# **COMMITTEE REPORT**

Planning Committee on 11 August, 2021

 Item No
 03

 Case Number
 21/1064

## **SITE INFORMATION**

RECEIVED	23 March, 2021			
WARD	Kenton			
PLANNING AREA				
LOCATION	1 Draycott Avenue, Harrow, HA3 0BW			
PROPOSAL	Demolition of existing detached dwellinghouse and erection of a part four storey, part three storey part 2-storey apartment block providing 9 x self contained flats with associated car parking and cycle storage, refuse storage, amenity space and landscaping.			
PLAN NO'S	See Condition 2			
LINK TO DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PLANNING APPLICATION	When viewing this on an Electronic Device  Please click on the link below to view ALL document associated to case https://pa.brent.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=DCAPR_ <systemke "21="" (i.e.="" 1.="" 1064"="" 2.="" a="" an="" and="" as="" box<="" case="" conduct="" copy="" following="" go="" hard="" into="" pa.brent.gov.uk="" planning="" please="" reference)="" search="" select="" steps="" th="" the="" this="" to="" tying="" use="" viewing="" when=""></systemke>			

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee resolve to GRANT planning permission subject to:

That the Head of Planning is delegated authority to issue the planning permission and impose conditions and informatives to secure the following matters:

### Conditions

- 1. Three year rule
- 2. Approved plans
- 3. Restriction of PD rights to change to C4 use
- 4. Tree Protection
- Obscure Glazing
- 6. Car Park Layout
- 7. Highways Works
- 8. Construction Method Statement
- 9. Construction Logistics Plan
- 10. Details of Piling
- 11. Materials
- 12. Landscaping

### **Informatives**

- 1. CIL liability
- Party Wall
- 3. Asbestos
- 4. Vehicle Crossover
- State of Highway
- 6. Fire Safety Standards
- 7. Living Wage
- 8. Noisy Works
- 9. Fire strategies
- 1. That the Head of Planning is delegated authority to make changes to the wording of the committee's decision (such as to delete, vary or add conditions, informatives, planning obligations or reasons for the decision) prior to the decision being actioned, provided that the Head of Planning is satisfied that any such changes could not reasonably be regarded as deviating from the overall principle of the decision reached by the committee nor that such change(s) could reasonably have led to a different decision having been reached by the committee.
- 2. That the Committee confirms that adequate provision has been made, by the imposition of conditions, for the preservation or planting of trees as required by Section 197 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

### SITE MAP



### **Planning Committee Map**

Site address: 1 Draycott Avenue, Harrow, HA3 0BW

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This map is indicative only.

### **PROPOSAL IN DETAIL**

The application proposes the demolition of existing detached dwellinghouse and erection of a part four storey, part three storey and part two-storey building providing 9 x self contained flats with associated car parking and cycle storage, refuse storage, amenity space and landscaping.

The proposal as submitted was identical to a scheme approved in 2019 (ref: 19/0256) which itself was a minor amendment to a scheme approved in 2016 (ref: 16/0730) (parent scheme). As this scheme has not been implemented within three year time period, the consent has now expired. Nevertheless, it does form part of the material considerations of the current application, as discussed within the main body of the report below.

### **EXISTING**

The application site is a two storey detached dwellinghouse on the east side of Draycott Avenue. The site is adjacent to Kenton Town Centre and its primary shopping parade to the northwest and abuts the Northwick Circle Conservation Area to the east.

Draycott Avenue itself is predominantly residential consisting of two storey suburban properties. The height increases to 3 storeys along Kenton Road. Draycott Avenue slopes upwards away from Kenton Road. The application site is a two storey detached dwellinghouse on the east side of Draycott Avenue. The site is adjacent to Kenton Town Centre and its primary shopping parade to the northwest and abuts the Northwick Circle Conservation Area to the east.

Draycott Avenue itself is predominantly residential consisting of two storey suburban properties. The height increases to 3 storeys along Kenton Road. Draycott Avenue slopes upwards away from Kenton Road.

#### AMENDMENTS SINCE SUBMISSION

The following amendments were made to the plans during the application:

- Clarification to drawings to show 30, 45 and 25 degree lines
- Confirmation of accessibility of main entrance and M4(2) compliance of units
- Alterations to north side elevation to add contrast bricks and windows
- Alterations to internal layouts of unit 02 to provide access to rear amenity through corridor rather than bedroom
- Improvements to layout of rear amenity space to improve practicality and provide defensible space to rear of unit 02

### **SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES**

The key planning issues for Members to consider are set out below. Members will need to balance all of the planning issues and the objectives of relevant planning policies when making a decision on the application:

**Representations Received**: Representations were received from the owners/occupiers of neighbouring properties in response to the consultation. These are set out above and addressed in the report where relevant.

**Principle of Development**: The proposal would provide new homes in a residential area. The principle of residential development is supported in this location.

**Highway impacts:** Transport officers have assessed the scheme and advised that the proposal is acceptable. It is not considered to result in a material impact upon the local highway network.

**Residential amenity:** The proposal would not result in a significant impact on the residential amenities of neighbouring occupiers in terms of noise and disturbance, daylight and sunlight or overlooking.

**Design and appearance:** The design of the proposed building is considered to make a positive contribution to the street and would not result in harmful impact on the character and appearance of the local area.

**Trees and landscaping:** Landscaping has been amended to provide a more practical layout with beneficial soft landscaping. Replacement trees are to be secured at the rear of the site to ensure an acceptable appearance.

### **RELEVANT SITE HISTORY**

Reference	Proposal	Decision	Date
19/0256	Variation of condition 2 (development built in accordance with approved plans) to allow:  1. Removal of basement car parking 2. Revised car parking, bin and bicycle storage 3. Additional massing to third floor 4. Removal of stepped elevation to rear (beside No.3 Draycott Ave) and minor associated amendments  of Full Planning Permission reference 16/0730 dated 26 October, 2016, for Demolition of existing detached dwellinghouse and erection of a part four storey, part three storey part 2-storey apartment block providing 1 x 3 bed; 5 x 2 bed and 3 x 1 bed self contained flats with associated basement level car and cycle parking, refuse storage, amenity space and landscaping	GRANTED	05/04/2019
16/0730	Demolition of existing detached dwellinghouse and erection of a part four storey, part three storey part 2-storey apartment block providing 1 x 3 bed; 5 x 2 bed and 3 x 1 bed self contained flats with associated basement level car and cycle parking, refuse storage, amenity space and landscaping	GRANTED	26/10/2016

### **CONSULTATIONS**

Public Consultation

113 Neighbours Consulted

16 objections were received from 11 individual addresses and an objection petition was received with 52 signatures. These are summarised as follows:

Objection Response	
Residential amenity concerns	
Loss of privacy	Addressed in paragraphs 37-42

Impact on right to light	The legal right to light is not a material
	consideration. However, the impacts of the
	development on neighbouring daylight and
	sunlight have been found acceptable and are
	assessed in paragraphs 29-36
Loss of light	Addressed in paragraphs 29-36
Tenants would have access to neighbouring site	Side windows would be conditioned to be
via their side windows	obscure glazed and non-opening
Noise impacts as a result of balconies	Addressed in paragraphs 37-42
Balconies and roof terraces would result in loss	Addressed in paragraphs 37-42
of privacy	
Side windows will look onto neighbouring	Side windows would be conditioned to be
properties when opened	obscure glazed and non-opening
Impact on safety and mental health of	These concerns are noted. Whilst human rights
neighbouring occupiers / It would violate human	are not directly referred to in the report, the
rights	planning process has assessed the impacts of
	development on residential amenity in
	accordance with planning policy and found to be
	acceptable. Individual circumstances including
	physical or mental health are not a material
	planning consideration.
The cladding would be a fire hazard	The applicant has provided a Fire Safety
	Strategy. It should also be noted that the safety
	of materials would be considered as a part of
	the building regulations application.
Increased noise impacts from cycle storage	Addressed in paragraph 42
Design concerns	
Out of character with the area	Addressed in paragraphs 11-21
It would set an unwanted precedent	Each application is assessed on its own merits
	and as such the granting of this permission does
	not necessarily mean similar applications will be
	acceptable
Impact on Conservation area nearby	Addressed in paragraphs 24-27
The property is much taller than surroundings	Addressed in paragraphs 11-16
The area currently consists of houses with	Addressed in paragraphs 5-9
families and not flats	
Loss of trees	Addressed in paragraph 74-75
Ecological impact	Addressed in paragraphs 75
Highways concerns	1
Impacts of pollution from increased traffic	Addressed in paragraphs 61-72
Insufficient parking for all units	Addressed in paragraphs 61-72

Increased impact on traffic and risk to	Addressed in paragraphs 61-72
pedestrians, including increased use of the	
service road along Drayton Waye.	
Quality of proposed accommodation	
Poor outlook to the ground floor flats	Addressed in paragraphs 47
The amenity space is accessed from bedrooms	Addressed in paragraphs 61
and will be in shade during the day	
The floor to ceiling height is insufficient	Addressed in paragraphs 48
The access is not wheelchair friendly	Addressed in paragraphs 51
Other issues	
It would destroy the local community	The proposal will provide a mix of new homes
	including family sized accommodation, and it is
	not considered that the proposal will destroy the
	local community.
Increased impact on waste and water supply	The scale and nature of this proposal is such
	that it is not considered likely that the proposal
	will result in a significant impact on water supply
	or waste water.
It would prejudice the ability of the neighbouring	The proposal does not rely on neighbouring
property to extend	sites for outlook or daylight and as such would
	not prejudice the ability of neighbouring sites to
	be developed.
Increased crime as a result of proposal	Objectors have raised concerns that the proposal would result in increased crime and security concerns. There would be no public access to the site or communal space for non-residents and the flats would provide natural surveillance for all communal areas. As such it is not considered that the proposal would result in security impacts.
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### Internal Consultees

Environmental Health – No objections raised. Officers have advised that the Construction Method Statement is acceptable subject to augered piling to be used on site.

### External consultees

Historic England - No objections

## **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that the determination of this application should be in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The development plan is comprised of the:

London Plan 2021

**Brent Core Strategy 2010** 

Brent Development Management Policies 2016.

Key policies include:

#### **London Plan 2021**

D4 - Delivering good design

D6 - Housing quality and standards

D7 - Accessible Housing

D12 - Fire Safety

H1 - Increasing Housing Supply

H2 - Small sites

T5 - Cycling

T6 - Car parking

### **Brent's Core Strategy 2010**

CP 2 Population and Housing Growth CP 17- Protecting and Enhancing the Suburban Character of Brent CP21 A Balanced Housing Stock

### **Development Management Policy (2016)**

DMP1: General Policy

DMP7: Brent's Heritage Assets

DMP12: Parking

DMP18: Dwelling Size and Residential Outbuildings

DMP19: Residential Amenity Space

All of these documents are adopted and therefore carry significant weight in the assessment of any planning application.

The Council is at an advanced stage in reviewing its Local Plan. The draft Brent Local Plan was subject to examination in public during September and October 2020. Planning Inspectors appointed on behalf of the Secretary of State have considered the draft Plan and have requested that the Council undertake consultation on a number of Main Modifications which is taking place between 8 July and 19 August 2021. Therefore, having regard to the tests set out in paragraph 48 of the NPPF, it is considered that greater weight can now be applied to policies contained within the draft Brent Local Plan.

The draft Local Plan carries significant weight in the assessment of planning applications given the progress through the statutory plan-making processes.

Relevant policies include:

DMP1 – Development Management General Policy

BD1 – Leading the way in good design

BH1 – Increasing Housing Supply

BH2 – Priority Areas for Additional Housing Provision within Brent

BH4 - Small Sites and Small Housing Provision within Brent

BH6 - Housing Mix

BH13 - Residential Amenity Space

BHC1 - Brent's Heritage Assets

BGI2 - Trees and Woodlands

BSUI2 - Air Quality

BT1 - Sustainable Travel Choice

BT2 - Parking and car Free Development

BT4 - Forming an Access onto a Road

The following are also relevant material considerations:

The National Planning Policy Framework (revised 2021) SPD1 – Brent Design Guide (2018)

### **DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Background**

- 1. Planning permission was granted on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016 (LPA Ref: 16/0730) for a part four storey, part three storey building consisting of nine flats with basement parking and associated amenity space.
- 2. This application was subsequently amended under a Section 73 application on 05/04/2019 (LPA Ref: 19/0256) for minor material amendments to the above parent consent to remove the basement parking and alter the design of the overall building.
- 3. The original permission has now lapsed on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2019 and this application must be assessed on its own merits. Several key policies have been adopted since the granting of the 2016 permission, notably the London Plan (2021) and the Development Management Policies (2016).
- 4. Notwithstanding this, many of the policies are similar or some cases more permissive than the older policies used to assess the previous application. As such, the previous permission carries some weight in the assessment of this application.

#### **Principle of Development**

- 5. Policy CP2 of the Brent Core Strategy sets out a target for delivering 22,000 new homes over the 2007-2026 period, including a target of 25% family sized accommodation. Brent's Housing targets have significantly increased as part of London Plan 2021, with the target increasing to 2,325 dwellings per annum for the period 2019/20-2028/29 in Policy H1 of the London Plan recognising the increasing demand for delivery of new homes across London. Emerging local plan policy BH1 reflects this target.
- 6. Policy D3 of London Plan 2021 required developments to make the best use of land by following a

design-led approach that optimises the capacity of the site, with development that is the most appropriate form and land use for the site, with the policy recognising that small sites make a significant contribution towards increasing housing supply within London. This is also set out in policy H2 of London Plan 2021.

- 7. In response to the strategic policy position above, within Brent's draft Local Plan, the Council has set out priority areas for new housing under policy BH2. This policy identifies that new housing will be prioritised for growth areas, site allocations, town centres, edge of town centre sites, areas with higher levels of public transport accessibility and intensification corridors.
- 8. The above position is reinforced in policy BH4 of Brent's draft Local Plan. This policy relates to small housing sites and recognises that such sites can assist in delivering a net addition of self-contained dwellings through the more intensive and efficient use of sites. Such proposals will be considered where consistent with other policies in the development plan and within priority locations (i.e. PTAL 3-6, intensification corridors, or a town centre boundary).
- 9. The application site adjacent to the Kenton Town Centre and within PTAL 4 and is currently in residential use. It is therefore considered to be within an area appropriate for additional housing, and subject to complying with other policies in the development plan as discussed below, the intensification of the site to increase housing supply is consistent with both the adopted London Plan 2021 and the emerging policy context in Brent's Draft Local Plan 2020.

### **Design and Appearance**

10. Policy BD1 of the Draft Local Plan sets out that all new development must be of the highest architectural and urban design quality. Innovative contemporary design will be supported where it respects and complements historic character but is also fit for the future. In delivering high quality design, development proposals will be expected to show how they positively address all the relevant criteria within London Plan design policies and the Brent Design Guide SPD1.

### Scale, height, massing and bulk

- 11. The scale and massing would be identical to the approved scheme 19/0256. Due to the slope in ground levels, the building acts as a transition between the buildings on Kenton Road and No. 3 Draycott Avenue. The maximum height of the main building (AOD +61.36) (excluding the solar panels and associated screening) would be slightly higher than the ridge height of the properties on Kenton Road (AOD +60.93) and slightly below the ridge line of No. 3 Draycott Avenue (AOD +61.42).
- 12. The upper-most floor would be set back from all elevations by a minimum of 1m which would further mitigate the appearance of the height when viewed from ground level and reduce the overall bulk of the building.
- 13. The front elevation would have a staggered appearance with protruding sections for the front balconies. The building would be further set back towards Kenton Road with the set-back sections also reducing in height accordingly.
- 14. The width of the building would be similar to that of the nearby semi-detached and detached properties. The building would match the existing building line at the front.
- 15. The above would serve to break up the overall massing and bulk of the building which is considered to benefit the design of the proposal.
- Overall, the scale, height and massing of the proposal is considered to sit well within the surrounding context.

### Detailing, materials and fenestration

- 17. The main elevations of the building would be finished with red brick with the upper most floor finished with copper cladding. The use of these materials would add contrast to the overall building and add visual interest. During the course of the application, the Council's Urban Design officer requested the use of lighter brick materials to give a more muted appearance. Details of this have been submitted and are considered to be a betterment over the original consent. Subject to a condition for materials samples to be submitted and approved, this would be acceptable.
- 18. Some cladding would be provided on the rear elevation to add further visual interest and contrasting protruding brickwork would also be used on parts of the front and side elevations would be used to break up blank facades.
- 19. The fenestration would be finished with black frames and the balconies would be black railings. These are considered to be appropriate for the contemporary design of the building and add further contrast and visual interest. The application as submitted featured glass balustrades. On the advice of officers these were altered to be metal railings. As above, this is considered to be an improvement over the originally consented scheme.
- 20. The front fenestration would consist of floor-to-ceiling windows across the full width of the balcony sections. Which would be appropriate for residential development. On the advice of officers the northern side elevation has been amended to provide narrow, floor to ceiling obscure windows which would also break up the overall façade of the side elevation improving the appearance of the scheme when viewed from this angle. Overall the location and size of the fenestration and detailing is considered to be of good quality design and is acceptable.
- 21. The choice of materials is considered acceptable in principle. However, samples of materials are to be approved by condition to ensure an acceptable appearance.

#### Layout

- 22. The proposal would have a single entrance in the middle of the front elevation. It would be finished with cladding, proving a clear and easily legible entrance to the property.
- 23. The application as submitted featured a range of ancillary structures at ground level along Drayton Waye. Concerns were raised that this resulted in an inactive frontage in this part of the site. However, it is considered that changes made to the side elevations and boundary treatment along the rear amenity space have improved this and on balance this would be acceptable.

### Impact on the adjacent Northwick Circle Conservation Area

- 24. The site adjoins the Northwick Circle Conservation Area along its north eastern boundary (the site abuts the rear garden of No. 1 Draycott Close which is located within the conservation area. A conservation area is defined as a designated heritage asset.
- 25. Paragraph 189 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2019, states when determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. The NPPF goes onto say in paragraph 190 that Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise any conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.
- 26. Paragraph 193 of the NPPF states that when considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than

substantial harm to its significance. In the case of where development leads to less than substantial harm to the significant of a designated heritage asset, paragraph 196 of the NPPF, highlights this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use.

27. The applicant has provided a heritage statement which identifies the potential impacts on the nearby Conservation area. This identifies areas where the development would be most visible from within the Conservation Area. Heritage England have been consulted on the application and raised no objections. The Council's Heritage Officer has viewed the submitted Heritage Statement and the wider scheme and considers that the development is a reasonable distance away from the Conservation Area and is mostly screened by trees along nearby boundaries. It would not be highly visible from the most significant focal point of the conservation area and is of a similar scale to nearby developments. As such, the proposal would not result in harm to the nearby Northwick Circle Conservation Area.

#### **Residential Amenity**

28. Policy DMP1 of the local plan both emphasise that new development should not result in unacceptable harm to the residential amenities of neighbouring properties. SPD1 provides further guidance on the layout of new development to avoid such impacts.

### Outlook, daylight and sunlight

- 29. SPD1 requires new development to sit within a line drawn at 45 degree (measured at 2m high) from the boundary of adjoining private external amenity space, and to sit within a line of 30 degrees (measured at 2m from internal floor level) from neighbouring rear habitable room windows. New development when sitting alongside existing residential properties should also project no deeper than 1:2 rule (whereby the depth is no deeper than half the distance when measured from the middle of the neighbour's nearest rear habitable room window to the flank wall of the proposed development).
- 30. The applicant has provided a plan indicating that the proposal would comply with both the 30 degree line (when measured from the upper flats on Kenton Lane to the North and No. 2 Draycott Avenue) and 45 degree line (when measured from the rear garden of No. 1 Draycott Close at a height of 2m above garden level) as required by guidance.
- 31. No. 3 Draycott Avenue has been extended with a ground floor side to rear extension, and a lofty extension, and a loft extension. It is noted that there are windows in the flank wall of No. 3 Draycott Avenue but based on Council records these serve non habitable rooms.
- 32. The new building directly next to No. 3 Draycott Avenue does not extend beyond the rear wall of the ground floor extension. At a distance of 5.8m from the boundary, the new building projects out 1.6m from the rear wall of the extension at No. 3 Draycott Avenue and at a distance of 10.7m from the boundary projects out an additional 2.2m. The overall projection of the building from the rear extension of No. 3 Draycott Avenue is approx. 3.7m.
- 33. At upper floor level, the flank wall of the new building is approx. 7.3m away from the middle of the nearest first floor rear habitable room at No. 3 Draycott Avenue. The new building projects out 2.3m in depth from this rear window and therefore sits within 1:2 rule. The new building then steps out an additional 1.59m at a distance of 12.73m away from the middle of the bedroom window and once again does not breach 1:2 rule). The final step in the building is approx. 16m away from the middle of the rear bedroom window at No. 3 Draycott Avenue and the total depth of the proposal from this window at this section of the building is 6.89m deep, so well within 1:2 rule.
- 34. It is noted that No. 3 Draycott Avenue has recently submitted a planning application for a first floor side extension that is under consideration (LPA Ref 21/1535). This application has not been determined and therefore carries limited weight. Nevertheless, it is noted from the plans that the extension serves a bedroom with windows on the front and rear elevations. Whilst the element of the new build closest to the

boundary with No. 3 Draycott Avenue would fall short of 1:2 rule when measured from the position of this closer bedroom window, given that this forms part of an extension rather than an original feature of the house and is sited close to the boundary with the neighbouring site, such an extension should not preclude the neighbouring site from carrying out an reasonably extent of development, whilst maintaining a degree of amenity for the occupiers of No. 3 Draycott Avenue that is within acceptable limits. The projecting elements still comply with 1:2 rule from the rear window within the extension proposed under 2021 application.

- 35. In addition to the above, the applicant has demonstrated that the scheme would sit below the 25 degree line in relation to properties on the opposite site of Draycott Avenue. As such, there would be no undue impacts on those properties and a Daylight/Sunlight assessment is not required.
- 36. Overall, the proposal is considered to maintain an acceptable level of amenity for neighbouring occupiers, and complies with policy DMP1 of Brent's Development Management Policies 2016.

### **Privacy and Security**

- 37. SPD1 requires a minimum distance of 9m from habitable room window to neighbouring private external amenity spaces and a minimum distance of 18m between directly facing habitable room windows. The proposal does not directly face the rear windows of adjoining properties.
- 38. At the front the proposal would maintain a distance of approximately 23m from the opposite property. The neighbouring garden to the rear would be located approximately 34m away from the rear elevation of the property. As such, it is considered that there would be no loss of privacy to these properties resulting from the proposal.
- 39. Windows would be provided on the two flank elevations. As these serve as secondary windows to habitable rooms or serve non-habitable rooms, these are recommended to be conditioned to be obscured glazed and opening at high level only to prevent overlooking to the neighbouring sites. Additionally, these windows would be located approximately 9m away from the commercial units on Kenton Road.
- 40. Neighbours have raised concerns that the proposed balconies would result in increased noise and disturbance. Whilst these comments are acknowledged, the provision of balconies is considered typical for residential development and the impacts would be similar to that of a rear garden or other communal space. Additionally the balconies are located on the front of the property, away from the amenity spaces of neighbouring residences.
- 41. For the same reasons it is considered that the balconies and roof terrace would not result in loss of privacy to neighbouring properties.
- 42. Concerns have also been raised that the location of the cycle store would result in increased noise impacts to neighbouring gardens. Whilst this is acknowledged, the cycle store would only be accessible by residents and such developments are typical for residential areas. As such, the impacts are not considered to be undue.

#### Mix of units and quality of Accommodation

- 43. The scheme proposes four x one-bedroom flats, four x two bedroom flats and one x three bedroom flats.
- 44. Policy CP21 seeks to ensure that new housing contributes towards a balance housing stock with draft Policy BH6 of the Draft Local Plan states that for every four dwellings included within a new development,

at least one must be 3+ bedrooms or more.

- 45. The subject site is located in an area primarily residential in nature, both along Draycott Avenue itself and within the upper floors of the buildings along Kenton Road. The provision of residential development in this location is considered to be acceptable.
- 46. The proposal would provide nine units total, one of which would be a three bed unit. Whilst this would accord with adopted policy, the provision of one family sized home would fall short of the requirements of policy BH6 of draft Local Plan, with the emerging policy requiring two family sized homes within the development. However, on balance, the benefits of the scheme to deliver an overall net gain in homes within the site are considered to outweigh the harm identified with falling short of the number of family sized homes set out in emerging policy BH6.
- 47. All units would meet or exceed the minimum space standards in terms of Gross Internal Area (GIA) required by Policy D6 of the London Plan. Additionally, sufficient internal storage has been provided. All units would be provided with external windows providing sufficient internal daylight and outlook.
- 48. It is acknowledged that the floor-to-ceiling height would be 2.45m for the flats on the Ground-2<sup>nd</sup> floors and 2.4m for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. This would fall short of the 2.5m required for 75% of the GIA required by Policy D6 of the London Plan. However, the shortfall would be very minor and the layout of the flats overall is considered to be good. Additionally, any raising of the height of the building to accommodate these changes would result in a potential breach of the 30 and 45 degree rules. On balance, this shortfall is not considered to be sufficient grounds to refuse permission.
- 49. Three of the units (Apt 4, 5 and 6) would not be considered dual aspect. However, they would not be north or south facing and would have obscure glazed side windows to provide further cross ventilation. They would also be provided with private balconies and are generally of good internal layout. As such the overall provision of single aspect units is not considered to be detrimental in the context of the wider scheme.
- 50. The units would be provided with a single lift core serving all floors. It would provide for no more than 3 homes per core which would accord with the 8 flats per core ratio recommended by the London Plan. Overall, the layout of the units is considered to be acceptable.
- 51. The Accessibility Statement confirms that all units will be compliant with Building Regulation requirement M4(2) 'accessible and adaptable dwellings'. This would accord with policy D7 of The London Plan (2021). In addition, clarification from the applicant has been received to ensure that ramped access to the main entrance would be provided.

### **External Amenity Space**

52. Policy DMP19 states the following:

"All new dwellings will be required to have external private amenity space of a sufficient size and type to satisfy its proposed residents' needs. This will normally be expected to be 20sqm per flat and 50sqm for family housing (including ground floor flats)."

53. The policy requirement in relation to external private amenity space is for it to be "sufficiency of size". Whilst there is a normal "expectation" for 20qm per flat and 50sqm for family housing (including ground floor flats), that is not an absolute policy requirement in all cases. This is reinforced by the supporting text to the policy (para. 10.39) which provides that:

"New development should provide private amenity space to all dwellings, accessible from a main living room without level changes and planned within a building to take a maximum advantage of

daylight and sunlight. Where sufficient private amenity space cannot be achieved to meet the full requirement of the policy, the remainder should be applied in the form of communal amenity space".

- 54. These requirements are carried forward in Brent's emerging Local Plan under policy heading BH13.
- 55. In meeting the above requirements, it is expected that at least a part of each flat's required amenity space will be private space and as such, all units should be provided with a London Plan compliant balcony/terrace. Within dense developments in a town centre setting there is an expectation that a shortfall in amenity space provision can acceptably be made up through communal garden space as much as is possible, which would be a secondary form of amenity space beyond the flats' balconies
- 56. To summarise the proposed scheme requires a total of 210sqm of external amenity space (1 x 50sqm for the 3 bed unit at ground floor and 8 x 20sqm for the remaining units). The scheme would provide a total of 514sqm of external amenity space (129sqm of private and 385sqm of communal space). All of the balconies would be of a sufficient size and depth required by the London Plan.
- 57. The overall provision of amenity space including the large communal garden far exceeds the requirements of the above policies. The communal space would be well laid out and accessible.
- 58. An objector has raised concerns that access to private balconies would be via bedrooms and not living rooms. Amendments have been received to ensure that this is only the case for Unit 01 on the ground floor. However, that unit has easily and quick access to the entrance to shared amenity space and this is considered acceptable on balance. Additional concerns were raised that amenity space would be shaded during the day. The property is west facing and as such the rear amenity space would only be in shadow during the evening. This is typical for linear development in the area and similar to nearby gardens. It would be acceptable on balance.
- 59. Overall, the provision of amenity space for the scheme is considered to be acceptable and in compliance with policy DMP19.

### Fire Safety

60. Policy D12a of the London Plan (2021) requires all new development to take account of fire safety in design. The applicant has submitted a Fire Statement which identifies the potential fire risks and sets out passive and active safety measures and identifies escape routes and access for emergency vehicles.

### **Highways and Transport**

61. As the site has good access to public transport services, the lower residential car parking allowance set out in Table 6 at Appendix 1 of the adopted DMP 2016 is applicable. The proposed nine self-contained flats will have a total maximum parking allowance of 7.2 spaces. Policy T6 of London Plan includes a maximum

parking provision of up to 0.50 to 0.75 spaces per dwelling for Outer London PTAL 4 locations (maximum of 6.75 spaces).

- 62. The scheme proposes seven parking spaces accessed from Drayton Waye. Whilst the number of spaces exceed the maximum parking standard set out within the London Plan by a quarter of a space, they remain within the maximum allowance set out within Brent's Development Management Policies 2016. The additional 0.25 space would be marginally above the maximum parking allowance set out within the London Plan, and would not be considered to result in additional congestion within the local area to the detriment of highway or pedestrian safety.
- 63. The seven spaces would be accessed via a new 17.9m wide crossover and the spaces would be set back by 2.3m, which would provide the minimum 6m manoeuvring space. Whilst this does not strictly comply with Brent's Crossover Policy in terms of width, it is considered acceptable as the access is onto a service road and not across a footway.
- 64. The drawing also provides 9m wide sightline visibility splays either side of the parking, which is compliant with Manual for Streets if the vehicles travel at 10mph on Drayton Waye. No evidence has been submitted that this is the average speed limit, but as the access road serves only the rear of shops and is a narrow street, the speed is unlikely to be no more than 20mph. The high 1.8m fence dividing the parking and the private gardens has only been extended to the north-eastern corner of the site to ensure visibility is maintained which is acceptable.
- 65. The parking arrangement also allows a safe pedestrian walking environment on Drayton Waye. Amendments have been provided to include a drainage channel connected to a soak away at the highway threshold and clear demarcation has been provided between the private land and public highway.
- 66. As Drayton Waye is a Public Highway, the proposed dropped kerb and reinstatement of the existing dropped kerb would have to be approved and carried out by Highways and Infrastructure. An informative has been added to remind the applicant of this.
- 67. The proposed 7 parking spaces will include 2 disabled parking spaces and this does satisfy parking standards set out in DMP 12 and is therefore welcomed. The proposed level of parking would be a reduction on the previous permission which provided 10 spaces. Amended plans have been secured to provide 1 active charging point with the remainder being passive charging points.
- 68. The proposed cycle store will provide 16 cycle spaces, in compliance with the London Plan and is acceptable.
- 69. The bin store will be located near the parking to allow collection from Drayton Waye and this will provide straightforward collection from the Public Highway, which is welcomed. These have been amended to ensure that the doors do not open out onto the public highway.
- 70. Proposed balconies do not appear to overhang the Public Highway and raise no transport concerns.
- 71. The applicant has submitted a construction method statement. However this should be compliant with TfL's guidance. The document states that a banksman will be provided as well as wheel washing facilities and a road sweeper. Further details on the location of wheel washing facilities and surface run off should be provided, as well as a site plan for unloading/loading. Details of any temporary traffic management must also be provided, if required. In addition to this, a photographic dilapidation survey should be provided for the adjacent Public Highway to ensure any damages to the highway are reinstated by the developer. These details are to be secured via a planning condition to provide a revised CMS prior to the commencement of works.
- 72. In conclusion, the revised parking and cycle layout are an improvement to the earlier scheme which included basement car parking and sufficiently provide for the proposed development. Transport raise no objections subject to conditions for a revised CMS, a CLP and for highways works to be completed prior

#### **Environmental Health**

73. The environmental health team have viewed the submitted details and raise no objection to the proposal in terms of impact on air quality or contaminated land.

### **Trees and Landscaping**

- 74. The tree survey has been submitted with the application. The site contains around 30 trees. 13 of these trees are category B trees and 15 category C trees. The scheme proposes to remove a larger number of trees, 22 in total. The proposal has been reviewed by the Council's tree officer who has advised that there is no objection in principle to the loss of these trees, subject to suitable replacements being secured within a landscape proposal for the site. This includes the requirement to provide a minimum of 12 new tress to be planted throughout the site including within the site frontage. Minimum tree size should be 12-14cm girth Heavy standard, three trees should be planted along the rear boundary at a larger 16-18cm girth Advanced nursery stock size. It is also recommended that the new tree planting forms part of a more detailed landscape plan to be conditioned to any forthcoming consent, with a range of trees, shrubs, perennials and hedging, with a mix of native and introduced species. The tree survey highlights the ecological value of some of the trees and recommends that tree works are undertaken outside of the nesting season. It is recommended that ecological enhancement measures are secured through condition, together with the implementation of all measures set out within the tree survey.
- 75. An objector has raised concerns on the ecological impact of the development. However, the development is located mostly on a similar footprint to the existing house and hardsufacing and while there will be a loss of trees, replacement planting will be secured together with ecological enhancement measures. The site is not in an area marked for ecological conservation and it is considered that the above mentioned conditions would be sufficient to minimise impacts on local ecology.

### **Equalities**

76. In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination and advance equality of opportunity, as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. In making this recommendation, regard has been given to the Public Sector Equality Duty and the relevant protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation).

### Conclusion

77. Following the above discussion, officers consider that taking the development plan as a whole, the proposal is considered to accord with the development plan, and having regard to all material planning considerations, should be approved subject to conditions.

### **CIL DETAILS**

This application is liable to pay £173,644.18 \* under the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

We calculated this figure from the following information:

Total amount of eligible\* floorspace which on completion is to be demolished (E): 257 sq. m. Total amount of floorspace on completion (G): 739 sq. m.

	Floorspace on completion (Gr)	retained	Net area chargeable at rate R (A)	Rate R: Brent multiplier used			Mayoral sub-total
(Brent) Dwelling houses	739		482	£200.00	£0.00	£143,739.29	£0.00
(Mayoral) Dwelling houses	739		482	£0.00	£60.00	£0.00	£29,904.89

BCIS figure for year in which the charging schedule took effect (Ic)	224	323
BCIS figure for year in which the planning permission was granted (Ip)	334	
TOTAL CHARGEABLE AMOUNT	£143,739.29	£29,904.89

<sup>\*</sup>All figures are calculated using the formula under Regulation 40(6) and all figures are subject to index linking as per Regulation 40(5). The index linking will be reviewed when a Demand Notice is issued.

Please Note: CIL liability is calculated at the time at which planning permission first permits development. As such, the CIL liability specified within this report is based on current levels of indexation and is provided for indicative purposes only. It also does not take account of development that may benefit from relief, such as Affordable Housing.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Eligible means the building contains a part that has been in lawful use for a continuous period of at least six months within the period of three years ending on the day planning permission first permits the chargeable development.

### **DRAFT DECISION NOTICE**



#### **DRAFT NOTICE**

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (as amended)

### **DECISION NOTICE - APPROVAL**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Application No: 21/1064

To: Mr Manga Ten Point Five Ltd 184 Whittington Way Pinner Middlesex HA5 5JY

I refer to your application dated 23/03/2021 proposing the following:

Demolition of existing detached dwellinghouse and erection of a part four storey, part three storey part 2-storey apartment block providing 9 x self contained flats with associated car parking and cycle storage, refuse storage, amenity space and landscaping.

and accompanied by plans or documents listed here: See Condition 2

### at 1 Draycott Avenue, Harrow, HA3 0BW

The Council of the London Borough of Brent, the Local Planning Authority, hereby **GRANT** permission for the reasons and subject to the conditions set out on the attached Schedule B.

Date: 02/08/2021 Signature:

**Gerry Ansell** 

Head of Planning and Development Services

#### Notes

- 1. Your attention is drawn to Schedule A of this notice which sets out the rights of applicants who are aggrieved by the decisions of the Local Planning Authority.
- 2. This decision does not purport to convey any approval or consent which may be required under the Building Regulations or under any enactment other than the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

DnStdG

Application No: 21/1064

#### SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR APPROVAL

1 The proposed development is in general accordance with policies contained in the:-

National Planning Policy Framework (2019)
The London Plan (2021)
Brent Development Management Policies (2016)
Council's adopted Supplementary Planning Document 2 - Residential Extensions Design Guide (2018)

1 The development to which this permission relates must be begun not later than the expiration of three years beginning on the date of this permission.

Reason: To conform with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved drawing(s) and/or document(s):

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C332-00 (REV A), C332-01 (REV A), C332-04 (REV A), C332-05 (REV A), C332-50 (REV A), C332-51 (REV A), C332-52 (REV B), C332-53 (REV B), C332-54 (REV B), C332-55 (REV A), C332-56 (REV A), C332-61 (REV A), C332-62 (REV B), C332-63 (REV B), C332-64 (REV A), C332-66 (REV B), C332-69 (REV A), C332-71 (REV B), C332-72 (REV A), C332-73 (REV A), C332-74 (REV A), C332-75 (REV A), C332-80 (REV A), C332-90 (REV A), C332-100 (REV A), C332-101 (REV A), C332-102 (REV A)
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Supporting Documents: Design and Access Statement, Construction Method Statement, Tree Report, Heritage Statement, Fire Statement, Accessibility Statement

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

The residential units hereby approved shall at no time be converted from C3 residential to a C4 small HMO, notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule 2 Part 3 Class L of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (or any order revoking and re-enacting that Order) without express planning permission having first been granted by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that an adequate standard of accommodation is maintained in all of the residential units and in view of the restricted space in the front garden to accommodate additional bin or cycle storage.

The tree protection proposals and other measures contained within the "Report on the impact of trees of the proposed development at 1 Draycott Avenue" reference 1-38-3605 shall be implemented and adhered to in full throughout for the full period of construction of the development hereby approved.

Reason: For assurance that trees are to be protected to minimise negative external impacts of the development. To ensure that retained trees are protected from the negative impacts of construction throughout the duration of works.

The windows in the side elevations of the proposed building shall be obscure glazed and non-opening below 1.7m above the internal finished floor level.

Reason: To protect the privacy of neighbouring occupiers

The car parking spaces as laid out in the approved plans shall be provided in full prior to first occupation of the development, shall be used for the parking of vehicles associated with the development and shall not be used for any other purpose unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interest of highway flow and safety.

The proposed crossover onto Drayton Waye and the reinstatement of any redundant crossovers to footway shall be carried out at the applicants expense, in compliance with a scheme to be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Highway Authority, with the works carried out and completed in accordance with these approved prior to first occupation of the development hereby approved.

Reason: In the interests of highway conditions within the vicinity of the site.

Prior to the commencement of development, a Construction Management Statement which incorporates details of dust management, noise and other environmental impacts of the development in relation to the surroundings shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved statement shall be implemented throughout the duration of construction.

Reason: To safeguard the amenity of the neighbours by minimising impacts of the development that would otherwise give rise to nuisance.

Pre-commencement reason: The condition seeks to exercise control over the construction phase of the development and therefore needs to be discharged prior to construction.

9 The development hereby approved shall not commence until a Construction Logistics Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, outlining how construction vehicle activity will be managed throughout the construction process.

The works shall thereafter be carried out in full accordance with the approved details.

Reason: In order to minimise any adverse impacts of the construction process upon the highway network in the area.

Reason for pre-commencement condition: Impacts arising from the construction process occur as soon as development commences and adequate controls need to be in place from this time.

No piling shall take place until a piling method statement (detailing the depth and type of piling to be undertaken and the methodology by which such piling will be carried out, including measures to prevent and minimise the potential for damage to subsurface sewerage infrastructure, and the programme for the works) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority in consultation with Thames Water. Any piling must be undertaken in accordance with the terms of the approved piling method statement.

Reason: The proposed works will be in close proximity to underground sewerage utility infrastructure. Piling has the potential to significantly impact / cause failure of local underground sewerage utility infrastructure

11 Prior to commencement of development (excluding site clearance, preparation works and laying

of foundations) details of all exterior materials including samples (which shall be made available for viewing on site or in another location as agreed) and/or manufacturer's literature shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Such details shall include but not be limited to:

- (i) building envelope materials e.g. bricks, render, cladding;
- (ii) windows, doors and glazing systems including colour samples; and
- (iii) balconies and screens to balconies

The works shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure the appearance of the development is high quality, and in the interest of the privacy of future occupants.

- Details of the front and rear garden layout shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of the development (excluding any demolition, site clearance and the laying of foundations). Such details shall include:
  - (i) A planting plan for the front and rear garden areas, including the provision of at least 12 new trees with a minimum girth size of 12-14 cm (Heavy standard) and at least 3 trees with a minimum girth size of 16-18 cm (Advanced nursery stock), and including a range of trees, shrubs and perennials and hedging with a mix of native and introduced species.
  - (ii) any front and rear garden wall, fences or other form of boundary treatment to be provided or retained;
  - (iii) details of pathways, patios and any other hardstanding within the front and rear gardens
  - (iv) waste and recycling storage facilities in the front gardens;
  - (v) details of the proposed cycle storage
  - (vi) ecological enhancement measures

The hard and soft landscape works-shall be carried out in full accordance with the approved details prior to the use of the building hereby approved, unless alternative timescales have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and the works shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved timescales.

Reason: To ensure a satisfactory appearance and in the interests of local amenity.

#### **INFORMATIVES**

- The applicant is advised that this development is liable to pay the Community Infrastructure Levy; a Liability Notice will be sent to all known contacts including the applicant and the agent. Before you commence any works please read the Liability Notice and comply with its contents as otherwise you may be subjected to penalty charges. Further information including eligibility for relief and links to the relevant forms and to the Government's CIL guidance, can be found on the Brent website at www.brent.gov.uk/CIL.
- The provisions of The Party Wall etc. Act 1996 may be applicable and relates to work on an existing wall shared with another property; building on the boundary with a neighbouring property; or excavating near a neighbouring building. An explanatory booklet setting out your obligations can be obtained from the Communities and Local Government website <a href="https://www.communities.gov.uk">www.communities.gov.uk</a>

- Given the age of the buildings to be demolished it is possible that asbestos may be present. The applicant is reminded of their duties under the Control of Asbestos Regulations and must ensure that a qualified asbestos contractor is employed to remove all asbestos and asbestos-containing materials and arrange for the appropriate disposal of such materials.
- In relation to condition 12, the applicant is advised to contact the Council's Highways and Infrastructure Service on 020 8937 5121 to make arrangements for the crossover works to be carried out.
- The applicant is advised to notify the Council's Highways and Infrastructure Service of the intention to commence works prior to commencement and include photographs showing the condition of highway along the site boundaries. The Highways and Infrastructure Service will require that any damage to the adopted highway associated with the works is made good at the expense of the developer.
- The Council recommends that the maximum standards for fire safety are achieved within the development.
- Brent Council supports the payment of the London Living Wage to all employees within the Borough. The developer, constructor and end occupiers of the building are strongly encouraged to pay the London Living Wage to all employees associated with the construction and end use of development.
- 8 Construction/refurbishment and demolition works and ancillary operations which are audible at the site boundary shall be carried only between the hours of:

Monday to Fridays 08:00 to 18:00 Saturday 08:00 to 13:00 At no time on Sundays or Bank Holidays

The submission/approval of the Fire Safety Statement does not replace the need for building regulation approval in relation to fire safety, nor does it convey or imply any approval under those regulations.

Any person wishing to inspect the above papers should contact Liam McFadden, Planning and Regeneration, Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley, HA9 0FJ, Tel. No. 020 8937 3299