LOCATION: 79 Gordon Road, London, N3 1ER

| REFERENCE: | F/00089/13 | Received: 02 January 2013 |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| | | Accepted: 02 January 2013 |
| WARD(S): | West Finchley | Expiry: 27 February 2013 |

Final

Revisions:

- **APPLICANT:** Mr & Mrs Gruner
- **PROPOSAL:** Single storey rear extension and associated conversion of garage into habitable room. Replacement of raised terrace to accommodate storage space below.

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS

 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans: Design & Access Statement, Drawing No. 004-GA-010, Drawing No. 004-EL-100, Rev C, Drawing No. 004-EL-010, Drawing No. 004-SE-101 Rev C, Drawing No. 004-SE-010, Drawing No. 004-SE-100 Rev C, Drawing No. 004-GA-100 Rev E, Drawing No. 004-GA-011 and Drawing No. 004-GA-101Rev D

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 DM01 of the Adopted Barnet Development Management Policies DPD (2012) and CS NPPF and CS1 of the Adopted Barnet Core Strategy DPD (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. The materials to be used in the external surfaces of the building(s) shall match those used in the existing building(s).

Reason:

To safeguard the visual amenities of the building and surrounding area in accordance with policies DM01 of the Adopted Barnet Development Management Policies DPD (2012), CS NPPF and CS1 of the Adopted Barnet Core Strategy DPD (2012).

4. The roof of the extension hereby permitted shall only be used in connection with the repair and maintenance of the building and shall at no time be converted to or used as a balcony, roof garden or similar amenity or sitting out area.

Reason:

To ensure that the amenities of the occupiers of adjoining properties are not prejudiced by overlooking in accordance with policy DM01 of the Adopted Barnet Development Management Policies DPD (2012).

5. The use of the extension hereby permitted shall at all times be ancillary to and occupied in conjunction with the main building and shall not at any time be occupied as a separate unit.

Reason:

To ensure that the development does not prejudice the character of the locality and the amenities of occupiers of adjoining residential properties in accordance with policy DM01 of the Adopted Barnet Development Management Policies DPD (2012).

6. Notwithstanding the provisions of any development order made under Section 59 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (or any Order revoking and re-enacting that Order) no windows, other than those expressly authorised by this permission, shall be placed at any time in the flank elevation, of the extension hereby approved, facing Number 77 Gordon Road.

Reason:

To safeguard the privacy and amenities of occupiers of adjoining residential properties in accordance with policy DM01 of the Adopted Barnet Development Management Policies DPD (2012).

INFORMATIVE(S):

1. The reasons for this grant of planning permission or other planning related decision are as follows: -

i) The proposed development accords with strategic planning guidance and policies as set out in The Mayor's London Plan: July 2011 and the Adopted Barnet Core Strategy (2012) and Development Management Policies DPD (2012).

In particular the following policies are relevant: Design Guidance Note No.5 on Household Extensions.

Core Strategy (Adopted) 2012: Relevant policies: CS NPPF, CS1 and CS5 Development Management Policies (Adopted) 2012: Relevant Policies: DM01 and DM02

ii) The proposal is acceptable for the following reason(s): - Having taken all material considerations into account, it is considered that subject to compliance with the attached conditions, this proposal complies with the Adopted Barnet Local Plan policies and guidance and would be in keeping with the character and appearance of the surrounding area. It is not considered to have a detrimental impact on the residential amenities of neighbouring occupiers.

iii) In accordance with paragraphs 186 and 187 of the NPPF, the Council takes a positive and proactive approach to development proposals, focused on solutions. The Local Planning Authority has produced planning policies and written guidance to guide applicants when submitting applications. These are all available on the Council's website. A pre-application advice service is also offered. The Local Planning Authority has negotiated with the applicant/ agent where necessary during the application process to ensure that the proposed development is in accordance with the Council's relevant policies and guidance.

iv) In this case, formal pre-application advice was sought prior to submission of the application.

1. MATERIAL CONSIDERATIONS

National Planning Policy Framework

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 Governments reforms to make the planning system less complex and more accessible, and to promote sustainable growth.

The London Plan is recognised in the NPPF as part of the development plan.

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."

NPPF retains 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 July 2011:

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 2031. It forms part of the development plan for Greater London.

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.

Relevant Local Plan (2012) Policies:

Barnet's Local Plan is made up of a suite of documents including the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Documents (DPD). Both DPDs were adopted on 11th September 2012

Relevant Core Strategy DPD (2012): Policies CS NPPF, CS1, CS5.

Relevant Development Management DPD (2012): Policies DM01, DM02.

Supplementary Planning Documents and Guidance

Design Guidance Note No 5 – Extensions to Houses

The Council guide 'Extension to Houses' was approved by the Planning and Environment Committee (The Local Planning Authority) in March 2010. This supplementary planning guidance (SPG) sets out information for applicants to help them design an extension to their property which would receive favourable consideration by the Local Planning Authority and was the subject of separate public consultation.

Included advice states that large areas of Barnet are characterised by relatively low density suburban housing with an attractive mixture of terrace, semi detached and detached houses. The Council is committed to protecting, and where possible enhancing the character of the borough's residential areas and retaining an attractive street scene.

In respect to amenity, extensions should not be overbearing or unduly obtrusive and care should be taken to ensure that they do not result in harmful loss of outlook, appear overbearing, or cause an increased sense of enclosure to adjoining properties. They should not reduce light to neighbouring windows to habitable rooms or cause significant overshadowing, and should not look out of place, overbearing or intrusive when viewed from surrounding areas.

The Council adopted a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) "Sustainable Design and Construction" (June 2007), following public consultation. This SPD provides detailed guidance that supplements policies in the adopted Local Plan, and sets out how sustainable development will be delivered in Barnet. Part 6 of the SPD relates to generic environmental requirements to ensure that new development within Barnet meets sufficiently high environmental and design standards.

The Council is currently consulting on the following two supporting planning documents to implement the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPDs. These are now material considerations. The Residential Design Guidance SPD (consultation draft November 2012) and Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (consultation draft November 2012) are now material considerations.

Relevant Planning History:

Site history for current landparcel : 101276 - 79 Gordon Road, London, N3 1ER Case Reference: F/00089/13

| Application: Validated: Status: Summary: Description: | Planning 02/01/2013 PDE APC Single storey rear extension and a room. Replacement of raised terra | associated conve | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Application: Validated: Status: Summary: Description: | Planning 06/11/2012 REG DEL Single storey rear extension and a room. | Number: Type: Date: Case Officer: associated conve | |
| Application: Validated: Status: Summary: Description: | Planning 22/08/2012 WDN WIT Single storey rear extension and a room. | Number: Type: Date: Case Officer: associated conve | |

Consultations and Views Expressed:

| Neighbours Consulted: | 10 | Replies: | 14 |
|-----------------------------|----|----------|----|
| Neighbours Wishing To Speak | 0 | | |

Objections raised summarised as:

- The proposal will lead to loss of parking space.
- Out of character with the established area.
- Noise and disturbance created by conversion of the garage

2. PLANNING APPRAISAL

Site Description and Surroundings:

The subject property is a semi detached property located on the north western side of Gordon Road.

Dimensions:

The application seeks planning permission for a single storey rear extension and associated conversion of garage into habitable room. Replacement of raised terrace to accommodate storage space below.

The proposed conversion of garage into a habitable room will have a height of 2.5 metres and will marginally extend beyond the existing garage footprint by 0.75 metres and will have a flat roof.

The proposed single storey rear extension will have a depth of 2.5 metres, a maximum width of 2 metres, a height of 2.15 metres with a flat roof and will link with the proposed habitable room.

The proposed terrace area will be identical in footprint to the existing however the proposal includes storage space below.

Planning Considerations:

The main issue in this case are considered to be covered under two main areas:

- The living conditions of neighbouring residents;
- Whether harm would be caused to the character and appearance of the area and street scene, having regard to the size and siting of the proposal.

The Council's approach to extensions as set out in Policy DM01 is to minimise their 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 of the Development Management Policies (Adopted) 2012 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 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.

The Council's draft SPD 'Residential Design Guidance" states that extensions should normally be subordinate to the original house, respect the original building and should not be overly dominant.

The Council's Design Guidance Note 5 on Extensions to Houses advises that extensions should normally be consistent in regard to the form, scale and architectural style of the original building which can be achieved through respecting the proportions of the existing house and using an appropriate roof form.

The proposed rear extension will extend beyond the extension of neighbouring property No. 77 Gordon Road by1.3 metres and link to the proposed habitable room. The extension is sited 3 metres away from the neighbouring property No. 77 and this is not considered to affect the amenities of the neighbouring property. The height of the extension matches the existing garage and it is not considered to be visually obtrusive and is not detrimental to the host property or general locality.

The proposed conversion of garage into a habitable room is considered an acceptable addition to the property and will link to the main house; it will not be built any higher than the existing garage and extends marginally beyond the existing garage by 0.75 metres and this is not considered to significantly affect the amenities of neighbouring occupiers.

The proposed terrace area is identical to the footprint of the existing terrace and is not considered to cause overlooking or loss of privacy to neighbouring property No. 81 Gordon Road.

The proposals would comply with the aforementioned policies and Council Design Guidance on Extensions to Houses and would be a proportionate addition to the dwellinghouse. It would have an acceptable impact on the character and appearance of the streetscene, site property, general locality and the residential amenity of neighbouring occupiers.

3. COMMENTS ON GROUNDS OF OBJECTIONS

Addressed in Planning considerations.

4. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

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

5. CONCLUSION

Having taken all material considerations into account, it is considered that subject to compliance with the attached conditions, this proposal complies with the Adopted Barnet Local Plan policies and guidance and would be in keeping with the character and appearance of the surrounding area. It is not considered to have a detrimental impact on the residential amenities of neighbouring occupiers. This application is therefore recommended for APPROVAL.

SITE LOCATION PLAN:

79 Gordon Road, London, N3 1ER

REFERENCE:

F/00089/13



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