit by means of proposed rooflights. The distance between the proposed windows and any facing windows is greater than 21 metres to properties on Grove Road to the east of the application site and properties to the north of the site on Stanhope Road (Northern side of Stanhope Road).

The development would not be obtrusive and would preserve an adequate outlook for the neighbouring occupiers in accordance with Council guidance.

#### *The living conditions of future residents*

Policy DM01 states that development proposals should be based on an understanding of local characteristics. Proposals should preserve or enhance local character and respect the appearance, scale, mass, height and pattern of surrounding buildings, spaces and streets.

This policy also explains that 'Development proposals should be designed to allow for adequate daylight, sunlight, privacy and outlook for adjoining and potential occupiers and users'. The extensions to provide for the new self-contained flats are designed to allow for adequate daylight to the proposed unit. The proposal is consistent with the Council's Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (2013) in relation to gross internal area, layout, privacy and access to daylight and the external manifestation of the building respects the constraints of the site and does not detract from the residential amenity of character of the area

Policy DM02 states that where appropriate, development will be expected to demonstrate compliance to minimum amenity standards and that development makes a positive contribution to the borough. The development standards set out in Policy DM02: Development Standards are regarded as key for Barnet to deliver the highest standards of urban design.

In line with Table 2.1 within the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (and the London Plan Standards), the proposed flats meet the required Gross Internal Area.

Noise can be a significant nuisance in urban areas. Sound insulation between units should be incorporated into the scheme which should be in compliance with Requirement E of the Building Regulations 2010 (or any subsequent amendment in force at the time of implementation of the permission). This is due to its relationship both horizontally and vertically to neighbouring residential properties. The applicant should achieve the required sound insulation levels and this will be enforced by an appropriate condition attached to the decision.

#### *Parking*

The site is located in a medium accessibility area and within an all-day Controlled Parking Zone in close proximity to several bus routes and town centre amenities.

Further to comments received by the LPA Highways Officer, it is considered that the proposal is considered acceptable subject to a S106 agreement to amend the Traffic Order to restrict the issuing of parking permits for future occupiers of the flat. An email from the agent has confirmed that the applicant is willing to enter into a S106 agreement.

## 5.4 Response to Public Consultation

Largely addressed in report above.

Any concerns regarding the structural safety of the building will be addressed at the Building Control stage.

## 6. Equality and Diversity Issues

The proposal does not conflict with either Barnet Council's Equalities Policy or the commitments set in the Equality Scheme and supports the Council in meeting its statutory equality responsibilities.

## 7. Conclusion

The proposal is considered to accord with the requirements of the Development Plan and is therefore recommended for approval.

