

Strategic Planning Board

Agenda

Date: Wednesday, 22nd November, 2023

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Earle Street, Crewe CW1 2BJ

Please note that members of the public are requested to check the Council's website the week the Strategic Planning Board meeting is due to take place as Officers produce updates for some or all of the applications prior to the commencement of the meeting and after the agenda has been published

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the top of each report.

It should be noted that Part 1 items of Cheshire East Council decision making meetings are audio recorded and the recordings will be uploaded to the Council's website

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest/Pre Determination**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests and for Members to declare if they have a predetermination in respect of any item on the agenda.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** (Pages 3 - 8)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 25 October 2023 as a correct record.

4. Public Speaking

A total period of 5 minutes is allocated for each of the planning applications for the following:

- Ward Councillors who are not members of the Strategic Planning Board
- The relevant Town/Parish Council

A period of 3 minutes is allocated for each of the planning applications for the following individuals/groups:

- Members who are not members of the Strategic Planning Board and are not the Ward Member
- Objectors
- Supporters
- Applicants
- 5. 22 4863N BOMBARDIER TRANSPORTATION, WEST STREET, CREWE, CW1 3JB: The demolition of the existing industrial buildings and structures (including the boundary wall along West Street) and the construction of 263 dwellings comprising 24 apartments and 239 houses, together with other associated works, including the provision of public open space, the laying out of roads and footways (with two new accesses from West Street), and hard and soft landscaping. Resubmission of application 18/0079N. (Pages 9 - 44)

To consider the above planning application.

Membership: Councillors M Brooks, S Edgar, D Edwardes, K Edwards, S Gardiner (Vice-Chair), T Jackson, G Marshall, H Moss, B Puddicombe (Chair), H Seddon, L Smetham.

Agenda Item 3

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Strategic Planning Board** held on Wednesday, 25th October, 2023 in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Earle Street, Crewe CW1 2BJ

PRESENT

Councillor S Gardiner (Vice-Chair, in the Chair)

Councillors M Brooks, A Critchley, S Edgar, K Edwards, A Kolker, G Marshall, H Moss, H Seddon and L Smetham

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

David Malcolm, Head of Planning Paul Wakefield, Principal Planning Officer Lyle Robinson, Senior Planning Officer Paul Griffiths, Highways Development Manager James Thomas, Planning and Highways Lawyer Rachel Graves, Democratic Services Officer Sam Jones, Democratic Services Officer

13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor B Puddicombe and Councillor T Jackson, Councillor D Edwardes. Councillor A Kolker attended as a substitute for Councillor T Jackson.

14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/PRE DETERMINATION

In the interest of openness the following declarations were made:

Councillor Gardiner declared that in relation to application 22/0872M, he had received documentation from applicant's agent, and that he was known to Mr Brooks as Mr Brooks was a significant land and property owner in Councillor Gardiner's Ward. Councillor Gardiner declared that he had also has regular interaction with Mr Brooks and that Councillor Gardiner was Chairman of the Tatton Conservative association of which Mr Brooks is landlord of the office. Councillor Gardiner declared that they have had communications with Mr Brooks on several planning applications, but not 22/087M.

Cllr Moss declared that in relation to application 22/0872M, they are a member of the Conservative association, of which Mr Brooks is the landlord of the office. Councillor Moss declared that they had known contact with Mr Brooks and had attended a meeting with him on 14 October 2023, which was also attended by the Deputy Leader of the Council, but no planning applications were discussed.

Cllr Edgar declared that in relation to application 22/0872M, he had attended a meeting with Mr Brooks on 14 October 2023, but had not discussed this planning application.

15 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2023 be approved as a correct record.

16 PUBLIC SPEAKING

The public speaking procedure was noted.

17 22/0872M - LAND BETWEEN JUNCTIONS 7 AND 8 OF THE M56: ERECTION OF A MOTORWAY SERVICE AREA (MSA), DEMOLITION OF ALL EXISTING BUILDINGS EXCEPT FOR THE RETENTION AND RESIDENTIAL CONVERSION OF ONE BUILDING (EXISTING FARMHOUSE) AND THE PART RETENTION AND CONVERSION OF THE EASTERN BARN FOR MSA OPERATIONAL PURPOSES, INCLUDING ASSOCIATED ACCESS AND BUILDINGS (AMENITY BUILDING, MSA HOTEL AND FUEL FILLING STATION INCLUDING PHOTOVOLTAICS AND ANCILLARY STRUCTURES), SERVICE YARD, PARKING FOR ALL CATEGORIES OF VEHICLE (INCLUDING ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING), OPEN SPACE, LANDSCAPING AND PLANTING, DRAINAGE, VEHICULAR CIRCULATION, PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE LINKS (INCLUDING DIVERSION OF CYCLE TRACK) AND EARTHWORKS/ENABLING WORKS.

Consideration was given to the above planning application.

The following attended the meeting and spoke in relation to the application:

Rostherne Parish Councillor Dom Fenton, Mr Bill Dixon (objector), Mr Terry Hayward (supporter) and Ms Sarah Dunning (applicant). A statement was read out on behalf of Councillor Tony Dean (neighbouring ward councillor).

RESOLVED:

For the reasons set out in the report and update report, the application be APPROVED as recommended, subject, referral to the Secretary of State, a S106 agreement to secure:

- Local Employment Agreement Construction
- Local Employment Agreement Operation
- Apprenticeships Plan Construction Phase
- Apprenticeships Plan End-user Phase
- Local Procurement Agreement Construction

• Local Procurement Agreement – Operation

and the following conditions:

- 1. Time period 3 years
- 2. Development to be carried out in accordance with approved plans
- 3. Details of materials to be submitted
- 4. Sample panel of brickwork to be submitted
- 5. Details of all windows and doors of farmhouse, eastern and western barn to be submitted
- 6. Detailed repair schedule for works to the farmhouse and eastern barn to be submitted
- 7. Timetable for the construction of the cycle store (western barn) to be submitted
- 8. Methodology/strategy for the dismantling of the western barn and for the re-use of the salvaged brick work within the new cycle store to be submitted
- 9. Lighting scheme to be submitted
- 10. Updated badger survey prior to commencement.
- 11. Safeguarding of nesting birds details to be submitted
- 12. Submission and implementation of a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) informed by the recommendations of the ES ecology chapter.
- 13. Submission and implementation of Biodiversity Net Gain measures and 30 years (habitat) management informed by the submitted biodiversity metric.
- 14. Incorporation of ecological features (Bat and bird boxes etc.)
- 15. Scheme to install underground tanks to be submitted
- 16. Scheme to dispose of surface water to be submitted
- 17. Sustainable drainage management and maintenance plan to be submitted
- 18. plan for the lifetime of the development
- 19. Retention of existing trees
- 20. Tree protection and special construction measures to be submitted / implemented
- 21. Arboricultural method statement to be submitted
- 22. Landscaping scheme to be submitted
- 23. Landscaping implementation
- 24. Boundary treatment details to be submitted
- 25. Details of earthworks, including proposed grading and mounding of land to be submitted
- 26. Landscape management plan to be submitted
- 27. Full design and construction details of highway improvement works to be submitted
- 28. Installation of fence along the boundary of the application site alongside the M56 and associated slip road
- 29. No drainage from the proposed development shall connect into the motorway drainage system / or run-off onto M56 motorway

- 30. Construction Management Plan to be submitted (highways)
- 31. Implementation of highway improvement works and works to Yarwood Heath Lane
- 32. Submission of updated travel plan
- 33. Provision of car and cycle parking
- 34. SuDS design details to be submitted (aircraft safety)
- 35. Bird Hazard Management Plan to be submitted (aircraft safety)
- 36. All exterior lighting capped at the horizontal with no upward light spill.
- 37. No reflective materials other than clear or obscure glass shall be added to the buildings
- 38. Glint and glare assessment for proposed solar panels no additional solar panels to be installed
- 39. Method statements to be submitted in advance of any development in HS2 safeguarding areas
- 40. Retail floorspace to be restricted (extent of floorspace and comparison goods)
- 41. Submission of Construction Environment Management Plan (noise, disturbance, etc.)
- 42. Implementation of noise mitigation measures (including glazing specification for hotel)
- 43. Details of phasing of EV charging points to be submitted
- 44. Energy Strategy to be submitted
- 45. Phase II ground investigation report (and remediation strategy if required) to be submitted
- 46. Verification report in accordance with the approved Remediation Strategy to be submitted
- 47. Imported soil to be tested for contamination
- 48. Actions in event of unidentified contamination being found
- 49. Written scheme of investigation (archaeology) to be submitted and implemented
- 50. Detail of Tourist Information Area to be submitted

In the event of any changes being needed to the wording of the Committee's decision (such as to delete, vary or add conditions/informatives/planning obligations or reasons for approval/refusal) prior to the decision being issued, the Head of Planning has delegated authority to do so in consultation with the Chairman of the Strategic Planning Board, provided that the changes do not exceed the substantive nature of the Committee's decision.

Councillor Kolker requested that the Minutes of the meeting record that he voted against the proposal to approve the application.

18 23 2225N - BENTLEY MOTORS LIMITED, PYMS LANE, CREWE, CW1 3PL: CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PAINT SHOP ON THE SITE OF AN EXISTING COLLEAGUE CARPARK INCLUDING A FOUR STORY OFFICE ANNEX. WORK INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO BRIDGE LINKS OVER SUNNYBANK ROAD, PLANT ANNEXES AND A ROOF TERRACE.

Consideration was given to the above planning application.

RESOLVED:

For the reasons set out in the report and update report, the application be APPROVED as recommended subject to S106 for transfer of land, new travel plan / £5000 monitoring fee prior to commencement, and Ward Councillor to be involved in travel plan discussions, and the following conditions:

- 1. Time limit (3 years)
- 2. Approved plans
- 3. Materials
- 4. Submission of replacement planting/landscaping scheme
- 5. Accordance with recommendations of Noise Impact Assessment (NIA)
- 6. Foul and Surface Water Drainage
- 7. Submission of SUDs scheme prior to occupation
- 8. Survey for Nesting Birds
- 9. Biodiversity Net Gain Nesting Birds
- 10. Cycle Parking
- 11. Submission of Phase I preliminary risk assessment
- 12. Submission of verification report
- 13. Soil or soil forming materials to be tested for contamination
- 14. Reporting of any further contamination found to Local Authority
- 15. Submission of sustainable drainage management and maintenance plan for the lifetime of the development- pre commencement
- 16. Provision of a drawing showing the extent of surface water flooding anticipated and any overland exceedance flow routes (preoccupation)
- 17. Control odour from paint shop

In the event of any changes being needed to the wording of the Committee's decision (such as to delete. vary or add conditions/informatives/planning obligations for or reasons approval/refusal) prior to the decision being issued, the Head of Planning has delegated authority to do so in consultation with the Chairman of the Strategic Planning Board, provided that the changes do not exceed the substantive nature of the Committee's decision.

19 23 2349N - BENTLEY MOTORS LIMITED, PYMS LANE, CREWE, CW1 3PL: DEMOLITION OF AN EXISTING TEMPORARY INDUSTRIAL WAREHOUSE AND CONSTRUCTION OF AN INTEGRATED LOGISTICS CENTRE INCLUDING A COVERED LOGISTICS ROUTE, INTERNAL AMENITY AND OFFICE ANNEX.

Consideration was given to the above planning application.

RESOLVED:

For the reasons set out in the report and update report, the application be APPROVED as recommended, subject to informative regarding United Utilities build over agreement, and the following conditions:

- 1. Time Limit (3 years)
- 2. Approved Plans
- 3. Materials
- 4. Submission of Biodiversity Strategy
- 5. Breeding Birds condition
- 6. Submission of Noise Impact Assessment
- 7. Submission of Phase I preliminary risk assessment
- 8. Submission of verification report
- 9. Soil or soil forming materials to be tested for contamination
- 10. Reporting of any further contamination found to Local Authority
- 11. Foul and Surface Water Drainage
- 12. Submission of SUDs scheme prior to occupation
- 13. Submission of a sustainable drainage management and maintenance plan for the lifetime of the development (pre-occupation)

INFORMATIVE

United Utilities Overbuild Agreement.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 1.43 pm

Councillor S Gardiner (Vice-Chair, in the Chair)

Agenda Item 5

Application No: 22/4863N
Location: Bombardier Transportation, WEST STREET, CREWE, CW1 3JB
Proposal: The demolition of the existing industrial buildings and structures (including the boundary wall along West Street) and the construction of 263 dwellings comprising 24 apartments and 239 houses, together with other associated works, including the provision of public open space, the laying out of roads and footways (with two new accesses from West Street), and hard and soft landscaping. Resubmission of application 18/0079N.
Applicant: Isla Brady, Countryside Partnerships
Expiry Date: 10-Mar-2023

SUMMARY

This application was deferred at the Strategic Planning Board meeting on 23rd March for the following reasons;

(1) To undertake an updated open book viability assessment.

(2) To enable a peer review to be undertaken of the assessments

made by Environmental Protection in relation to contaminated land.

The viability issue has been complex and challenging to resolve, but it is considered a contribution can reasonably be required however this will be limited in scope. Members will be updated on this matter.

The peer review has now concluded that the measures introduced are satisfactory, and Environmental Protection are now satisfied that the site is suitable for a residential end-use.

Original summary

This is a retrospective application for residential development in the centre of Crewe. Planning permission was previously granted consent in 2018 and the scheme has been built in accordance with that approval. However, conditions in respect of contaminated land have not been satisfied which renders that original consent void – hence the submission of this application to seek regularisation of the development.

As background, the original application raised a number of important issues that influenced the planning balance.

The application proposed to re-develop a brownfield site in Crewe, in a sustainable location within walking distance of Crewe Town Centre with its range of facilities such as schools, healthcare and POS. The development also provided housing which contributed towards the Council's 5 year housing supply and whilst not affordable in terms of the technical definition will

provide a range of homes at the more affordable end of the housing market which was welcomed.

The proposals were neutral with regards to ecology with appropriate mitigation measures and issues of air quality, noise, highways and flood risk were all considered to be capable of being addressed by condition.

Although there were concerns about the loss of the existing factory wall and its historical links, it was considered that recording the "asset" and retaining the lower part of the wall as a frontage wall for the development goes some way to address this issue. However as noted in the report it is taking some time to achieve a satisfactory standard of finish for these works which is still on going.

Working against the application, the proposals do not provide any affordable housing (due to the Vacant Building Credit) and the viability of the site causes a number of negatives with limited prospect of resolution and only very limited contributions to mitigate associated impacts. The POS provision on site still falls short of that normally required. Education contributions also fall short of what is required. No contribution was made to the NHS. Collectively there are additional pressures put on existing facilities in the area. The proposals also raised questions of urban design in that it fell short of the now expected levels of compliance with the CEC Design Guide. There were also concerns about the loss of trees and the overall landscape provision on site.

The main issue for this scheme is the additional information to regularise the issue of contaminated land. Whilst Environmental Protection are still concerned about certain aspects of the assessments undertaken, they are now satisfied that the main issue, that of Human Health, has now been addressed. As noted in the report however they would prefer that their technical findings (which are different from those of the applicant's consultants), should be peer reviewed by another professional as would be standard practice.

As a result of the above this application is considered to be finely balanced. Tipping that balance for regeneration, providing a good range of housing, and recognising the viability of building on a brownfield site favour supporting the proposal.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve subject to Section 106 Agreement and conditions.

DEFERRAL

This application was deferred at the Strategic Planning Board meeting on 23rd March for the following reasons;

- (1) To undertake an updated open book viability assessment.
- (2) To enable a peer review to be undertaken of the assessments

made by Environmental Protection in relation to contaminated land.

Any future decision notice to include an informative to ensure that as part of the Section 38 agreement, all roads within the application site be subject to a 20 mph speed limit.

The reasons for deferral are discussed below.

Open book viability assessment

In accordance with the Council's normal practice a number of independent consultants, all of whom have a track record of undertaking such work on our behalf, were asked to tender for the viability assessment work. The work was duly awarded to Sanderson Weatherall (SW) who were required to declare any conflicts of interest with the applicant. None were declared. The consultants full report is available on the application file but in summary:

- The site had consent for 263 units all of which could have potentially been for private sale.
- Countryside built out 132 units for private sale, with the remainder being constructed for PRS REIT under a collaboration/framework agreement.
- The initial (Dec 2017) viability assessment prepared on behalf of Countryside and subsequent Viability Report (Mar 2018) prepared for the Council concluded that the site (even without any affordable housing requirement) could not sustain any S106 contributions. Despite this, contributions totalling £100,000 were agreed and incorporated into the S106 agreement.
- Countryside and PRS REIT jointly purchased the overall site in separate parcels and in tranches.
- PRS REIT entered into a Design & Build contract with Countryside for them to build the 131 PRS units for a (seemingly) fixed price. Ordinarily, this would have enabled Countryside (as developers) to generate a commercial level of profit.
- The construction of this development fell within the period affected by the Covid-19 related lockdowns and associated supply chain issues. As a result, actual development costs escalated. Ordinarily, this would have not been an issue, since capital values also escalated over the development period by a not dissimilar amount. The problem in the subject instance, however, seems to be that the price agreed with PRS REIT for the PRS units was fixed and did not allow for cost inflation. Therefore, with average construction costs the arrangement effectively reflects zero profit to Countryside and would actually show quite a substantial loss to them, if professional fees and other costs are factored into the equation.
- As such, when analysing the performance of the scheme from Countryside's point of view against measures that are usually associated with viability appraisals (ie assessing a reasonable developer return and/or comparing against the 'Benchmark Land Value'), the overall position (from the developers point of view) does not look strong and actually could suggest 'viability concerns'.
- However, this does not mean that the scheme as a whole has not been successful.
- Collectively, the 'profits' actually made to date from this scheme by Countryside and PRS REIT are substantial (i.e. £10M plus). To date, the local authority has received just £100,000 of s106 contributions. For viability assessment purposes, it is SW's firm view that the development should be considered as a 'whole', not just from the point of view of one of the parties to the development.
- The primary reason the commercial returns to Countryside may be lower than they would have perhaps anticipated is because of the use of the fixed price construction contract with PRS REIT. The reality is that, for as much that Countryside may have suffered, their joint development partner has gained. This is purely a contractual position between the parties, and it does not mean that the site (when taken or viewed as a whole) demonstrates viability concerns.

The applicant however has a different view on the matter as reflected in their updated viability assessment submitted following the March SPB. Roger Hannah (the applicant's consultant) strongly dispute that the site is capable of bearing the requested 106 costs.

Countryside's current position is that, having regard to the sales achieved in respect of the site to date and the actual costs of development experienced, there is not sufficient commercial margin within the scheme to fund additional contributions.

It is evident that this is an unusual and complex situation, particularly in respect of the relationship of Countryside with PRS REIT and whether that does mean the site is sufficiently viable to enable a s106 contribution to be made. In an attempt to move things forward, both parties have sought Legal Advice, but unfortunately the Council's formal advice has not been received at the time of writing the report, however it is anticipated that it will suggest that a contribution to Education provision can be reasonably requested.

Discussions are being held with the applicant to see if a compromise position can be reached to avoid further lengthy delays. Members will need to be updated on this matter in an update report at Committee.

Peer review to be undertaken of the assessments made by Environmental Protection in relation to contaminated land

As with the viability assessment, in conjunction with colleagues in Environmental Protection, a number of independent consultants, all of whom have a track record of undertaking such work, were asked to tender for the Peer Review. The work was duly awarded to EPG the Environmental Protection Group. The consultants full initial report (dated 29 June 2023) is available on the application file but in summary:

"5 Conclusions & recommendations

EPG has highlighted a number of shortcomings in the investigation, remediation, assessment and installation of [Volatile Organic Compounds] VOC membranes at the Site. E3P concluded from their soil vapour sampling and risk assessment modelling that no significant vapour intrusion risks were posed by the site in its current condition to any residential property on site. EPG disagrees with the way they reached that conclusion and therefore undertook separate modelling and assessment of site data.

The Site has undergone excavation of VOC hotspots across all development phases and some of this material has been placed (re-used) on site beneath garden areas and in an area of public open space. The site has also undergone significant cut & fill works of the Made Ground. Whilst the more significant VOC contaminated soils were removed from site the above operations have redistributed VOC contaminants around the site and often in a manner that is not fully transparent. That said, the concentrations of VOC moved around the site appear to be relatively low. There are also concerns that residual VOC may be present beyond the limits of hotspot and tank excavations.

To take account of the uncertainties in VOC distribution across the site EPG has completed appropriately conservative modelling and assessment to establish if any realistic vapour intrusion risks may be posed to residential properties across the Site. EPG modelling is conservative for the following reasons:

- Maximum identified concentrations of soil vapour VOC (including increased concentrations to account for laboratory analytical uncertainty) are assumed to be present across the entire building footprint for the full duration of chronic indoor inhalation exposure timescales.
- VOC are assumed to be present at shallow depth (0.1 m) below buildings.
- Limited biodegradation of petroleum hydrocarbon VOC is assumed.
- No VOC intrusion attenuation is assumed to be caused by the presence of the Jetfloor polystyrene block or top sheet closed cell foam insulation.
- No VOC membrane is assumed to be present.

Whilst EPG has stated a number of limitations in the soil vapour sampling completed on Site, it is the opinion of EPG based on a multiple-lines-of evidence approach that despite these limitations there is no credibly realistic vapour intrusion risk posed by site conditions to properties at the site, regardless of whether or not VOC membranes were installed. The key factor in this conclusion is the degree of vapour intrusion attenuation afforded by the passive vented void constructed in all properties. As such, EPG recommends that Cheshire East Council obtains confirmation from EP3/Countryside Properties that the telescopic vents were installed in each plot on site (regardless of whether or not VOC membranes were installed) in accordance with the specification detailed in Figure 7: 'Telescopic ventilators to provide 1500sq.mm clear per meter run of wall. Generally 1 vent to provide 3000sq.mm clear at 2m max. centres'.

The poor installation and verification of VOC membranes, apparent for some properties, and the failure to incorporate VOC membranes in Plots 229-236 is not of significant concern to vapour intrusion risk and a low VOC risk is considered likely for these properties."

With regards to the installation of telescopic vents in each plot on site, in discussion with Environmental Protection and the applicant, EPG have more recently submitted a Venting Addendum Report – Updated (dated 11 October 2023) which concludes:

"EPG has completed additional modelling for all property types in Plots 241-256 based information previously reviewed by EPG and on updated information on sub-floor void venting provided by the Client and based on a site visit by EPG on 13 September 2023. The vapour intrusion modelling predicted low indoor concentrations of key VOC (trichloroethylene, naphthalene and trimethylbenzenes) for all properties, with the exception of Dee Plots 245, 246 and 249. For these properties the combination of sub-walls in the void space coupled with either missing or blocked vents resulted in conservatively predicted indoor concentrations of VOC that exceeded screening criteria.

A missing vent to each of these Dee properties was retrofitted on the 6th and 9th October, as well as to all other Dee properties (Plots 177-183) with the same configuration and similarly missing vents. During the retrofitting of vents the inclusion of party wall venting for the Dee semi-detached properties was confirmed. Re-modelling of Plots 245, 246 and 249 based on revised venting information and assuming that all external vents were fully unblocked resulted in predicted indoor concentrations of VOC of low concern.

The detailed vapour intrusion modelling undertaken on Plots 241-256 taking account of all existing and retrofitted vents indicated a low vapour intrusion risk to these properties from ground conditions likely to be present on site. By extension, vapour intrusion risks posed to

other properties on the estate, including Plots 20-27 which were reviewed specifically during the 14 September site visit, are considered to be low."

Further to this they make following recommendation:

"It was evident from the site visit that many of the vents located on front elevations of properties were blocked with gravel due to the construction of level access to front doors. Vents should be fit for purpose and should allow adequate ventilation to the sub-floor voids in accordance with NHBC guidelines. Furthermore, vapour intrusion modelling indicated that reduced ventilation caused by either fully or partially blocked vents resulted in insufficient air flow in the void space of some properties thereby increasing predicted indoor concentration of VOC. It is therefore recommended that all partially or fully blocked vents are unblocked and with suitable measures put in place to prevent future blocking. The most appropriate way to do this is to build a small wall one brick high around the vent, bedded into mortar."

Subsequently EPG have agreed that proposed boxed enclosures around the vents are appropriate, on condition residents are advised to keep the vent enclosures free of excess gravel and leaves etc and that wooden enclosures are replaced should they rot and become unfit for purpose.

Environmental Protection have commented on the revised submission of information since the last meeting in March as follows:

A total of 135 reports have been submitted and reviewed by Environmental Protection (EP) for this application.

The development was undertaken and substantially completed without the benefit of an approved Remedial Strategy. This remains the case. EP have, however, worked with Countryside and their consultants to address outstanding potential contaminant linkages at the site. At this time EP's remaining concerns are with respect to two potential contaminant linkages by which identified contamination could impact residents. The first contaminant linkage is the inhalation pathway, the second contaminant linkage is that of direct contact with contaminated material by residents.

With respect to the potential inhalation pathway linkage, it was determined that the most appropriate course of action was to have an independent expert in the field of gas and vapour risk assessment review all the available site information, conduct their own assessment, and provide recommendations if necessary. With respect to the potential direct contact linkage, a fully verified clean cover system within garden areas would negate the risk of direct contact.

Inhalation Linkage

The Environmental Protection Group (EPG) was commissioned to undertake the vapour risk assessment.

The EPG modelling showed a low risk with respect to all properties with the exception of 3 properties of the Dee-style construction that required retrofitting of vents to ensure sufficient air flow to the sub-floor void. This work has been undertaken to the satisfaction of EPG.

Site visits identified that a number of vents over the general site had been blocked, either partially or fully, by gravel associated with landscaping. The EPG report made a recommendation that, to allow sufficient air flow to the void space, these vents should be unblocked and suitable measures put in place to prevent future blocking. This work has been undertaken and verified via a photographic record to our satisfaction.

Direct Contact Linkage

A 600mm rear garden and 300mm front garden cover system has been installed and verified at all properties at the development. In addition, sufficient cover has been installed within the POS area.

A potential cross-contamination issue was, however, identified at 10 plots. Topsoil from a stockpile had been placed directly onto made ground. This made ground was subsequently scraped up alongside the topsoil and potentially placed in the garden areas of 10 plots. Further chemical testing at these plots identified that 4 required topsoil replacement and 5 plots required no further action. The owner of 1 plot had refused access.

The works to replace the topsoil at four properties has now been undertaken and verified. A further validation report was submitted in support of the application.

Access was granted to the plot where it was previously refused. The owner in this case has independently removed the potentially impacted soils from the plot.

The required clean cover system at the site has therefore now been installed and verified at all plots.

Conclusion

Following the above works and submissions, Environmental Protection are now satisfied that the site is suitable for a residential end-use.

Remedial measures including provision of venting and a clean cover system are in place at all plots within the development and it is imperative that these are maintained. We therefore request that permitted development rights are removed that pertain to any potential works that would involve breaking ground or further construction.

Other matters

EV Charging

This matter was raised at Committee in March as the applicant was concerned about the practicalities of retrofitting EV charging to properties, writing:

"As set out prior to the last committee meeting, we do not consider the retrospective fitting of EV charging points is appropriate, proportionate or reasonable when reviewing in line with the condition tests as set out at Paragraph 56 of the National Planning Policy Framework. I appreciate you set this position out to planning committee but the committee sought to overturn and requested this be added as a planning condition on any approval.

To enable us to fit EV charging points within all the units on this scheme we would require third party agreement to enter all homes to undertake works. If any residents refused, we would be in breach of the condition as we would be unable to satisfy the condition requirement. The matter of landownership and the reasonableness of a condition is one explored within Circular 11/95: Use of conditions in planning permission."

Discussions have continued with the applicant as to how this matter can be resolved or an alternative option presented. It is understood that this is now part of the overall viability issue referred to above and as such an update will be provided to members in due course.

Public Open Space

The design of this space has been changed from the original approval, both to address remediation issues raised by Environmental Protection, and to allow it to function better as a SUDS drainage feature. The latter has resulted in a slight depression at one end of the site, and a slighter steeper slope at one end. Whilst not ideal, this is considered acceptable and still allows the whole space to operate as open space for residents.

West Street Wall

This has been discussed on site with the applicant, and following an experimental sample area being undertaken, a programme of works was agreed which will improve the appearance of the wall. At the time of writing this report these works are at an advanced stage, with all the repointing having been completed to an acceptable standard. The Council's Design Officer has requested that the western area of the wall has a light clean so that it has a more even appearance, as currently it is somewhat patchy. The applicant's feedback on that is awaited, but generally the wall is now a big improvement.

Since the application was reported to Committee in March additional consultee comments have been received. The majority have been incorporated above, however the Flood Risk Team have asked for clarification/confirmation of a number of points. The applicant has suggested that many of the requirements are not appropriate as the measures introduced were agreed at the time of the original application and it would not be possible to retrofit additional measures. This matter is being discussed with the LLFA, but the applicant's position is acknowledged.

Finally, as this report was being finalised a detailed letter has been received from an agent acting on behalf of residents raising a number of points which can be summarised as:

- Flood Risk
- Building regulation requirements on this revised application
- A section 106 requirement needs clarification
- Verification of Clean Cover System in Gardens
- Concerns Over the Validity of the Last Soil Sample
- Enhanced Scrutiny of Public Open Space (POS) Usability
- Concerns Over Imposition of Restrictions on Permitted Development Rights Without Consultation
- Request for Postponement

It was not possible to address all these points in any detail at this late stage, and also give the applicant the opportunity to respond. This will now need to be done as an update report to Members.

It is however important to point out that none of these points are new (except the building regulations point) and are considered to some degree in this update report.

Building Regulations are dealt with separately to planning and there is no link between the two. It should also be noted that the new Building Regulations would not apply in any event as the relevant applications for Building Regulation approval were deposited before the applicable date of June 2022.

ORIGINAL REPORT

SITE DESCRIPTION

This retrospective application relates to a sizable (6.92 hectare) site, formerly part of the Bombardier train works to the west of Crewe Town Centre.

The site adjoins the remaining areas of the Bombardier works to the east which are still operational.

The site adjoins the Chester railway line to the south and West Street to the north, and west. Whilst most of West Street is residential in character, there is a church and associated buildings along the norther site boundary (including St Barnabas Church & Vicarage which are Grade II Listed), and the site is close to a range of retail/food and drink uses off Dunwoody Way.

The site is now a completed housing development approved in 2018, and at the time of a recent site visit only the works to the open space and finishing of the final surfacing of the highways needing to be completed. Many of the dwellings appeared to be occupied.

PROPOSAL

The application seeks the demolition of the existing industrial buildings and structures (including the boundary wall along West Street) and the construction of 263 dwellings comprising 24 apartments and 239 houses, together with other associated works, including the provision of public open space, the laying out of roads and footways (with two new accesses from West Street), and hard and soft landscaping.

As stated above the site is all but finished, with it's mix of apartments and houses fronting West Street and creating new streets to the rear. The site has the one central area of open space, which has yet to be finished – currently being the site compound.

Vehicle access to the site is from two points off West Street, with a number of additional pedestrian links also to West Street.

The application has been submitted as the applicant failed to discharge one significant pre commencement condition, namely contaminated land. Despite extensive discussions with the applicant, this matter was not resolved and as such the discharge of the contaminated land

condition was subsequently refused and the planning permission became incapable of being implemented.

This application has been submitted to regularise this situation.

RELEVANT HISTORY

18/0079N The demolition of the existing industrial buildings and structures (including the boundary wall along West Street) and the construction of 263 dwellings comprising 24 apartments and 239 houses, together with other associated works, including the provision of public open space, the laying out of roads and footways (with two new accesses from West Street), and hard and soft landscaping BOMBARDIER TRANSPORTATIONS, WEST STREET, CREWE Approved 12-Dec-2018

18/6395D Discharge of conditions 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 a & b, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 23, 27 & 28 on approval 18/0079N BOMBARDIER TRANSPORTATIONS, WEST STREET, CREWE, CW1 3JB Part approved/Part refused

The refused condition related to Condition 11 (a & b) Phase II Ground Investigation.

19/2241N Non Material amendment to planning approval 18/0079N BOMBARDIER TRANSPORTATIONS, WEST STREET, CREWE Approved

19/4454N Non Material amendment to planning approval 18/0079N BOMBARDIER TRANSPORTATIONS, WEST STREET, CREWE Approved

20/5161D Discharge of conditions 12 (in part) & 26 on approved application 18/0079N BOMBARDIER TRANSPORTATIONS, WEST STREET, CREWE, REFUSED

21/5279D Discharge of Condition 24 on approval 18/0079N BOMBARDIER TRANSPORTATIONS, WEST STREET, CREWE Approved

22/1559D Discharge of Condition 11a & 11b on approval 18/0079N. BOMBARDIER TRANSPORTATIONS, WEST STREET, CREWE UNDETERMINED

NATIONAL & LOCAL POLICY

Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy

The following are considered relevant material considerations as indications of the emerging strategy:

MP1 Presumption in favour of sustainable development

PG1 Overall Development Strategy

PG2 Settlement Hierarchy

PG7 Spatial Distribution of Development

- SD1 Sustainable Development in Cheshire East
- SD2 Sustainable Development Principles

SE1 Design SE2 Efficient use of land SE 3 Biodiversity and Geodiversity SE 4 The Landscape SE 5 Trees, Hedgerows and Woodland SE 6 Green Infrastructure SE12 Pollution, Land Contamination and Land Stability SE 13 Flood Risk and Water Management CO 1 Sustainable Travel and Transport CO 4 Travel Plans and Transport Assessments SC 2 Outdoor Sports Facilities SC 3 Health and Well Being SC 4 Residential Mix SC 5 Affordable Homes IN 1 Infrastructure **IN 2 Developer Contributions** EG3 Existing and Allocated Employment Sites

The site is unallocated in the LPS and lies to the west to the Central Crewe allocation LPS1.

SADPD

GEN 1 Design principles ENV 2 Ecological implementation ENV 3 Landscape character ENV 5 Landscaping ENV 6 Trees, hedgerows and woodland implementation ENV 7 Climate change ENV 16 Surface water management and flood risk HOU 1 Housing mix HOU 8 Space, accessibility and wheelchair housing standards HOU 12 Amenity HOU 13 Residential standards INF 1 Cycleways, bridleways and footpaths INF 3 Highway safety and access INF 9 Utilities REC 3 Open space implementation

Other Material Considerations:

The National Planning Policy Framework National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)

CONSULTATIONS

Environment Agency – The Environment Agency have no objection in principle to the proposed development but note that this development site appears to have been the subject of past industrial activity which poses a high risk of pollution to controlled waters. They however refer to standing advice, and recommend Environmental Protection provide comments on contaminated land.

United Utilities – No objections subject to conditions

Network Rail – No objections are raised, and a range of detailed comments have been made, however these are aimed to ensuring the applicant liaises with Network Rail during the construction works and ensure that there is no impact to the safe operation and integrity of the railway.

Archaeology - The Cheshire Archaeology Planning Advisory Service (APAS) comment that a programme of archaeological mitigation was undertaken by Lanpro in 2018 and was successfully completed. Subsequently there are no archaeological recommendations for this current application.

NHS – A range of comments has been received setting out the need for a financial contribution to health care in the area amounting to \pounds 324,179. Without the contribution they object to the application.

Environmental Health – Comments awaited.

Highways – No objections

Housing Strategy – Comments awaited.

Flood Risk – No comments received.

Education – No objection subject to developer contribution of £600,968.21. Without the contribution they would raise an objection to this application.

ANSA (Open Space) – No comments received.

VIEWS OF CREWE TOWN COUNCIL

No comments received.

OTHER REPRESENTATIONS

No comments received.

OFFICER APPRAISAL

Principle of Development

As noted above, planning permission was approved in 2018 for the development of the site for housing, and as such the principle of the development has already been established. There has been no change in policy since that date which would indicate that the principle needs to be re-visited.

Loss Of Employment Land

This was an issue with the previous application, but as it was accepted that the loss was acceptable it is not re-visited with this application.

Highways

Safe and suitable access

The accesses have been designed to adoptable standards and include standard footways from West St into the site. Speed surveys have been carried out showing West St to have a design speed of approximately 30mph, and the associated visibility splays have been provided. The accesses will be located away from were on-street parking on West St takes place and West St has a width of approximately 7m.

The footway along the site frontage on West St will have a width of 2m. Acceptable footway access is available to the wider Crewe area including bus stops on West St. The bus stop on West St on the same side of the development at the western side should be upgraded to include a shelter. The developer will need to liaise with TSS regarding this.

An accident analysis of those on West St has been carried out and concluded that they were as a result of driver error rather than the road layout.

Network Capacity

To determine the net vehicular impact of the site a trip generation exercise has been carried out for the existing site and for the proposal. The proposal will result in a net increase in vehicle trips of approximately 70 in the AM peak and 100 in the PM peak.

The access onto Dunwoody Way will no longer be used and the vehicle trips from the site will come off West St. A proportion of the vehicle trips to/from the existing site will already use West St. Using existing traffic distribution data, the net increase in vehicles using West St during the AM and PM peak hours in the design year, as result of the development, is forecast to be 30 and 50 respectively, or a little less than 1 per minute over the hour.

The new site accesses, Pyms Ln/Minshull New Road, West Street/Dunwoody Way, and West St/Victoria Ave junctions were all assessed. Committed developments including those in Leighton, Flowers Ln, and the Bentley applications were included in the assessments.

Whilst there would be a cumulative impact on these junctions, it is considered acceptable due to the traffic generation associated with the existing lawful land use.

<u>Layout</u>

The access carriageways will have a width of 5.5m and further into the site these will be reduced to manage design speeds, in accordance with CEC standards and national guidelines. Further in again the shared space concept is introduced and although not strictly to the CEC Design Guide, there is no Highways reason to object to it.

The houses will provide off-road parking in line with CEC standards. The apartments to the west of the site will not provide a standard level of provision, at just over 1 space per apartment. Car ownership data for apartments in this part of Crewe show that this level of provision will be

sufficient to cater for residents, and will not lead to on-street parking, assuming they remain unallocated which will increase the efficiency of the provision.

<u>Conclusion</u>

Given the existing lawful land use and the net highways impact of the proposal is reduced and is acceptable. No objection is raised with conditions and informative:

Condition: the vehicle parking spaces for the apartments should remain unallocated.

Previously there was a condition for a bus shelter, but this is no longer required as the applicant has paid the Highway Authority to do this, and this is progressing.

Contaminated Land

This is the main issue with this application, and why it has been necessary to re-submit the application. Environmental Protection comments are therefore presented in some detail below.

Following a recent meeting with the applicant and their environmental consultant Environmental Protection (EP) agreed to review the submissions that pertain to the potential risk posed by volatile contamination at the site only. Due to time constrains EP have not reviewed any information pertaining to contact, ingestion and inhalation of dust pathways. EP consider these pathways capable of being resolved, albeit with some potential disruption post any application approval.

EP remain unsatisfied with the latest revision of the Remediation Strategy (Rev 8), however the issues pertaining to the vapour risk at the development may be assessed not withstanding our concerns with respect to this document. As such the Remediation Strategy remains unapproved.

The following aspects were therefore reviewed on the basis of potential ground gas/volatile risk:

- Importation of bulk fill containing anthropogenic constituents;
- Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs);
- Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Monitoring Assessment;
- Potential volatile contaminants recorded within Made Ground left in-situ, including areas where contaminant hotspots were not suitably delineated and excavated;
- Tank Removal; and,
- Mixture of potentially volatile material with Ordinary Portland Cement before burial.

Importation of Bulk Fill

Further commentary was requested as bulk fill containing anthropogenic constituents was recorded as being imported to site in October and December 2019, which is contrary to the requirements of Section RE-21 of the Remediation Strategy. This section states that material imported to site to achieve proposed ground levels must comprise natural inert soils and aggregate as per the engineering requirements. Concerns were raised as to whether or not importation of soils containing anthropogenic material would require a reassessment of the site's ground gas risk assessment.

Further to the above, although no commentary was provided by the consultant pertaining to potential ground gas risk, information pertaining to the donor site has been provided alongside previously unsubmitted import tickets that confirm the provenance of the material. EP are satisfied that the recorded anthropogenic materials are representative of poor segregation at the donor site and that, following an assessment of the site records (exploration hole logs), the materials would not present a significant ground gas risk to the Bombardier site.

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)

To date, EP have not received a suitable response from the consultant with respect to this matter. As such, we have undertaken a review of the available information for the site.

A previous site assessment undertaken by Aecom (2013) assessed the potential for PCBs to be present at the site. Aecom's study site was significantly larger than the current site and incorporates the works to the east. Aecom noted the presence of two electrical transformers on its site and an internal electrical substation. According to the site's environmental aspects register, the electrical equipment at the site contained no PCBs, although Aecom was not provided with any documentation to confirm this. All buildings historically associated with electrical repair are/were not located on the current subject site, but in the area further east.

The applicant's consultant has undertaken PCB testing in the current assessment and were informed of the areas to sample. No PCBs were identified in the testing undertaken (10 No. samples).

It is considered by EP that the concrete bases of any substations/electrical infrastructure would provide a measure of protection to the underlying soils with respect to PCBs. Subsequent soil turnover and mixing would dilute any residual impact and decrease the volatile risk to the current development.

In light of the above, it is considered that PCBs are unlikely to constitute a vapour risk to the development.

Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Monitoring Assessment

A series of boreholes were drilled across the final development platform and adsorption tubes installed to obtain VOC samples for laboratory analysis. The results of this analysis were modelled by the environmental consultant to determine whether or not a post-remediation residual risk was present at the site from the volatile contaminants analysed.

Some errors have been identified within the submitted models pertaining to compound values, model parameters and equation application, however EP's review and subsequent reassessment has determined that these errors do not impact the overall conclusion of the submitted assessment. EP are therefore satisfied that the volatile organic compounds modelled do not pose a significant risk to the development.

Potential Volatile Contaminants Recorded Within Made Ground Left In-Situ, Including Areas Where Contaminant Hotspots Were Not Suitably Delineated And Excavated.

Potentially volatile contaminants of concern, which were recorded above the laboratory limits of detection but which do not have remedial targets (within E3P report Ref: 10-880-R3-Rev8), have also been assessed. In addition to the material within the development platform, EP have also considered material left in situ following hotspot remediation.

EP are satisfied with the consultant's assessment for contaminants of concern where authoritative generic assessment criteria have been provided. For the contaminants (2-methylnaphthalene, dibenzofuran, carbazole and anthraquinone) we have reviewed the consultant's risk assessment in detail as no authoritative generic assessment criteria are available for these compounds.

Some contradictory information was submitted in the report compared with authoritative UKbased guidance. As such, EP have undertaken Detailed Quantitative Risk Assessments (DQRAs) for these substances in order to assess their volatility and, if necessary, whether their concentrations would be capable of causing significant harm to residents. The DQRAs have either concluded that these compounds are not sufficiently volatile within UK ground conditions to pose a significant risk or that on balance the concentrations identified are not sufficient to pose a risk when volatilised into indoor air. EP caveat that these assessments have been undertaken by an officer of the Section and have not been peer reviewed as per standard assessment procedure.

Tank Removal

Queries were raised with regard to a tank recorded by the remedial contractor in plots 259-263. Following further correspondence with the environmental consultant EP are now satisfied that there is no significant residual risk posed to properties in this area.

A tank was excavated in the west of the site (Tank Excavation 2). The subsequent delineation of impacted surrounding soils was not sufficiently robust and elevated concentrations of trichloroethene (TCE) were left in situ. The consultant's report places reliance upon vapour membranes within plots in proximity to this location to protect residents from this residual contamination. The membrane validation information provided for plots in this area is either absent or not in accordance with agreed validation criteria. As reliance could not be placed upon this information, EP undertook a DQRA to determine whether identified concentrations of TCE could potentially pose a significant risk to indoor air at the development.

A modelling exercise was undertaken and concentrations of TCE were found to be in excess of site-specific assessment criteria. Further modelling was therefore undertaken to quantify the risk to indoor air utilising site-specific parameters. This concluded that a significant risk to indoor air is unlikely to be present at the recorded contaminant concentrations.

EP caveat that this assessment has been undertaken by an officer of this Section and have not been peer reviewed as per standard assessment procedure.

Mixture Of Potentially Volatile Material With Ordinary Portland Cement Before Burial

Material was mixed with Ordinary Portland Cement for geotechnical purposes and buried in the north of the site. The material was chemically tested prior to placement but the material was moved before the receipt of the laboratory results. This material was shown to contain potentially volatile hydrocarbon fractions. As a subsequent exercise to locate this material proved unsuccessful, a modelling exercise was undertaken to ascertain whether or not this material posed an ongoing or future risk to the development via volatilisation and subsequent inhalation. EP still await the final model from the applicant's consultant, however upon their review of the latest submitted model, the errors identified do not adversely impact the presented conclusion that the material does not represent a risk to the development.

Two conditions are recommended:

- Within 3 months of the approval of this development, a Remediation Strategy shall be submitted to, and approved in writing, by the LPA.
- Within 6 months of the approval of the development, a Verification Report for the entirety of the development, prepared in accordance with the approved Remediation Strategy, shall be submitted and approved in writing by the LPA.

Affordable Housing

No affordable housing was required on the original application as the applicant set out in the Planning Statement that no Affordable housing needed be provided due to the Vacant Building Credit. The Application form stated that all the housing on site is to be Market Housing. The Vacant Building Credit calculation showed, via calculations, that no Affordable Housing needed be provided on the site.

Vacant building credit was introduced to promote development on brownfield sites. It allows the floorspace of existing buildings that are to be redeveloped to be offset against the calculations for section 106 affordable housing requirements (whether financial contribution or provision). It applies to any building that has not been abandoned and is brought back into any lawful use or is demolished to be replaced by a new building.

The PPG explains that existing gross floorspace (assuming it has not been abandoned) should be credited against that of the new development.

In this case there is no overall increase in floorspace and as such no affordable housing was required.

Vacant Building Credit is still applicable today, and as such no affordable housing needs to be provided as part of the development.

It is however to point out that although not technically affordable, the housing is at the more affordable end of the market, with a rented element.

Education Provision

Under the original approval an education contribution of £67,000 was required via a 106 payment. It is understood this payment has been made. Whilst Education would like a much larger contribution, a viability argument was accepted with the original application and the contribution agreed was considered reasonable in the circumstances. This was the decision taken at the time and it is not considered that this matter can now be revisited for a development that is all but complete.

Health Care

As above with Education, the NHS have requested a financial contribution to local health care. No request was made in the original application. Again, a decision was made on viability grounds with the original application and it is not considered appropriate to re-visit this again for this re-submission.

Public Open Space And Recreation

Again, this matter was considered in detail with the previous application, and an area of public open space was approved in the centre of the site as described above. This as yet needs to be completed, although some planting has been carried out to the site frontages.

In addition, a contribution of £33,000 was made towards playing field provision in the area, which has been paid. Finally, there was a requirement for the area of POS to be maintained in perpetuity and this will need to be picked up in a Section 106 Agreement should this application be approved.

Heritage Considerations

There were two issues with the original application, firstly the significance of the factory wall on West Street, and the impact of the proposed development on the Heritage assets on West Street, namely St Barnabus Church and St Barnabus Vicarage both Grade II. The Webb Orphanage now Webb House on Victoria Avenue (again Grade II), is close to the site, but being on the far side of the railway line to the south, and well screening by trees it is not considered that the development will impact on it's setting.

The loss of the railway building was regrettable given its local historic interest, but a more substantive effort was made to retain the base and pillars of the building to create an enclosing wall for the north western frontage of the site, as a reference to the substantial building that presently occupies the site. Whilst the building has some historical significance to Crewe, attempts to have it listed proved unsuccessful, and it is difficult to see how it could have been incorporated into any development.

The loss of the trees in the north eastern corner of the site were considered to adversely affect the Sylvan setting of the listed church and vicarage. There was a concern as to whether planting of more substantial trees in gardens of properties to the south will either compensate for the impact upon the setting of the listed buildings or indeed affect living conditions for occupants. There were also concerns about enforceability. Whilst dealt with in the tree section,

the end result was planting of replacement trees in the grounds of the listed buildings, not in private gardens which was considered a better solution.

Considering Condition 28 on the original approval relating to the West Street Wall:

28. Prior to the demolition of the factory wall fronting West Street, full details of the boundary wall, including which sections are to be retained and the proposed coping stones and railing shall be submitted to and approved in writing with the Local Planning Authority. where possible coping stones from the existing structure shall be used. Works shall only be carried out in accordance with the approved details

This condition sought to retain the base and piers of the wall of the iconic railway building adjoining West Street, which was a non-designated heritage asset. It aimed to secure the submission of the detail for those works. Negotiation took place as part of discharge of condition application 18/6395D to secure an acceptable approach. Details were agreed for the extent of demolition and retention and the reinstatement and detailing of the wall base, piers, copings and railings to satisfy this condition.

It subsequently transpired that the wall was demolished to the ground and therefore, disappointingly, Officers were confronted by an enforcement situation in trying to secure a rebuild of the wall in accordance with those accepted details. This entailed using salvaged materials from the site and in a manner that reflected the initial conservation objective of retaining the base of the wall, but in a modified form that reflected approved plans.

Issues encountered during the wall's construction entailed a shortfall in site reclaimed facing bricks and copings, and so these have had to be supplemented with sympathetic new bricks/copings; poor workmanship, excessive paint residue on parts and inappropriate pointing along certain parts of the wall (the eastern, earliest constructed section, without the benefit of an agreed sample area/methodology). As a consequence, there have been numerous site meetings and email exchanges reiterating what is necessary to get the wall to a form that is acceptable (not as originally approved as a partly conserved asset, but acceptable in terms of the original intent and approved design).

In a meeting before Christmas, including representatives of the developer and a contractor, again, an approach was discussed and agreed to address these outstanding issues, however officers are unsure as to the programming of these works, once the sample area has been inspected and agreed.

The Design & Conservation Officer met the applicant again in February following the works being undertaken and confirmed that in principle he was happy with the section of the wall which the contractor had worked on, but he was keen to have a meeting with the contractor to discuss these works before any more work was undertaken on the remaining sections of the wall. A date for this follow-up meeting is in the process of being organised.

Given the issues faced, discussed in summary above, the Design & Conservation Officer would like to see to the wall completed to the appropriate standard before any decision is made on this application, negating any necessity for further planning condition and to ensure the enforcement case can be closed, however given the need to make a decision on the application, this matter will need to be conditioned.

Design and Layout

Whilst this has not been checked in detail, the houses and layout appear to have been completed in accordance with the approved plans, which in the original officer's report were considered acceptable. Conditions relating to use of materials and levels have been discharged and no objections are raised with regards to the design and layout of the development.

Landscape

Whilst the details have not been checked in detail, the majority of, if not all the landscaping (finished surfacing of roads excepted) appears to have been carried out, and to a good standard. Condition 4 on the original approval required submission and approval of a landscaping scheme, this was approved and as such no objections are raised to the proposals.

Ecology

Replacement Planting

The loss of trees along the sites northern boundary was conceded as part of the determination of application 18/0079n, with details of replacement planting being required under condition 26.

The landscape plan submitted with this current application refers to details submitted under condition 26 of the previous consent.

Features for hedgehog and swifts and Wych Elm planting

The incorporation of these features was required under conditions 16 and 18 of consented application 18/0079n.

The current application is supported by proposals for the incorporation of swift boxes and hedgehog gaps and was accepted as a discharge of these conditions on the original approval.

It is however noted that the submitted landscape plan for the open space area, does not include the planting of Wych Elm which was required by the condition. This matter is the subject of further discussion to see if there is scope to include Wych Elm planting in the proposals (trees having already been planted) and would need to be subject to a further condition if feasible.

Impact On Trees

At the time of the original application submission in 2018 there was tree cover on and adjacent to the site, on the boundaries. None of the trees were subject to TPO protection.

The tree cover originally comprised of:

- An avenue of mature broadleaved trees along the northern boundary of the site comprising a row of Lombardy poplars, Ash and some Sycamore.
- To the north west there is a self set group approximately 7 metres in width comprising young Birch, Poplar and Sycamore.
- To the south in the railway corridor there is a linear strip of early mature/mature Birch, Sycamore, Goat Willow and Oak.

The majority of the boundary trees regrettably had to be removed either due to their poor condition or because it was not possible to retain them in close proximity to the proposed development due to their rooting zones, or because of the need to disturb the ground during decontamination of the site. This was excepted on the basis of replacement planting both on the site boundaries and within the site.

Due to concerns about replacement trees being planted in private gardens, it was agreed that replacement planting should be carried out in the grounds of adjacent sites on the northern site boundary including St Barnabas Church & Vicarage.

This planting has been carried out, and as noted in the landscape section above, the majority if not all the proposed planting appears to have been carried out.

Noise

The original applicant has submitted with an acoustic report by Bureau Veritas UK Ltd. The impact of the noise from West Street, the railway and the adjacent industrial use on the proposed development was assessed in accordance with BS8233:2014 Guidance on Sound Insulation and Noise Reduction for Buildings and BS4142:2014 Methods for rating and assessing industrial and commercial sound. This is an agreed methodology for assessing noise of this nature.

The report recommended mitigation designed to ensure that occupants of the properties were not adversely affected by noise from the adjacent road, railway and industrial process. The conclusions of the report and methodology used were considered acceptable.

As such, and in accordance with the acoustic report, a condition is considered to be necessary, which essentially means ensuring the report recommendations, which includes boundary treatment, glazing and ventilation measures are carried out in full.

Air Quality

Commenting on the original application Environmental Protection wrote:

Policy SE12 of the Local Plan states that the Council will seek to ensure all development is located and designed so as not to result in a harmful or cumulative impact upon air quality. This is in accordance with paragraph 124 of the NPPF and the Government's Air Quality Strategy.

When assessing the impact of a development on Local Air Quality, regard has been had to (amongst other things) the Council's Air Quality Strategy, the Air Quality Action Plan, Local Monitoring Data and the EPUK Guidance "Land Use Planning & Development Control: Planning for Air Quality May 2015)

This is a proposal for the residential development of 269 dwellings comprising 24 apartments and 245 dwellings. Air quality impacts have been considered within the air quality assessment submitted in support of the application by Redmore Environmental. The report considers whether the development will result in increased exposure to airborne pollutants, particularly as a result of additional traffic and changes to traffic flows. The assessment uses ADMS Roads

to model NO2 and PM10 impacts from additional traffic associated with this development and the cumulative impact of committed development within the area.

A number of modelled scenarios were considered within the assessment. These were:

- 2016 Verification
- Opening year Do-Minimum (DM) (predicted traffic flows in 2018 should the proposals not proceed)
- Opening year Do-Something (DS) (predicted traffic flows in 2018 should the proposals be completed

The assessment concluded that the impact of the future development on the chosen receptors will be negligible with regards to NO2 and PM10 concentrations, with none of the receptors experiencing greater than a 1% increase relative to the AQAL.

That being said there is a need for the Local Planning Authority to consider the cumulative impact of a large number of developments in a particular area. In particular, the impact of transport related emissions on Local Air Quality. Considering the uncertainties with modelling, the impacts of the development could be significantly worse than predicted.

Crewe has three Air Quality Management Areas, and as such the cumulative impact of developments in the town is likely to make the situation worse, unless managed.

Poor air quality is detrimental to the health and wellbeing of the public and also has a negative impact on the quality of life for sensitive individuals. It is therefore considered appropriate that mitigation should be sought in the form of direct measures to reduce the adverse air quality impact.

The developer has already submitted an Interim Travel Plan which Environmental Protection deems sufficient to prevent a condition being raised to request one. However, Environmental Protection also believes that further robust mitigation measures are required to reduce the impact on sensitive receptors in the area. Therefore, conditions were recommended regarding Electric Vehicle Infrastructure, dust control and ultra-low emission boilers.

It is not considered that Environmental Protection are likely to change their original views, but Members will be updated if additional comments are received.

Flood Risk

No comments have been received from the Flood Risk Team, however condition 21 on the original approval required submission and approval of surface water drainage. This condition has been discharged.

Archaeology

Condition 19 on the original approval required Level II recording of the site. This condition has been discharged.

Viability/Section 106

The applicant submitted a viability report in support of the original application which in short stated that because of the significant costs in redeveloping this contaminated brownfield site it was unable to sustain any of the requested financial obligations requested towards education and public open space. Affordable housing provision as set out above was not required because of the Vacant Building Credit.

In brief the abnormal costs of developing this site amounted to some £2.8m, a substantial amount of which comprises demolition and site remediation, site clearance and preparation, abnormal foundations, storm water attenuation and a capping layer.

This viability report was independently assessed and although initially it was considered that the "Scheme is capable of providing S106 financial contributions whilst remaining financially viable", after further discussions on abnormal costs and other matters the Consultants confirmed the applicant's position that no obligations can be afforded by the proposed development. The consultants acting for the Council wrote:

"We therefore do not consider that the sales values achieved will be at the level required for the Scheme to become financially viable and therefore is not currently capable of providing S106 contributions whilst remaining financially viable."

Lack of any contributions to mitigate the impact of development was always going to be difficult to support – no matter what the viability states or whether it is independently agreed. As discussed in the earlier report, the applicants were able to offer a contribution of £100,000 split as follows:

- Education contribution £67,000
- Playing fields contribution £33,000

It is understood that both payments have been made.

Under the original application, in addition to the two payments above there was a requirement to maintain the area of public open space within the centre of the site – as set out above. That requirement remains here.

The Heads of Terms for a S106 therefore would be:

- To maintain the open space in accordance with the Management Scheme approved by the Council at all times to the satisfaction of the Council
- To amend the Management Scheme only with the Council's written consent
- To keep the open space open, unbuilt upon and available for public recreational use in perpetuity.

CIL REGULATIONS

In order to comply with the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations 2010, it is necessary for planning applications with legal agreements to consider the issue of whether the requirements within the S106 satisfy the following: a) Necessary to make the development

acceptable in planning terms; a) Directly related to the development; and b) Fair and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development. It is considered that the contributions required as part of the application are justified meet the Council's requirement for policy compliance. All elements are necessary, directly relate to the development and are fair and reasonable in relation to the scale and kind of development. The non-financial requirements ensure that the development will be delivered in full. On this basis the S106 the scheme is compliant with the CIL Regulations 2010.

CONCLUSION

This application was deferred at the Strategic Planning Board meeting on 23rd March for the following reasons;

(1) To undertake an updated open book viability assessment.

(2) To enable a peer review to be undertaken of the assessments made by Environmental Protection in relation to contaminated land.

The viability has to date been inconclusive, but it is considered a contribution can be reasonably be required and Members will be updated on this matter. The peer review has now concluded that the measures introduced are satisfactory, and Environmental Protection are now satisfied that the site is suitable for a residential end-use.

Original Conclusion:

This is a retrospective application for residential development tin the centre of Crewe. Planning permission was previously granted consent in 2018 and the scheme has been built in accordance with that approval. However, conditions in respect of contaminated land have not been satisfied which renders that original consent void – hence the submission of this application to seek regularisation of the development.

As background, the original application raised a number of important issues that influenced the planning balance.

The application proposed to re-develop a brownfield site in Crewe, in a sustainable location within walking distance of Crewe Town Centre with its range of facilities such as schools, healthcare and POS. The development also provided housing which contributed towards the Council's 5 year housing supply and whilst not affordable in terms of the technical definition will provide a range of homes at the more affordable end of the housing market which was welcomed.

The proposals were neutral with regards to ecology with appropriate mitigation measures and issues of air quality, noise, highways and flood risk were all considered to be capable of being addressed by condition.

Although there were concerns about the loss of the existing factory wall and its historical links, it was considered that recording the "asset" and retaining the lower part of the wall as a frontage wall for the development goes some way to address this issue. However as noted above it is taking some time to achieve a satisfactory standard of finish for these works which is still on going.

Working against the application, the proposals do not provide any affordable housing (due to the Vacant Building Credit) and the viability of the site causes a number of negatives with limited prospect of resolution and only very limited contributions to mitigate associated impacts. The POS provision on site still falls short of that normally required. Education contributions also fall short of what is required. No contribution was made to the NHS. Collectively there are additional pressures put on existing facilities in the area. The proposals also raised questions of urban design in that it fell short of the now expected levels of compliance with the CEC Design Guide. There were also concerns about the loss of trees and the overall landscape provision on site.

The main issue for this scheme is the additional information to regularise the issue of contaminated land. Whilst Environmental Protection are still concerned about certain aspects of the assessments undertaken, they are now satisfied that the main issue, that of Human Health, has now been addressed. As noted in the report however they would prefer that their technical findings (which are different from those of the applicant's consultants), should be peer reviewed by another professional as would be standard practice.

As a result of the above this application is considered to be finely balanced. Tipping that balance for regeneration, providing a good range of housing, and recognising the viability of building on a brownfield site favour supporting the proposal.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve subject to a legal agreement to secure:

- To maintain the open space in accordance with the Management Scheme approved by the Council at all times to the satisfaction of the Council.
- To amend the Management Scheme only with the Council's written consent
- To keep the open space open, unbuilt upon and available for public recreational use in perpetuity.

And the following conditions

- 1. Approved Plans
- 2. Implementation of landscaping
- 3. Tree Protection Measures
- The hours of construction of the development (and associated deliveries to the site) shall be restricted to: Monday – Friday 08:00 to 18:00 hrs Saturday 09:00 to 14:00 hrs Sundays and Public Holidays Nil
- 5. Implementation of the noise mitigation measures
- 6. Implementation of Travel Plan
- 7. Electric Vehicle Infrastructure
- 8. Implementation of Construction and Environmental Management Plan
- 9. Separate drainage systems
- 10. Implementation of design/management of surface water drainage
- 11. No allocation of parking spaces for the apartment blocks
- 12. Removal of PD rights for extensions (under consideration)

In the event of any changes being needed to the wording of the Committee's decision (such as to delete, vary or add conditions/informatives/planning obligations or reasons for

approval/refusal) prior to the decision being issued, the Head of Planning has delegated authority to do so in consultation with the Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee, provided that the changes do not exceed the substantive nature of the Committee's decision.



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22/4863N BOMBARDIER TRANSPORTATION, WEST STREET, CREWE, CW1 3JB









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<u>SIGIVIA</u>	NUMBER	SQUARE FOOT	SQUARE METER	BED	TOTAL SQUARE FOOT	Mid	End	Det
2 Bed Apartment	24	613	57	2	14712			
Trent	2	850	79	3	3/850	0	0	2
Grantham	5	850	79	3	4250	0	4	1
Ellesmere	25	855	79	3	21375	5	20	0
Weaver UP	12	964	90	3	11568	12	0	0
Dee	12	1062	99	4	2124	0	12	0
TOTAL =	131			TOTAL =	110875	Ŭ		
PFS						_		
Ellesmere	10	855	79	3	8550	0	8	2
New Weaver	20 27	865 893	80	3	17300 24111	0	20	0
New Stamford	24	1005	93	3	24120	0	24	0
New Ashbourne	19	991	92	3	18829	0	0	19
Coniston	8	1183	110	4	9464	0	0	8
	12	1206	112	4 TOTAL =	14472	0	0	12
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Area	17.12	6.9						
POS Nett Area	0.8	0.3						
Coverage	15916.4	39329.8						
Density	17.3	42.8						
			ΑΤΑ					
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TENURE		PFS/Sigma						
SECURED BY DE	SIGN	No						
BUILDING REGU	LATIONS	2010						
CODE FOR SUS	TAINABLE HOME	S N/A						
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OTHER		-						
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ACCOMMODATION SCHEDULE - Area 3 - Bombardier, Crewe ACCOMMODATION SCHEDULE - Area 3 - Bombardier, Crewe TOTAL SQUARE FOOT HOUSE TYPE NUMBER SQUARE FOOT BED Mid End Det Total HOUSE TYPE NUMBER SQUARE FOOT BED SIGMA PFS 2 Bed Apartment 24 613 Ellesmere 79 3 8550 0 8 2 10 57 2 14712 24 855 10 850 79 3 1700 0 0 2 2 17300 Trent New Weaver 20 865 80 3 Weaver 850 79 3 34850 10 30 1 41 Longford 893 24111 83 Grantham 4250 New Stamford 24120 850 79 0 4 1 5 1005 93 3 0 3 18829 21375 5 20 0 Ellesmere 855 79 25 New Ashbourne 991 92 Ellesmere UP 7552 8 0 0 8 Dunham 14208 Weaver UP 964 11568 12 0 0 12 Coniston 1183 110 4 9464 90 0 Lymington 112 4 14472 Dee 1062 1206 99 12744 0 12 0 12 4 12 0 12 TOTAL = TOTAL = 131054 Dee SA 1062 99 2124 0 2 0 2 132 TOTAL = 131 TOTAL = 110875 131 Acres Hectares TOTAL = 132 TOTAL = 131054 Nett Area 8.8 3.6 Nett Area 6.4 2.6 Coverage 14825.1 36633.3 Coverage 17433.2 825.2 Density 14.9 36.9 Density 20.6 0.8

TCB ° LB







Plot 6	Plot 264	Plot 265	Plot 266	Plot 267	Plot 268	Plot 269



Plot 28

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Plot 29 Plot 30

Plot 31

Plot 223 - 246

Plot 116

Plot 115

Plot 114 Plot 113

Plot 112



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Sheet 1 of 1

FS 53054 ISO 9001:2008 EMS 61920 ISO 14001:2004

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, WEST S Tree Work Proposals

12	11	10	9	ω	7	ი	ы	4	ω	2		Notes:	Survey	Tree	Schee	00500		Schor	ocneo
Re-stake small apple tree.	Take out all self set ash/ elder/ goat willow approximately dia. 50-150mm.	Retain early mature ash. Remove self-set material i.e. elder and small ash.	Retain Leylandii to rear and remove the ivy.	Take out small ash.	Remove Lombardy poplar. Plant Mountain ash in place.	Remove undergrowth; self set ash. Retain Cornus.	Take out self-set ash saplings.	canopy.	Remove shrubs apart from Laurel.	Remove small pine.	Retain Lombardy poplar. Clear through dead wood.		Comments:		Jule of tree works	tillo of troo works		tile of tree works	alie of tree works
							Apple 'Bountiful'	Corylus avellana		Amologicata	Betula pendula	Sorbus aucuparia	Alnus cordata	Species	Tree planti		•	Troo planti	i ree planti
							ı	1	0-12	-12 -12	10-12	10-12	10-12	Girth (cmD)	ing sche	5	-	2200	ing sche
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-	(
Species	Girth (cmD)	Height (m)	Form	
Alnus cordata	10-12	3.0-3.5	Bare root	
Sorbus aucuparia	10-12	3.0-3.5	Bare root	
Betula pendula	10-12	3.0-3.5	Bare root	
Tilia cordata	10-12	3.0-3.5	Bare root	
Amelanchier lamarkii	8-12	2.3-3.0	Bare root	
Corvlus avellana	ı	80-100	10L pot	
			grown	
Annla (Rauntiful)			12 litre	
			pot grown	
Annle (Ded Minsor)			12 litre	
	1	1	pot grown	



19	TOTAL:
	ow stake and 2 ties
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No's	Notes

- compost.
- ω The trees shall be staked and secured with 2nr tree ties with spacers. Stakes shall be 75mm peeled and pointed long larch stakes, pressure impregnated with preservative. Ties shall be made from recycled PVC spacers.
- The planting shall be performed by experienced workmen, in accordance with the recognised best horticultural practice.

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19 20

Horse chestnut. Retain but prune out shoots at base.
Remove leaning and bending ash.
Remove elder.
Prune out and clear up base of sycamore and ash multi-stem by removing 2/3 low shoots. Retain 6no. stems.
Remove birch, 250mm dia.
Remove multi-stemmed ash.
Remove trees. 1no. Sycamore, 2no. Ash, 1no. conifer. All other self set saplings e.g. elder/ sycamore but retain holly.
Retain large sycamore. Crown lift and tip back from adjacent building.
Retain cherry. Prune dead pegs and torn branches. Minimal intervention.
Old retaining wall. Remove scrub and bramble carefully.

1 4

Take out diseased sycamore on back of fence, 200mm dia (thin and drawn up). Large Lombardy poplar. Remove side branches at 5m above ground level on west side. Clear through dead wood. Remove self set sycamore at base of trunk.

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Щ J CREWE

Project		
St Barnabas Church, West Stree	, Crewe	
Title		
Tree Work Proposals		
Client		
St Barnabas Church/ Father Pow	e	
Date	Scale	annlatons
November 2018	1:200@A1	
Drawn	Drawing No.	
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Checked	Revision	
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All soft landscaping to strictly conform to Countryside Properties Plc Performance Specification for Soft Landscape Works.

All Street Trees to be minimum 2m clear stems.

No species, centre, size etc.... is to be amended without the prior approval of the landscape architect.

Shrub Bed Topsoil:

The level of shrub bed topsoil is to be finished 50mm below the adjacent paving and grass so that when bark mulch is applied it does not spill over.

The use of pesticides and other non-organic garden chemicals are to be kept a minimum to prevent any cumulative effects within the food chain.

Good horticultural practices shall be implemented within the planting scheme e.g. use of peat-free composts and mulches and application of non-residual pesticides.

All trees / shrubs to be checked by a structural engineer in compliance of NHBC requirments for design of foundations.

Do not scale.

PLANT SCHEDULE

Trees						
Abbreviation	Species	Height	Girth	Specification	Pot Size	Number of Plants
Pav	Prunus avium	min. 450cm	40-45cm	Semi Mature :Height 7.0M :Clear Stem min. 200cm :Full crown	RB	25 -
TcGS	Tilia cordata 'Green Spire'	min. 450cm	40-45cm	Semi Mature : Height 7.0M : Clear Stem min. 200cm : Full crown	RB	16 -
						Total :41 -

Hedges

Abbreviation	Species	Specification	Height	Girth	Pot Size	Density	Number of Plants
CAR	Carpinus betulus	double staggered row: Full & bushy	100-125cm		10L	0.4Ctr	417 -
							Total :417 -



Shrub planting

KEY



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