DELEGATED AGENDA NO

**PLANNING COMMITTEE** 

29<sup>th</sup> May 2012

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

13/0438/REV

Wynyard Hall, The Avenue, Wynyard

Revised application for the creation of Rose Garden within the former walled kitchen garden and on the former Italian garden terrace, construction of visitor centre and formation of a new point of pedestrian access into the walled garden through the eastern wall of the walled garden and erection of a Marquee for functions, events and exhibitions.

# **Expiry Date 3rd June 2013**

#### **SUMMARY**

The application seeks planning permission for the creation of a Rose Garden and Visitor Centre within the former walled kitchen garden of Wynyard Hall with associated landscaping and parking.

The application involves the construction of visitor centre within the walled garden and formation of a new point of pedestrian access into the walled garden through the eastern wall of the walled garden.

The existing zebra house will be converted to provide ancillary accommodation for the visitors centre.

The application also proposes the erection of a marquee (approximately 2,000m sq. m) on the Italian garden terrace and conversion of an existing squash building into a management suite.

There is an outstanding objection from the Environment Agency however additional information has been submitted by the applicant to address the concerns which is currently being considered. Subject to no outstanding objection from the Environment Agency the application is recommended for approval with conditions.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That planning application 13/0438/REV be approved subject subject to no outstanding objection from the Environment Agency and to the following conditions and informatives below:

#### 01.Approved Plans

The development hereby approved shall be in accordance with the following approved plan(s);

Plan Reference Number	Date on Plan
PL01	21 February 2013
PL04	21 February 2013
PL05	21 February 2013
PL06	21 February 2013
PL07	21 February 2013
PL14	21 February 2013
PL16	21 February 2013
PL17	21 February 2013
PL19	21 February 2013
PL18 REV B	18 March 2013
PL08 REV B	9 May 2013

Reason: To define the consent.

## 02. Time Limit Marquee

The marquee hereby approved shall be removed on or before 5 years from the date of erection unless the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority has been obtained to an extension of the period of validity.

Reason: The building is not considered suitable for permanent retention on this site as a result of its impact on the setting of a listed building.

# 03. Highway Works

No development shall proceed until a scheme for offsite highway improvement works at the Golden Gates junction has been submitted and approved in writing with the local planning authority. The development hereby approved shall not be occupied until the scheme has been carried out in accordance with the agreed details.

Reason:- In the interests of highway safety.

# 04. Use of Management Suite and Visitor Centre

The management suite and visitor centre hereby approved shall be used for hotel purposes (use class C1) in connection with the main operation of Wynyard Hall and for no other purposes without the prior written consent of the local planning authority.

Reason:- To define the consent

#### 05. Materials Zebra House

Prior to the commencement of any works to the zebra house or glazed link connecting to the walled garden a schedule of works shall be provided detailing the full scope of intended works to that building. The schedule of works shall include full details of the proposed glazed link to the visitors centre, and details of the proposed wall opening and making good including the method of support during construction. The details shall be agreed in writing with local planning authority and the scheme carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason- In the interest of the amenities and significance of the heritage assets to be retained.

#### 06. Materials Visitor Centre

Prior to the commencement of the construction of the visitor centre details of all external materials, joinery details, profile sections of the construction materials for the new building and colour finishes shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be constructed in accordance with the approved details.

Reason - In the interests of the appearance and amenities of the surrounding area and heritage assets.

## 07. Landscaping Hardworks

Notwithstanding the proposals detailed in the Design and Access Statement/ submitted plans no hard landscaping works (excluding base course for access roads and car park)shall commence until full details of proposed hard landscaping has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This will include all external finishing materials, finished levels, and all construction details confirming materials, colours, finishes and fixings. The scheme shall be completed to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority according to the approved details within a period of 12 months from the date on which the development commenced or prior to the occupation of any part of the development. Any defects in materials or workmanship appearing within a period of 12 months from completion of the total development shall be made-good by the owner as soon as practicably possible.

Reason: To enable the LPA to control details of the proposed development, to ensure a high quality hard landscaping scheme is provided in the interests of visual amenity which contributes positively to local character of the area.

#### 08. Enclosure

Notwithstanding the proposals detailed in the Design and Access Statement/ submitted plans, prior to the commencement of the erection of any permanent fencing, details of the enclosure shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Such means of enclosure shall be erected before the development hereby approved is occupied.

Reason: In the interests of the visual amenities of the locality.

#### 09. Street Furniture

Notwithstanding the proposals detailed in the Design and Access Statement/ submitted plans, prior to the commencement of the installation of street furniture, details of any street furniture associated with the development shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Such street furniture as agreed shall be erected before the development hereby approved is occupied.

Reason: In the interests of the visual amenities of the locality.

# 10. Lighting

Notwithstanding the proposals detailed in the Design and Access Statement/ submitted plans full details of the method of external illumination, siting, angle of alignment; light colour, luminance of buildings facades and external areas of the site, including parking courts, shall be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to commencement of external lighting and the lighting shall be implemented wholly in accordance with the agreed scheme prior to occupation.

Reason: To enable the Local Planning Authority to control details and in the interests of the amenities of adjoining residents and highway safety.

## 11. Landscaping softworks

Notwithstanding the proposals detailed in the Design and Access Statement/ submitted plans, prior to the commencement of soft landscaping works full details of Soft Landscaping shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This will be a detailed planting plan and specification of works indicating soil depths, plant species, numbers, densities, locations inter relationship of plants, stock size and type, grass, and planting methods including construction techniques for pits in hard surfacing and root barriers. All works shall be in accordance with the approved plans. All existing or proposed utility services that may influence proposed tree planting shall be indicated on the planting plan. The scheme shall be completed unless otherwise agreed with the LPA in writing in the first planting season following: commencement of the development or agreed phases or prior to the occupation of any part of the development and the development shall not be brought into use until the scheme has been completed to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure a high quality planting scheme is provided in the interests of visual amenity which contributes positively to local character and enhances bio diversity.

#### 12. Maintenance soft works

Notwithstanding the proposals detailed in the Design and Access Statement/ submitted plans, a soft landscape management plan including long term design objectives, management responsibilities and maintenance schedules for all landscape areas/ retained vegetation, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the occupation of the development or approved phases.

Any vegetation within a period of 5 years from the date of from the date of completion of the total works that is dying, damaged, diseased or in the opinion of the LPA is failing to thrive shall be replaced by the same species of a size at least equal to that of the adjacent

successful planting in the next planting season unless the Local Planning Authority gives written consent to any variation.

Landscape maintenance shall be detailed for the initial 5 year establishment from date of completion of the total scheme regardless of any phased development period followed by a long-term management plan for a period of 20 years. The landscape management plan shall be carried out as approved

Reason: To ensure satisfactory landscaping to improve the appearance of the site in the interests of visual amenity.

### 13. Archaeology

A) No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work including a Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:

- 1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording
- 2. The programme for post investigation assessment
- 3. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording
- 4. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation
- 5. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation
- 6. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.
- B) No development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A).
- C) The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.

Reason:- The site is of archaeological interest

## 14. Live Music

All live music played externally shall finish at 23.30pm and any music played after such time shall only be played at background level only with all music finishing at 00.30am and not starting again until after 09.00am.

Reason:- In the interests of the amenities of neighbouring properties

## 15. Construction management plan

Prior to works commencing on site a Construction Management Plan shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority. Such a scheme shall include:

- Access proposals (including HGV routes) and HGV trip profile;
- Details of parking proposals during construction;

- Hours of construction; and
- Appropriate mitigation measures that minimise the highway impact during construction.

The works shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed details

Reason:- In the interests of highway safety

## 16. Tree protection

All the recommendations stipulated in the Arboricultural Method Statement Ref:ARB/CP/724/AMS by Elliot Consultancy Limited must be fully adhered to during all construction works near existing trees that are to be retained.

Reason:- In the interest of the trees to be retained

#### 17. Food and drink sales

Food and drink sales from the visitor centre shall be restricted to the defined outdoor terrace area and inside the visitor centre hereby approved and to no other part of the walled garden

Reason:- To define the consent and to protect the amenity of neighbouring properties

#### 18. Defined café and retail area

The café and retail floor sales area of the visitors centre will be restricted to those areas as defined on plan number PL14

Reason:- To define the consent

#### 19. Range of goods

Notwithstanding the provisions of Class A1 of the schedule to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 and amendments, the range and type of goods to be sold from the visitor centre hereby permitted, shall be restricted to the sale of the following:

Wynyard Hall/Estate branded products
Heritage related products
Books
Stationary
Jarred and bottled food stuffs only
Gifts and ancillary goods
Confectionary
Food stuffs grown and produced on site
Products produced on site

There shall be no retailing of additional food stuffs from the site, except for the ancillary sale of food and drink for consumption on the premises and food produce and convenience goods relating to the approved gift shop and café use only.

Reason: In order to ensure the unit remains in a type of retail use upon which its presence out of centre has been justified, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and Core Strategy Development Plan Policy CS5(7) 'Town Centres'

## INFORMATIVE OF REASON FOR PLANNING APPROVAL

The proposal has been considered against National and Local Planning Policies listed below and it is considered that there are no other material planning considerations which indicate that a decision should be otherwise. The council has had regard to all of the relevant information submitted, consultee and consultation responses. The impacts of the development that the Local Planning Authority has considered in that context include: the principle of development, impact on landscape & heritage including the registered historic parkland, neighbouring residential properties, archaeology, ecology, highway safety, flooding, noise and disturbance and the cumulative impacts of the scheme.

Core Strategy Policies CS1,CS3,CS6,CS10,CS11
Saved Local Plan Policies EN7, EN9, EN EN13, EN26, EN28,EN30, S15

The Local Planning Authority has implemented the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework.

# **Construction Deliveries**

It should be ensured that, during construction, deliveries to the site do not obstruct the highway. If deliveries are to be made which may cause an obstruction to the highway then early discussion should be had with the Highway Authority on the timing of these deliveries and measuring that may be required so as to mitigate the effect of the obstruction to the general public.

## **Background**

1. The application is a revised proposal from an application submitted in 2012 and subsequently withdrawn, application numbers 12/0977/FUL & 12/0978/LBC.

# SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

- 2. The Walled Garden and Rose Garden are located approximately 250 metres to the north of Wynyard Hall. The hall is in use partly as a country house hotel and partly as a private residence.
- 3. The application site incorporates a number of buildings and external areas including the Head Gardener's Cottage, former Squash Court building, Zebra House and former tennis court.
- 4. To the north of the site is the access road The Avenue, open fields and woodland, to the east is open parkland and mature trees and to the south the land falls away towards Wynyard Hall and Wynyard Lake. To the west of the site are a small number of residential properties including Dairy Cottage, Garden House, Brierley Cottages and the Paddocks.

### **PROPOSAL**

- 5. The application seeks planning permission for the creation of a Rose Garden and Visitor Centre within the former walled kitchen garden of Wynyard Hall.
- 6. The application involves the construction of a visitor centre within the walled garden and formation of a new point of pedestrian access into the walled garden through the eastern wall of the walled garden.
- 7. The visitor centre will have a an associated café (200sqm) & retail area (130sqm)
- 8. The existing zebra house will be converted to provide ancillary accommodation for the visitor centre.
- 9. A terraced area will be created for outdoor seating and the rose garden landscaped and planted to create a new visitor attraction in association with the main hotel use.
- 10. Car Parking is provided on the former tennis court and in small groupings to the North and East of the site.

### **CONSULTATIONS**

The following Consultations were notified and comments received are set out below:-

## The Environment Agency

We **OBJECT** to the proposed development as submitted because it involves the use of a non-mains foul drainage system but no assessment of the risks of pollution to the water environment has been provided by the applicant. We recommend that planning permission should be refused on this basis.

### Reasons

The application form indicates that foul drainage is to be discharged to a non-mains drainage system. In these circumstances DETR Circular 03/99 advises that a full and detailed consideration be given to the environmental criteria listed in Annex A of the Circular in order to justify the use of non-mains drainage facilities.

In this instance insufficient information on the proposed foul drainage has been submitted. We request that a specific drainage scheme showing specific flows and rates be submitted.

The application does not, therefore, provide a sufficient basis for an assessment to be made of the risks of pollution to the water environment arising from the proposed development.

#### **Highways Agency**

No objection

#### **Head Of Technical Services**

# **General Summary**

The report provides an update to comments provided 24 April 2013 and follows the submission of a revised plan – Drawing number PL08 Rev B – to address some of the highways issues raised in

the previous Technical Services response. Additional information regarding the existing trees to be retained on site is also commented upon.

The Head of Technical Services has reviewed the information submitted and has no objection to the development, subject to the implementation of mitigation measures as outlined in this report.

### **Highways Comments**

The site of the proposed development is located to the north of Wynyard Hall and the existing parking areas that currently serve the Hall. The applicant has confirmed that internal signage would be provided to ensure visitors use the designated routes to access the new parking area. The submitted Traffic Management Plan proposes improved signage on the public highway to ensure vehicles use the designated routes. The principle of improving the signage on the local highway network is acceptable and the applicant should contact Stockton Borough Council (SBC) to arrange for the signs to be installed. Once the tourist signs are in place, the private signs should be removed.

Visibility splays have been illustrated on the revised site plan to confirm that the trees do not obstruct visibility on exiting the car park. Vegetation within the visibility splay at the exits from the car park must be maintained at all times below 600mm.

The applicant was advised to review the number and location of disabled parking bays. The previous plan showed just 3 spaces outside the visitor centre. It was noted that whilst the Council have no specific disabled parking standards for a development such as this, the provision of 3 bays appeared to be insufficient given the capacity potential of the marquee and locating the spaces near the visitor centre would not be convenient for accessing the whole site. The revised plan incorporates an additional 6 disabled parking bays dispersed around the site, and the applicant has confirmed that all bays have step free access to the development. This is acceptable.

The revised plan (drawing number PL08 Rev B) indicates the proposed traffic management system within the site which would be supervised by a management team to suit the size of the event. A question was raised with the plan because the extent of the plan could imply that exit from the site would be via The Kennels only (signed as the 'way out') with the road leading from the Golden Gates signed as the 'way in'. It was noted that this proposal differs from the information in the submitted Traffic Management Plan (dated February 2013) which outlines that the two accesses would be available to visitors for entering and leaving the estate. The applicant has subsequently confirmed that the one-way system would just be localised within the estate to manage traffic around the roads adjacent to the Lion Bridge and both external access junctions would continue to offer two way access.

As noted in the previous Technical Services report, the Golden Gates access requires improvements to facilitate access and egress from the site in the interests of highway safety. These improvements would improve the operation and safety of the junction. Given the intensification of the use of this junction, particularly during the evening, the applicant would be asked to enter into a Section 278 Agreement for improvement works at this junction onto the adopted highway if planning approval for this development is granted. The estimated cost of this work is £15,000. This infrastructure should form a Grampian planning condition should the development be approved and would be subject to a Section 278 agreement with the Highway Authority. The development would not be acceptable without an agreed mitigation scheme at this junction. These works should be agreed and implemented by SBC prior to the development becoming operational.

The south-east gate to the walled garden is proposed as the taxi drop-off area with visitor's exiting via the Bell Tower in the northern wall. This would need to be clearly signed to ensure visitors are

aware of this arrangement. The revised site plan shows a turning area at this access confirming that vehicles are able to turn outside the gate.

The applicant has confirmed that the development would provide a total of 129 car parking spaces (including the 9 disabled bays). It is also acknowledged that there is parking available in other areas of the site and it would be within the interests of the applicant to ensure car parking can be accommodated and managed satisfactorily within the site.

The car parking spaces have been spread around the development site in small parking groups to minimise the visual impact of parking. Whilst this principle is supported, it is necessary to ensure sufficient space is provided within each parking area to allow a vehicle to turn. The applicant has confirmed that all car parking spaces would be 2.4m x 4.8m with adequate space to manoeuvre (6m aisles). Disabled parking bays must an additional 1.2m zone on either side and to the rear of the bay – the additional 1.2m zone can be shared with an adjacent space.

It was advised in the previous report that cycle parking spaces should be provided. It was noted that the location of the site makes it difficult to encourage travel by modes other than car however staff and visitors to the daytime attractions may choose to cycle to the site. The revised site plan has incorporated 5 Sheffield stands close to the Visitor Centre which would provide enough parking for 10 bicycles (2 spaces per stand). The provision of secure and covered cycle parking should support sustainable travel initiatives.

A Construction Management Plan should be agreed prior to construction commencing on the site and include:

- Access proposals (including HGV routes) and HGV trip profile;
- Details of parking proposals during construction;
- Hours of construction; and
- Appropriate mitigation measures that minimise the highway impact during construction.

#### Landscape & Visual Comments

There are no landscape and visual objections to the development which is considered will enhance and redevelop the existing Wynyard Park Grade 2 listed historic landscape.

The construction of the visitor centre within the walled garden is a low key single storey building of intimate style with a glazed facade designed to enhance the character of the walled garden. This development also allows for the restoration and enhancement of the walled garden which is supported - is currently mainly out down to grass in the central space with planted borders around the edges. The sketch of the walled garden design ethos in the form of a 'tartan grid 'is considered acceptable.

The use of the existing Zebra Building as an entry pavilion makes a good use of an existing building to facilitate the redevelopment of the walled garden.

The design enhancement of the old squash court building is considered acceptable to match the Zebra House building.

The marquee is proposed for 5 years on the old flower garden or Italian garden just south west of the old squash court building. Views of the marquee from housing areas to the north in Wynyard village will be screened by existing trees and the walled garden. Views from houses to the west of the site will be similarly screened. The redevelopment of this area as a garden is encouraged. Additional tree planting should be provided to soften views of the marquee from the Wynyard Hall and other parts of the historic park as indicated on the diagram 1 Master plan Principles.

The development of former walkways such as the broad walk link from the main house to the dairy cottage and south terrace to the walled garden and links around the park is supported.

Landscape details relating to the development are requested as part of the condition wording in the informative section below

#### Existing trees

Further to the comments made previously by the councils tree officer further comments are made as follows in relation to the updated site plan ref PL08 REV B and the Arboricultural Method Statement ref ARB/CP/724/AMS.

The rerouting of the path to the south nearer the wall is acceptable as it now falls outside the root protection areas of those trees to be retained. There are no objections to the location of the disabled parking bays as these do not impact on any trees that are to be retained.

Additional condition wording is attached below in the informative section relating to the tree protection methods and construction.

### Flood Risk Management Comments

Technical Services have no record of flooding to the site. The applicant proposes to use sustainable drainage within the site to be maintained by the management company. The maximum allowable discharge rate into the ordinary watercourse is 3.5l/s/ha.

The development must not increase the risk of surface water run off from the site or cause any increased flood risk to neighbouring sites. Any run off must not exceed pre-development rates. Any increase in surface water generated by the development or existing surface water / ground water issues on the site must be alleviated by the installation of a suitable drainage system within the development site.

#### <u>Informative</u>

#### UDLV01 LANDSCAPING – HARDWORKS

Notwithstanding the proposals detailed in the Design and Access Statement/ submitted plans no hard landscaping works (excluding base course for access roads and car park)shall commence until full details of proposed hard landscaping has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This will include all external finishing materials, finished levels, and all construction details confirming materials, colours, finishes and fixings. The scheme shall be completed to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority according to the approved details within a period of 12 months from the date on which the development commenced or prior to the occupation of any part of the development. Any defects in materials or workmanship appearing within a period of 12 months from completion of the total development shall be made-good by the owner as soon as practicably possible.

Reason: To enable the LPA to control details of the proposed development, to ensure a high quality hard landscaping scheme is provided in the interests of visual amenity which contributes positively to local character of the area.

#### UDLV03 ENCLOSURE

Notwithstanding the proposals detailed in the Design and Access Statement/ submitted plans, prior to the commencement of the erection of any permanent fencing, details of the enclosure shall be

submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Such means of enclosure shall be erected before the development hereby approved is occupied.

Reason: In the interests of the visual amenities of the locality.

#### UDLV04 STREET FURNITURE

Notwithstanding the proposals detailed in the Design and Access Statement/ submitted plans, prior to the commencement of the installation of street furniture, details of any street furniture associated with the development shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority Such street furniture as agreed shall be erected before the development hereby approved is occupied.

Reason: In the interests of the visual amenities of the locality.

#### UDLV05 LIGHTING

Notwithstanding the proposals detailed in the Design and Access Statement/ submitted plans full details of the method of external illumination, siting, angle of alignment; light colour, luminance of buildings facades and external areas of the site, including parking courts, shall be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to commencement of external lighting and the lighting shall be implemented wholly in accordance with the agreed scheme prior to occupation.

Reason: To enable the Local Planning Authority to control details and in the interests of the amenities of adjoining residents and highway safety.

#### UDLV06 LANDSCAPING - SOFTWORKS

Notwithstanding the proposals detailed in the Design and Access Statement/ submitted plans, prior to the commencement of soft landscaping works full details of Soft Landscaping shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This will be a detailed planting plan and specification of works indicating soil depths, plant species, numbers, densities, locations inter relationship of plants, stock size and type, grass, and planting methods including construction techniques for pits in hard surfacing and root barriers. All works shall be in accordance with the approved plans. All existing or proposed utility services that may influence proposed tree planting shall be indicated on the planting plan. The scheme shall be completed unless otherwise agreed with the LPA in writing in the first planting season following: commencement of the development or agreed phases or prior to the occupation of any part of the development and the development shall not be brought into use until the scheme has been completed to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure a high quality planting scheme is provided in the interests of visual amenity which contributes positively to local character and enhances bio diversity.

# UDLV09 TREE PROTECTION

All the recommendations stipulated in the Arboricultural Method Statement Ref:ARB/CP/724/AMS by Elliot Consultancy Limited must be fully adhered to during all construction works near existing trees that are to be retained.

#### UDLV011 MAINTENANCE- SOFTWORKS

Notwithstanding the proposals detailed in the Design and Access Statement/ submitted plans, a soft landscape management plan including long term design objectives, management responsibilities and maintenance schedules for all landscape areas/ retained vegetation, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the occupation of the development or approved phases.

Any vegetation within a period of 5 years from the date of from the date of completion of the total works that is dying, damaged, diseased or in the opinion of the LPA is failing to thrive shall be replaced by the same species of a size at least equal to that of the adjacent successful planting in the next planting season unless the Local Planning Authority gives written consent to any variation.

Landscape maintenance shall be detailed for the initial 5 year establishment from date of completion of the total scheme regardless of any phased development period followed by a long-term management plan for a period of 20 years. The landscape management plan shall be carried out as approved

Reason: To ensure satisfactory landscaping to improve the appearance of the site in the interests of visual amenity.

#### LINF03 CONSTRUCTION DELIVERIES

It should be ensured that, during construction, deliveries to the site do not obstruct the highway. If deliveries are to be made which may cause an obstruction to the highway then early discussion should be had with the Highway Authority on the timing of these deliveries and measuring that may be required so as to mitigate the effect of the obstruction to the general public.

# **English Heritage**

This is a much improved scheme from the previous submission with a stronger connection and feel for the existing historic character of the walled garden and its place within the grade II\* registered park and garden. Together with the cookery school this proposals suggests a new focus for this underused element of the estate and that is to be welcomed, The new location of the marquee reduces the visual link with the hall and its immediate grounds but it remains an uncharacteristically large and obvious modern intervention in a historic park and garden. Consequently I would not object to a temporary permission to test the viability of the use but once this is lapsed and if continuation is sought discussion should move to the possibility of a more suitable structure.

#### Recommendation

We urge you to address the above issues and recommend that the application be determined in accordance with national and local policy guidance and on the basis of your expert conservation advice.

#### Tees Archaeology

The applicant has provided a Heritage Statement which includes an assessment of the historic fabric of the walled garden and its associated features, along with a geophysical survey of both the Kitchen Garden and Italian Garden terrace. These documents meet the information requirements necessary to determine the application from an archaeological perspective (NPPF para. 128).

# The Proposal

This application is for the erection of a new visitor centre within the walled garden, the erection of a marguee on the Italian Garden terrace and the creation of a rose garden. The application includes

conflicting information about the layout of the Rose Garden and I am presuming that the more ambitious scheme with canals, amphitheatre etc (Design & Access Statement p. 14) has been superseded by that shown in the plan labelled 'WINYARD HALL (sic) Walled Garden. February 2013. Simpson & Brown Architects'.

# The Heritage Assets

The principal heritage assets are the walled garden, gardener's house and Italian garden terrace. These have associated archaeological deposits in the form of demolished buildings and former garden infrastructure (e.g. paths, planting beds) which show clearly in the geophysical surveys.

### Impact of the proposal on Heritage Assets

#### The Visitors Centre

The principal impact on heritage assets will be the construction of the new visitors centre. This is within the walled garden but against the east wall where there is no evidence of former buildings (either on early maps or from the geophysical survey). Geophysical anomalies in this area are consistent with a former pathway. The construction of the new visitors centre will have an impact on the walls themselves but this has been mitigated by the drawn and photographic record submitted with the application. I would recommend that archaeological monitoring takes place in this area during the construction period in order that any heritage assets of archaeological interest are properly recorded before they are destroyed (NPPF para. 141).

## The Rose Garden

The proposed gardening works within the Italian terrace appear to be minimal. Footpaths shown on the Feb. 2013 plan correspond in the most part with those existing. The geophysical survey for the terrace shows a complex pattern of anomalies consistent with former planting schemes etc. These are of archaeological interest and any groundworks necessary on the terrace should also be subject to archaeological monitoring.

The proposed works within the walled garden appear to be a little more extensive with broader walkways and introduction of larger areas of paving. A pond is also proposed. The geophysical surveys in this garden were less conclusive but it is likely that archaeological remains associated with at least 200 years of gardening activity are present. Again, any groundworks should be subject to archaeological monitoring.

#### The Marquee

The Marquee is a temporary structure but is substantial and I presume it will require some form of anchoring or perhaps even a foundation slab. This is not detailed in the application. Any groundworks associated with the marquee (including drains and services if needed) should be subject to archaeological monitoring.

#### Recommendation

I support this application in principle as it seeks to restore the existing elements of the former gardens and gardener's house. There are however some parts of the proposal that will have a negative impact on archaeological remains associated with the gardens. I recommend that archaeological monitoring takes places during those parts of the development where ground disturbance is necessary and that any features of archaeological interest are properly investigated and recorded. This can be achieved by means of a planning condition, the suggested wording for which I set out below:-

Recording of a heritage asset through a programme of archaeological works

A) No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work including a Written

Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in

writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:

- 1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording
- 2. The programme for post investigation assessment
- 3. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording
- 4. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation
- 5. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation
- 6. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.
- B) No development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A).
- C) The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.

The wording for this condition is based upon a model recommended to the Planning Inspectorate by the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers.

# **Spatial Plans Manager**

# **Policy Context**

- 1. Thank you for consulting the Spatial Planning team on this application. As you will be aware section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that an application for planning permission be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless the material considerations indicate otherwise.
- 2. Policies contained with Stockton-on-Tees Core Strategy Development Plan Document which are of particular relevance to this application are:
  - Core Strategy Policy CS1 'The Spatial Strategy'
  - Core Strategy Policy CS3 'Sustainable Living and Climate Change'
  - Core Strategy Policy CS10 'Environmental Protection and Enhancement'
  - Core Strategy Policy CS11 'Planning Obligations'
- 3. Specific Stockton-on-Tees Local Plan Policies (1997) and Alteration No1 policies (2006) which are of relevance to these applications are referenced during the discussion on these applications.
- 4. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), adopted March 2012, sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. The sections of the NPPF which are of most relevance to this application are:
  - Building a strong, competitive economy
  - Supporting a prosperous rural economy
  - Promoting sustainable transport
  - Requiring good design
  - Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
  - Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

- 5. Paragraph 215 of the National Planning Policy Framework states that when determining planning applications:
  - "...due weight should be given to relevant policies in existing plans according to their degree of consistency with this framework (the closer the policies in the plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given)."

Where this response references specific policies in the development plan, it will also explain the degree of consistency with the NPPF

6. Paragraph 216 of the NPPF states that decision makers may give weight to emerging plans like the Regeneration and Environment LDD. However, it is noted that the document is at a relatively early stage in preparation. Where a policy is relevant to this application, for example the emerging revised limits to development the policy will be referenced below.

#### The site

- 7. The application site is within the grounds of Wynyard Hall located to the south of Wynyard Village. In recent years Wynyard Hall has been converted in to a hotel with wedding and conference facilities, which has secured a suitable use for this significant heritage asset.
- 8. The site is outside of the defined limit to development, as set out in saved Local Plan policy EN13 and the emerging limits of development set out in the Regeneration and Environment LDD. This policy aims to provide a clear break between the urban and rural landscapes to prevent uncontrolled expansion of the urban area. It is consistent with the NPPF in particular the Core Planning Principle of recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside.
- 9. Policy EN13 sets out the types of development that may be appropriate outside of the development limit. These criteria are discussed in detail below.

# The proposals

- 10. The applications seek an expansion of the existing operation which is linked to Wynyard Hall a grade II\* listed building. The proposals involve the creation of a:
  - Rose Garden;
  - Visitors centre (330 sq.m floorspace);
  - Management suite;
  - Marquee (circa 2,000 sq.m floorspace); and
  - Cookery school and visitor accomodation (532 sq.m floorspace) and conversion of dwelling in to accomodation
- 11. Each element of the proposal is discussed in turn below. Please note that this response does not address the associated listed building applications, nor does it cover heritage and design matters in significant detail: However, balancing the importance of the heritage assets against normal policy requirements will be a key consideration in these applications. Indeed paragraph 21 of the NPPF notes that investment in business should not be over-burdened by the combined requirements of planning policy.
- 12. When viewed in combination, these proposals will result in a significant tourism development in what is acknowledged to be a remote location. However, the Spatial Planning Team have noted that Wynyard Hall already operates as a significant conference, hotel and wedding facility at the moment.

#### The Rose Garden

- 13. The original application suggested that the Rose Garden will attract between 30,000 and 50,000 visitors per annum. No visitor numbers are included with this application and the applicant should clarify this information. Clearly visitor numbers along this line would be beyond what would constitute a small-scale facility for tourism as advocated by policy EN13 point 5. However, the proposal would involve the re-use of rural buildings and must be considered against saved Local Plan policy EN20.
- 14. EN20 is consistent with the NPPF, in particular paragraph 28 which supports the rural economy and encourages the re-use of buildings in rural areas for business and enterprise uses. This element of the proposal appears to conform with this policy
- 15. In addition, saved Local Plan policies EN26, EN28, EN30 and EN31 provide policy guidance on heritage assets. These policies are considered to be consistent with section 12 of the NPPF. The site of the Rose Garden is a listed building, as it falls within the curtilage of Wynyard Hall. Bringing this building back in to use, especially as there are limited alternative uses for the structure, is a consideration which should be given significant weight.
- 16. The Spatial Planning Team also notes the specific nature of this proposal, and the limited opportunities for alternative sites within the Tees Valley area. Certainly there will be few urban locations which would be suitable for this use, whilst alternative rural locations are unlikely to benefit from the close proximity to a complementary facility like Wynyard Hall. It would be inappropriate to attempt to direct the use to an alternative location.
- 17. Given the support for the re-use of rural buildings, the fact that the Rose Garden site is a listed heritage asset, and the need for a rural location for the development, it is considered that the use is appropriate in principle.

#### Visitors centre

- 18. The visitors centre will include a café (200 sq.m.) and a retail area (130sq.m.). This element of the proposal is a reduction from the original application which sought a total floorspace of about 600sq.m. In addition to the retail and café use, the building will be used to control access in and out of the rose garden.
- 19. Saved Local Plan Alteration Number One policy S15 is of relevance to this element of the proposal. This policy provides the context for small scale shopping outside retail centres setting out a number of criteria which must be met for a small-scale proposal to be allowed. This policy is consistent with the NPPFs town centre first policy approach for retail development.
- 20. In addition emerging policy TC9.4 is also relevant to this application, but, as it is at an early stage in preparation and may be subject to change, it has limited weight. This policy provides a number of considerations relating to ancillary facilities for existing tourism facilities. However, the policy provides a number of material considerations which are clearly relevant to this element of the application.
- 21. To be acceptable under policy S15 the proposal should be located within defined settlement limits. However, as discussed above, the Rose Garden will bring a disused structure back in to use, creating an attraction which will require ancillary facilities for visitors. In the interests of creating a sustainable development, this consideration is likely to outweigh the policy consideration of directing small scale retail to the urban area.
- 22. Therefore the key issues, from a planning policy perspective, are whether:

- a) The facility is intended to meet 'local needs', which in this case can be interpreted as the needs of visitors to the Rose Garden;
- b) The proposal would not adversely undermine the vitality and viability of any village shop (the Stables) or defined retail centre, the nearest being in Wolviston Village.
- 23. The location and scale of the proposal are the crucial factors in determining these considerations. The Spatial Planning team previously raised concerns regarding the scale of the proposed facility. However, this reduced proposal is likely to be ancillary to the main use. Furthermore, given this relationship, the limited scale of the premises and the remote location of the unit it is expected that the proposal will not undermine any other centres. In principle the visitor centre is appropriate providing it is suitably located and sympathetically designed.
- 24. Finally, you may wish to consider limiting the range of goods which can be sold from the visitor's centre, in order to ensure that the retail element remains an ancillary to the Rose Garden.

#### Marquee

- 25. The marquee proposal, which measures approximately 2,000sq.m, will provide conference, exhibition and function space which will significantly increase visitor numbers to Wynyard Hall. The planning statement suggests that the marquee will provide an alternative location for in house events that are currently offered by the hall itself.
- 26. Given the size of the marquee it cannot be considered a small-scale facility for tourism. As pointed out in the Spatial Planning team's response to the previous application, these uses are classed as main town centre uses and should normally be directed to more central locations or justified by the planning application. The Spatial Planning team's previous response noted that the marquee was intended to provide additional space which would take pressure off the historic fabric of Wynyard Hall. Regardless of this, the Spatial Planning team sought additional information on this element of the scheme.
- 27. This information should explain how functions at Wynyard Hall will operate in the future, and how the fabric of the building will be protected. This explanation will be a key determining factor on this element of the proposal. If this is not provided, then the application should be justified under the tests set out in paragraph 24 and 25 of the NPPF.
- 28. Finally on this part of the scheme, the management suite appears to be an ancillary element of the marquee proposal. Therefore, if the marquee is permitted this will be a required element of the development. However, given the permanent construction of the building, consideration should be given to the future use of the building on cessation of the use of the temporary marquee.

# Cookery School and visitor accommodation

- 29. The cookery school proposal would provide a teaching area for twelve students with three bedrooms. In addition an existing dwelling will be converted to visitor accommodation. The planning statement views this proposal as a niche tourism offer linked to Wynyard Hall.
- 30. On an individual basis this element of the proposal could be classed as a small-scale facility for tourism, which could, subject to siting and design, be considered acceptable against saved policy EN13.

### **Development And Regeneration**

The rose garden will create a visitor attraction which will be complementary to the rest of the visitor offer in the area and so is welcomed. The area for retail use (130sqm) is more in keeping with the size of the overall proposed development than the original application, as long as the types of goods sold are only those directly associated with the adjoining uses then R&ED would not object to this. Planning conditions should control the range and type of retail goods to be sold to ensure there is no significant impact on town and district centres.

### **Environmental Health Unit**

I do have some concerns regarding the above application and in particular the erection of the marquee and associated problems with amplified music coming from this venue. However, The Live Music Act 2012 ("the 2012 Act) came into force on the 1st of October and removed the licensing requirements for amplified live music between 8am- 11pm before audiences of no more 200 people on premises authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises. This would also apply to the new Marquee in this application. The current licensing condition relating to noise from amplified music at this site reads:

All live music played externally shall finish at 23.30 and any music played after such time shall only be played at background level only with all music finishing at 00.30 and not starting again until after 09.00.

I mirrored this in my previous planning comments to ensure consistency between planning and licensing conditions and also due to a long history of good compliance from the Hall. I am happy to keep this comment the same and will if necessary investigate any noise complaints under statutory nuisance legislation that arise from the Marquee.

#### **Natural England**

This proposal does not appear to affect any statutorily protected sites or landscapes, or have significant impacts on the conservation of soils, nor is the proposal EIA development. It appears that Natural England has been consulted on this proposal to offer advice on the impact on a protected species.

Green Infrastructure

The proposed development is within an area that Natural England considers could benefit from enhanced green infrastructure (GI) provision. Multi-functional green infrastructure can perform a range of functions including improved flood risk management, provision of accessible green space, climate change adaptation and biodiversity enhancement. Natural England would encourage the incorporation of GI into this development. Evidence and advice on green infrastructure, including the economic benefits of GI can be found on the Natural England Green Infrastructure web pages. Natural England's advice is as follows:

We have adopted national standing advice for protected species. As standing advice, it is a material consideration in the determination of the proposed development in this application in the same way as any individual response received from Natural England following consultation and should therefore be fully considered before a formal decision on the planning application is made. The protected species survey has identified that the following European protected species may be affected by this application: Great Crested Newts.

We have not assessed the survey for badgers, barn owls and breeding birds1, water voles, widespread reptiles or white-clawed crayfish. These are all species protected by domestic legislation and you should use our standing advice to assess the impact on these species. How we used our standing advice to assess this survey and mitigation strategy Bats

We used the flowchart on page 10 of our Standing Advice Species Sheet: Bats beginning at box (i). Working through the flowchart we reached Box (x). Box (x) advises the authority that further survey effort is required in accordance with Bat Surveys - good practice guidelines and you should request additional information from the applicant.

**Great Crested Newts** 

We used the flowchart on page 8 of our Standing Advice Species Sheet: Great crested newts beginning at box (i). Working through the flowchart we reached Box (vii). Box (vii) advises the authority that further survey effort is required in accordance with the Great crested newt mitigation guidelines and you should request additional information from the applicant. .

# **Tees Valley Wildlife Trust**

In the light of the response provided by the applicant and the Natural England Standing Advice the flow charts now indicate that Permission could be granted (subject to other constraints). Consider requesting enhancements.

## **Northumbrian Water Limited**

No comments

# **Northern Gas Networks**

No comments

## **Grindon Parish Council**

Object on the following grounds:-

The current roads and infrastructure are not adequate for the increased volume of traffic.

No access or egress from this proposed development should be directed to flow through Wynyard village for congestion and safety reasons. The roads are too narrow to accommodate the increased volume of traffic and will pose a risk to motorists and pedestrians alike.

As a result of this proposal there will be an increase in traffic on the A689, a road which already struggles to deal with the existing flow of traffic, even more so at times when the road is closed (eg during periods of flooding, which was experienced recently, when the A689 traffic was diverted along The Wynd).

This proposal should not be looked at in isolation but should take into consideration with other proposals, eg increased housing, Red House School, Proposed Cookery School, Proposed hospital, developments taking place on the retail park to name but a few.

The increased noise levels from additional vehicles travelling through the village (ie visitors cars and buses as well as service vehicles).

The noise levels from functions being held in the marquee. Nearby residents are already inconvenienced by the noise from late night functions taking place in the hall.

In relation to the above - the effect this proposal, and its solution to the traffic flow, will have on the wildlife in the area.

# **Hartlepool Borough Council**

No adverse comments

# **PUBLICITY**

Neighbours were notified by means of letter, site notice and press advert and comments received are below:-

#### J Meadows

### 3 Forrestors Close, Wynyard

Objects to the application on the grounds of: traffic congestion. noise pollution (late nights), will make the are less desirable, bring down house prices, disrupt wildlife, make Wynyard Hall even more commercial and Wynyard village less exclusive vandalism, spoil Wynyard and everything it stands for.

#### P Wright

## 14 Castlereagh, Wynyard

Objects to the application on the grounds of noise. Concerns over late night function and transmission of noise in particular noise pollution from the marquee. Considers that this will be worse than the existing situation as the marquue will be in closer proximity to his house and have thinner walls.

#### Mrs M Dobson

## 25 Castlereagh, Wynyard

### Objects to the application

The rose garden has no historical features of any interest so what is the purpose of this. Concerns regarding noise from the marquee, already gets noise in the summer from the hall. Traffic is a major concern.

#### Mr J Hall

#### The Kennels, Wynyard

Objects to the application concerns over health and traffic.

The access via the hall to the kennels is via an unmarked x road. Traffic to the hall crosses the junction. Traffic to the hall crosses this junction at excessive speed as there are no traffic calming measures in use despite requests to the hall. We have young children at the kennels and are concerned for their safety, I have no objection to the proposal per se but sadly must do so in an attempt to have something done about this aspect of safety of the access.

### Mr J Hind

# Dairy Cottage, Wynyard

Objects to the application.

The marquee will be used for events that will generate noise. Also believes that the cookery school will create noise and that the bedrooms will be used as overflow bedrooms for the hotel. Car doors constantly banging, people coming back to their rooms from the hotel late at night will create noise. The access road is only single track access used only at present by households is not capable of accommodating more traffic and additional traffic could be life threatening. I also note a café on site with retail large delivery wagons delivering on a single track road could again by life threatening as well as noisy and cause traffic congestion.

#### R Jones

# Garden House The Avenue

1)Whilst I consider the development within the heart of a listed parkland to be inappropriate due to increased traffic and noise levels, the development could have been contained within the walled garden and the external south wall with an imaginative modern design including a permanent area to replace the Marquee which is more suitable for horse race meetings rather than a Listed Parkland it is a lost design opportunity for the area.

2)Regarding access /egress for visitors & service vehicles, this should be ONLY from the Golden Gates & the Kennels . Significant directional /pedestrian signage should be introduced. Improvements to roads particularly approaching horse shoe bend and road up to the car park/ service areas is necessary to allow 2 way traffic and avoid congestion . This will ensure safe access/egress for all visitors/service vehicles.

3)No access/egress for visitors/service vehicles should be allowed through Gas House Lane or Park Lane (thus avoiding traffic flow through village) as roads are to narrow and are 2way used by householders for pedestrian and vehicular access again for safety reasons.

### **PLANNING POLICY**

Where an adopted or approved development plan contains relevant policies, Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that an application for planning permissions shall be determined in accordance with the Development Plan(s) for the area, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. In this case the relevant Development Plan is the Core Strategy Development Plan Document and saved policies of the Stockton on Tees Local Plan

Section 143 of the Localism Act came into force on the 15 Jan 2012 and requires the Local Planning Authority to take local finance considerations into account, this section s70(2) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended requires in dealing with such an application [planning application] the authority shall have regard to a) the provisions of the development plan, so far as material to the application, b) any local finance considerations, so far as material to the application and c) any other material considerations

The following planning policies are considered to be relevant to the consideration of this application:-

# National Planning Policy Context

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) adopted in march 2012 sets out the governments planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied,

Paragraph 14. At the heart of the National Planning Policy Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development, which should be seen as a golden thread running through both planmaking and decision-taking:

For decision-taking this means:

approving development proposals that accord with the development without delay; and where the development plan is absent, silent or relevant policies are out-of-date, granting permission unless:

- -any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or-
- -specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.

The most relevant elements of the NPPF to this application are:

## Supporting a Prosperous Rural Economy

Section 3 relates to supporting a prosperous rural economy and paragraph 28 confirms that planning policies should support economic growth in rural areas in order to create jobs and prosperity by taking a positive approach to sustainable new development.

This includes supporting sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments that benefit businesses in rural areas, communities and visitors, and which respect the character of the countryside.

# Requiring Good Design

contribution made by their setting.

authorities should take account of:

Section 7 relates to requiring good design and paragraph 56 states that the Government attaches great importance to the design of the built environment. Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, is indivisible from good planning, and should contribute positively to making places better for people.

# Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment

the natural and local environment by:
□ Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils;
□ Recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services;
☐ Minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;
□ Preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; and
☐ Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate
Conserving & Enhancing the Historic Environment  4.15 Section 12 of the NPPF relates to 'Conserving & Enhancing the Historic Environment' and confirms that, in developing a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, Local Planning Authorities should:
$\hfill\Box$ The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
$\hfill\Box$ The wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;
☐ The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness;
$\hfill \square$ Opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place
4.16 Paragraph 128 confirms that in determining applications, local planning authorities should

require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage asset affected, including any

4.17 Paragraph 131 of the NPPF confirms that, in determining planning applications, local planning

☐ The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
☐ The positive contribution the conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and
☐ The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.

## **Local Planning Policy Context**

# Core Strategy Policy 1 (CS1) - The Spatial Strategy

- 1. The regeneration of Stockton will support the development of the Tees Valley City Region, as set out in Policies 6 and 10 of the Regional Spatial Strategy 4, acting as a focus for jobs, services and facilities to serve the wider area, and providing city-scale facilities consistent with its role as part of the Teesside conurbation. In general, new development will be located within the conurbation, to assist with reducing the need to travel.
- 2. Priority will be given to previously developed land in the Core Area to meet the Borough's housing requirement. Particular emphasis will be given to projects that will help to deliver the Stockton Middlesbrough Initiative and support Stockton Town Centre.
- 3. The remainder of housing development will be located elsewhere within the conurbation, with priority given to sites that support the regeneration of Stockton, Billingham and Thornaby. The role of Yarm as a historic town and a destination for more specialist shopping needs will be protected.
- 4. The completion of neighbourhood regeneration projects at Mandale, Hardwick and Parkfield will be supported, and work undertaken to identify further areas in need of housing market restructuring within and on the fringes of the Core Area.
- 5. In catering for rural housing needs, priority will be given to the provision of affordable housing in sustainable locations, to meet identified need. This will be provided through a rural exception site policy.
- 6. A range of employment sites will be provided throughout the Borough, both to support existing industries and to encourage new enterprises. Development will be concentrated in the conurbation, with emphasis on completing the development of existing industrial estates. The main exception to this will be safeguarding of land at Seal Sands and Billingham for expansion of chemical processing industries. Initiatives which support the rural economy and rural diversification will also be encouraged.

# Core Strategy Policy 3 (CS3) – Sustainable Living and Climate Change

- 2. All new non-residential developments will be completed to a Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) of 'very good' up to 2013 and thereafter a minimum rating of 'excellent'.
- 3. The minimum carbon reduction targets will remain in line with Part L of the Building Regulations, achieving carbon neutral domestic properties by 2016, and non domestic properties by 2019, although it is expected that developers will aspire to meet targets prior to these dates.
- 4. To meet carbon reduction targets, energy efficiency measures should be embedded in all

new buildings. If this is not possible, or the targets are not met, then on-site district renewable and low carbon energy schemes will be used. Where it can be demonstrated that neither of these options is suitable, micro renewable, micro carbon energy technologies or a contribution towards an off-site renewable energy scheme will be considered.

- 5. For all major developments, including residential developments comprising 10 or more units, and non-residential developments exceeding 1000 square metres gross floor space, at least 10% of total predicted energy requirements will be provided, on site, from renewable energy sources.
- 6. All major development proposals will be encouraged to make use of renewable and low carbon decentralised energy systems to support the sustainable development of major growth locations within the Borough.
- 7. Where suitable proposals come forward for medium to small scale renewable energy generation, which meet the criteria set out in Policy 40 of the Regional Spatial Strategy, these will be supported. Broad locations for renewable energy generation may be identified in the Regeneration Development Plan Document.
- 8. Additionally, in designing new development, proposals will:
- Make a positive contribution to the local area, by protecting and enhancing important environmental assets, biodiversity and geodiversity, responding positively to existing features of natural, historic, archaeological or local character, including hedges and trees, and including the provision of high quality public open space;
- Be designed with safety in mind, incorporating Secure by Design and Park Mark standards, as appropriate;
- Incorporate 'long life and loose fit' buildings, allowing buildings to be adaptable to changing needs. By 2013, all new homes will be built to Lifetime Homes Standards; Seek to safeguard the diverse cultural heritage of the Borough, including buildings, features, sites and areas of national importance and local significance. Opportunities will be taken to constructively and imaginatively incorporate heritage assets in redevelopment schemes, employing where appropriate contemporary design solutions.
- 9. The reduction, reuse, sorting, recovery and recycling of waste will be encouraged, and details will be set out in the Joint Tees Valley Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents.

# Core Strategy Policy 6 (CS6) - Community Facilities

- 1. Priority will be given to the provision of facilities that contribute towards the sustainability of communities. In particular, the needs of the growing population of Ingleby Barwick should be catered for.
- 2. Opportunities to widen the Borough's cultural, sport, recreation and leisure offer, particularly within the river corridor, at the Tees Barrage and within the Green Blue Heart, will be supported.
- 3. The quantity and quality of open space, sport and recreation facilities throughout the Borough will be protected and enhanced. Guidance on standards will be set out as part of the Open Space, Recreation and Landscaping Supplementary Planning Document.
- 5. Existing facilities will be enhanced, and multi-purpose use encouraged to provide a range of services and facilities to the community at one accessible location, through initiatives such as the Extended Schools Programme.

<u>Core Strategy Policy 10 (CS10) – Environmental Protection and</u> Enhancement

- 1. In taking forward development in the plan area, particularly along the river corridor, in the North Tees Pools and Seal Sands areas, proposals will need to demonstrate that there will be no adverse impact on the integrity of the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA and Ramsar site, or other European sites, either alone or in combination with other plans, programmes and projects. Any proposed mitigation measures must meet the requirements of the Habitats Regulations.
- 2. Development throughout the Borough and particularly in the Billingham, Saltholme and Seal Sands area, will be integrated with the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, geodiversity and landscape.
- 3. The separation between settlements, together with the quality of the urban environment, will be maintained through the protection and enhancement of the openness and amenity value of:
- i) Strategic gaps between the conurbation and the surrounding towns and villages, and between Eaglescliffe and Middleton St George.
- ii) Green wedges within the conurbation, including:
- River Tees Valley from Surtees Bridge, Stockton to Yarm;
- Leven Valley between Yarm and Ingleby Barwick;
- Bassleton Beck Valley between Ingleby Barwick and Thornaby;
- Stainsby Beck Valley, Thornaby;
- Billingham Beck Valley;
- Between North Billingham and Cowpen Lane Industrial Estate. iii)Urban open space and play space.
- 4. The integrity of designated sites will be protected and enhanced, and the biodiversity and geodiversity of sites of local interest improved in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation, ODPM Circular 06/2005 (also known as DEFRA Circular 01/2005) and the Habitats Regulations.
- 5. Habitats will be created and managed in line with objectives of the Tees Valley Biodiversity Action Plan as part of development, and linked to existing wildlife corridors wherever possible.
- 6. Joint working with partners and developers will ensure the successful creation of an integrated network of green infrastructure.
- 7. Initiatives to improve the quality of the environment in key areas where this may contribute towards strengthening habitat networks, the robustness of designated wildlife sites, the tourism offer and biodiversity will be supported, including:
- i) Haverton Hill and Seal Sands corridor, as an important gateway to the Teesmouth National Nature Reserve and Saltholme RSPB Nature Reserve;
- ii) Tees Heritage Park.
- 8. The enhancement of forestry and increase of tree cover will be supported where appropriate in line with the Tees Valley Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP).
- 9. New development will be directed towards areas of low flood risk, that is Flood Zone 1, as identified by the Borough's Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). In considering sites elsewhere, the sequential and exceptions tests will be applied, as set out in Planning Policy Statement 25: Development and Flood Risk, and applicants will be expected to carry out a flood risk assessment.
- 10. When redevelopment of previously developed land is proposed, assessments will be required to establish:
- the risks associated with previous contaminative uses;
- the biodiversity and geological conservation value; and
- the advantages of bringing land back into more beneficial use.

#### Core Strategy Policy 11 (CS11) – Planning Obligations

1. All new development will be required to contribute towards the cost of providing

additional infrastructure and meeting social and environmental requirements.

- 2. When seeking contributions, the priorities for the Borough are the provision of:
- highways and transport infrastructure;
- affordable housing;
- open space, sport and recreation facilities, with particular emphasis on the needs of young people

## Saved Policy EN7 of the adopted Stockton on Tees Local Plan

Development which harms the landscape value of the following special landscape area will not be permitted.

- a)Leven Valley
- b) Tees Valley
- c) Wynyard Park

# Saved Policy EN9 of the adopted Stockton on Tees Local Plan

Development which is likely to be detrimental to the special historic interest of Wynyard Park will not be permitted

## Saved Policy EN13 of the adopted Stockton on Tees Local Plan

Development outside the limits to development may be permitted where:

- (i) It is necessary for a farming or forestry operation; or
- (ii) It falls within policies EN20 (reuse of buildings) or Tour 4 (Hotel conversions); or

In all the remaining cases and provided that it does not harm the character or appearance of the countryside; where:

- (iii) It contributes to the diversification of the rural economy; or
- (iv) It is for sport or recreation; or
- (v) It is a small scale facility for tourism.

#### Saved Policy EN20 of the adopted Stockton on Tees Local Plan

The conversion, adaptation and re-use of rural buildings for commercial, industrial, tourism, sport and recreational uses will be permitted providing that:

- (i) The proposed use can largely be accommodated within the existing building, without significant demolition and rebuilding; and
- (ii) Any alterations or extensions are limited in scale, and do not adversely affect the form and character of the existing building, and
- (iii) There is no adverse effect on the character of the area; and
- (iv) Where the building has been constructed under permitted development rights, it has been legitimately used for agricultural purposes; and
- (v) Access, manoeuvring space and parking provision for the new use can be accommodated without being intrusive; and
- (vi) There is no adverse effect on any safe refuge of protected species such as bats or barn owls.

# Saved Policy EN26 of the adopted Stockton on Tees Local Plan

Alterations, extensions and changes of use to listed buildings will be permitted where the proposals are in keeping with the character and appearance of the original building, and its architectural or historic interest is not adversely affected.

# Saved Policy EN28 of the adopted Stockton on Tees Local Plan

Development which if likely to detract from the setting of a listed building will not be permitted.

# Saved Policy EN30 of the adopted Stockton on Tees Local Plan

Development, which affects sites of archaeological interest, will not be permitted unless:

- (i) An investigation of the site has been undertaken; and
- (ii) An assessment has been made of the impact of the development upon the remains; and where appropriate;
- (iii) Provision has been made for preservation 'in site'.

Where preservation is not appropriate, the Local Planning Authority will require the applicant to make proper provision for the investigation and recording of the site before and during development.

### Regeneration DPD

The Regeneration & Environment LDD is currently at Preferred Options stage and although it does not form part of the development plan until adopted the relevant polices can be considered material considerations in the determination of the planning & listed building application. The following policies are of relevance:

Policy SP1 – Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development;

Policy HE1 – Historic Landscape;

Policy H1I – Wynyard Village Extension;

Policy SL1 – Development and Amenity; and

Policy TC9 – Small-scale Retail and Ancillary Uses.

# **MATERIAL PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS**

11. The main considerations of the application are whether it satisfies the requirements of National and Local Plan policies, the impact on the locality in terms of residential amenity, vehicular access and traffic impact and highway safety, impact on nature conservation, archaeology, impact on ecology, impact on the registered historic parkland of Wynyard Estate and the grade II \* listed building Wynyard hall.

#### Development Plan

- 12. The site lies outside of the defined limit to development, as set out in saved Local Plan policy EN13 and the emerging limits of development set out in the Regeneration and Environment LDD. This policy aims to provide a clear break between the urban and rural landscapes to prevent uncontrolled expansion of the urban area. It is consistent with the NPPF in particular the Core Planning Principle of recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside.
- 13. Policy EN13 sets out the types of development that may be appropriate outside of the development limit this includes small scale facilities for tourism.

- 14. Paragraph 111 of the NPPF confirms that decisions should encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed (brownfield land).
- 15. The development proposals will result in the effective re-use of a number of vacant buildings including the Squash Court building, Zebra House and an underused heritage asset in terms of the Walled Garden itself.
- 16. The visitors centre will include a café (200 sq.m.) and a retail area (130sq.m.). This element of the proposal is a reduction from the original application which sought a total floorspace of about 600sq.m. In addition to the retail and café use, the building will be used to control access in and out of the rose garden.
- 17. The applicant states that the Visitor Centre will provide the principal entry point to the walled garden and will provide a gateway for the enjoyment of the historic parkland in and around the walled garden. It is considered that the Visitors Centre will function as ancillary to the existing facilities at Wynyard Hall and the village to provide visitors and residents of Wynyard itself with additional amenities when visiting the Historic Estate.
- 18. Saved Local Plan Alteration Number One policy S15 is of relevance to this element of the proposal. This policy provides the context for small scale shopping outside retail centres setting out a number of criteria which must be met for a small-scale proposal to be allowed. This policy is consistent with the NPPFs town centre first policy approach for retail development.
- 19. To be acceptable under policy S15 the proposal should be located within defined settlement limits. However, as discussed above, the Rose Garden will bring a disused structure back in to use, creating an attraction which will require ancillary niche facilities for visitors. In the interests of creating a sustainable development, this consideration is considered to outweigh the policy consideration of directing small scale retail to the urban area.

Therefore the key issues, from a planning policy perspective, are whether:

- a. The facility is intended to meet 'local needs', which in this case can be interpreted as the needs of visitors to the Rose Garden:
- b. The proposal would not adversely undermine the vitality and viability of any village shop (the Stables) or defined retail centre, the nearest being in Wolviston Village.
- 20. The location and scale of the proposal are the crucial factors in determining these considerations. The Spatial Planning Team previously raised concerns regarding the scale of the proposed facility. However, this reduced proposal is likely to be ancillary to the main use. Furthermore, given this relationship, the limited scale of the premises and the remote location of the unit it is expected that the proposal will not undermine any other centres. In principle the visitor centre is appropriate providing it is suitably located and sympathetically designed.
- 21. It is therefore considered that subject to all other material considerations the visitor centre is in principle acceptable.
- 22. Conditions will be placed to limit the floor space use of the café and retail sales areas to ensure that the visitor facilities remain at an appropriate scale to serve the visitors function.

## <u>Marquee</u>

- 23. The siting of the temporary Marquee has been carefully selected to minimise its impact, in particular, the impact of support facilities which can be provided by the refurbished old Squash Buildings as this is already provided with water, electricity and drainage, therefore minimising impact upon the historic parkland. The marquee will be located on the Italian Terrace towards the hall. The marquee is of a significant scale approximately 2000sqm and has a capacity for 400 people. The spatial planning manager comments that this structure cannot be considered as a small scale facility for tourism and recreation. It is recognised however that the marquee is not intended to increase the scale and operation of the hotel but to enhance the current visitor offer and provide an additional location for events that already take place within the Hall. The Hall has a marquee that is brought in for special events on a temporary basis which does not require planning permission. This is not practical and cost effective and the Hall is looking for alternative options.
- 24. The marquee is intended to provide added space for events and functions. English Heritage have produced guidance on Temporary Structures in Historic Places (2010)
- 25. The marquee is related to an existing tourism facility and hotel that the use of the marquee would allow growth of the business. It is not a standalone facility and could not be directed to a town centre location as it relates to the existing hotel use. It is therefore considered reasonable to allow testing of the use of such a structure which in the long-term is not considered suitable within the landscape of the historic park. A temporary permission is therefore considered appropriate.
- 26. The changes to the squash building to create the management suite are considered to be acceptable. The building has limited aesthetic and no historic merit and the changes proposed will improve its appearance in the landscape and create service facilities for the marquee. The reference from the spatial planning manager is noted about intended use should the marquee use cease however this is an existing building which does not add to the aesthetics of the historic parkland. The works proposed would create a physical improvement and the use of the building could be considered at that time. Its use as ancillary to the hall will however be conditioned to ensure it cannot operate as a standalone facility.
- 27. Wynyard Hall itself although a large building has limited accommodation within the building in comparison to its overall size.

# Impact on Neighbouring properties

- 28. The application is accompanied by a statement of community involvement which states that the applicant consulted with the immediate residents in the vicinity of the proposals (8 properties).
- 29. The closest neighbours to the site are those situated on the Avenue, Dairy Cottage, Garden House, Brierly Cottages and the Paddocks.
- 30. Neighbour objections have been received from those closest to the site and other properties on the Wynyard Estate primarily relating to the impact of increase traffic and noise disturbance resulting from the proposed facilities.
- 31. It is recognised that the Avenue properties are in relatively close proximity to the site. Dairy cottage being approximately 240m from the proposed visitor centre and 160m from the marquee.
- 32. The marquee is a substantial structure with solid panel walls and it is considered that the opportunities for noise transmission will be mitigated through the marquee design.

- 33. Environmental Health has considered the proposals and comment that the hotel already has a licence to use the grounds for hotel use. They recommend conditions to control the use of the marquee in particular to prevent any nuisance issues to neighbours. They state that The Live Music Act 2012 ("the 2012 Act) came into force on the 1st of October and removed the licensing requirements for amplified live music between 8am- 11pm before audiences of no more 200 people on premises authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises. This would also apply to the new Marquee in this application. The current licensing condition relating to noise from amplified music at this site reads:
- 34. All live music played externally shall finish at 23.30 and any music played after such time shall only be played at background level only with all music finishing at 00.30 and not starting again until after 09.00. They consider it reasonable to apply this condition to the current proposal and will if necessary investigate any noise complaints under statutory nuisance legislation that may arise.
- 35. The grounds of the hotel can currently be used for associated hotel use without the need for planning permission and noise and nuisance issues arising from the hotel use will be dealt with through the appropriate Environmental Health legislation.
- 36. Although it is recognised that there will be an impact on these neighbours from increased use of what is currently an underused element of the historic estate, the use of the gardens and surrounding areas can take place currently for hotel use without the need for planning permission. It is considered that although in relative close proximity to the visitor centre and marquee that on balance the need of the Wynyard Estate to have an economically viable future and the benefits to the restoration of the wall garden, it is not considered that the marquee and visitors centre will create a substantial adverse on these neighbours that would warrant planning refusal of the proposal. Issues of any noise or nuisance that may arise can be considered by Environmental Health through the appropriate legislation.

#### Highway, Parking and Traffic Issues

- 37. The proposals are also supported by a Transport Statement and Traffic Management Plan which will be implemented by Cameron Hall Developments and outlines the access arrangements, signing and the procedures for the management of on-site traffic for special events held at the proposed marquee.
- 38. 129 Parking spaces in small groupings are proposed to service the development with associated disabled parking (9 spaces) and cycle stands. The former tennis court is to be used as a small car park with the remainder of the car parking spaces have been spread around the development site in small parking groups to minimise the visual impact of parkin and the applicant has confirmed that all car parking spaces would be 2.4m x 4.8m with adequate space to manoeuvre.
- 39. The applicant proposes a one-way system localised within the estate to manage traffic around the roads adjacent to the Lion Bridge and both external access junctions would continue to offer two way access to the facilities.
- 40. Neighbours are specifically concerned about traffic impact and the use of the Avenue when events take place and the applicant has confirmed that events would be supervised by a management team to suit the size of the event and control traffic movement.
- 41. Visibility splays have been illustrated on the revised site plan to confirm that the trees do not obstruct visibility on exiting the car park

- 42. The south-east gate to the walled garden is proposed as the taxi drop-off area with visitor's exiting via the Bell Tower in the northern wall.
- 43. The Golden Gates access requires improvements to facilitate access and egress from the site in the interests of highway safety. These improvements would improve the operation and safety of the junction. Given the intensification of the use of this junction, particularly during the evening, the applicant would be asked to enter into a Section 278 Agreement for improvement works at this junction onto the adopted highway and the estimated cost of this work is £15,000. This infrastructure should form a Grampian planning condition should the development be approved and would be subject to a Section 278 agreement with the Highway Authority. The development would not be acceptable without an agreed mitigation scheme at this junction. These works should be agreed and implemented by SBC prior to the development becoming operational.
- 44. The Head of Technical Services has assessed the proposals and concludes that there is no objection to the development, subject to the implementation of mitigation measures as outlined in their comments, controlling conditions and the applicant entering into a section 278 Agreement for offsite highway works.

In light of the above it is not considered that the proposal will have an adverse impact on highway safety.

## Impact on heritage assets

- 45. The NPPF states that in determining planning applications, local planning authorities should take account of:
  - •the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
  - •the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and
  - •the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.
  - 46. 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. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting.
  - 47. 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 assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.
  - 48. The planning application is supported by a detailed Heritage Statement prepared by Simpson & Brown Architects that provides an assessment of the historical and physical context along with significance of the heritage assets. It concludes by providing detailed analysis of the impact of the development proposals on the heritage assets.
  - 49. The Conservation Plan for the wider estate ascribes moderate significance to the character area which contains the gardens. The walls and the site of the garden associated with them

- are significant locally rather than regionally. This is because so much of the structure and planting of the gardens has been altered or lost. The walls themselves have moderate significance since they are a good example of typical enclosing walls to an 18th or 19th century walled garden.
- 50. The walled garden helps to understand and reveal further the significance of Wynyard hall and the wider estate. The areas are currently underused and are considered to be a missed opportunity to better reveal the significance of the heritage assets.
- 51. The proposed visitor centre will be constructed against the eastern wall inside the walled garden with a terrace area to the front. The existing Zebra house will be re-used to create an entrance and toilet facilities and create a link though the garden wall to the new visitors centre which sits within the walled garden. The design of the visitor centre is in a contemporary manner single storey in height with an open plan interior to allow the building to function as a flexible internal space.
- 52. The visitor centre is designed to lead into the existing walled garden which will set in place the framework for a detailed landscape design within the walled garden. The principle space within the visitors centre is intended to be a destination providing elements of retail, food and beverage sales for visitors.
- 53. The design uses a small range of design techniques and a limited palette of materials to provide a clear separation between the existing walled garden utilizing a glazed roof area a single storey timber farmed frontage with large areas of glazing overlooking the walled garden and a simple metal roofing system. Setting the building against the eastern wall allows the openness of the walled garden to be retained whilst maintaining the sense of boundary enclosure.
- 54. The visitor centre will be largely screened from within the parkland by existing mature tree planting and high boundary walls of the walled garden. The relocation of the visitors centre within the garden is considered to be an improvement from the previous submission which was externally sited and visually much more intrusive within the landscape. The principle of the creation of the visitor centre within the walled garden is considered to be acceptable in order to allow improved access and appreciation of the walled garden and historic landscape.
- 55. The design is contemporary but simple in detail utilizing timber and glass to contrast with the solidity of the brick garden walls. It is not considered that the visitor centre would adversely impact on the significance of the walled garden or the wider connection to Wynyard Hall.
- 56. The former zebra house is to be refurbished/reconstructed with similar timber facing materials and to replace the inappropriate roof. The zebra house has limited significance but is a historic structure associated with the estate and helps to understand the connection with the Londonderrys and the keeping of zebras historically on the estate. Its retention and re-use is welcomed.
- 57. The entrance will provide disabled toilets and level access entrance facilities.

  Contemporary glazing will be introduced to articulate the changes to reflect the new use of the building. The zebra house will be linked through to the visitor centre by a new opening and glazed link through the east wall of the walled garden. This enables the zebra house to be used as a doorway into the walled garden enabling the existing character of the walled garden from the exterior to be retained and minimises the impact of breaking through the walled garden.

- 58. This in turn helps to screen the visitor centre and there would be no adverse impact on the outside appearance of the walled garden from long views from Wynyard hall itself and there will be a small impact from medium range views within the parkland due to the single storey profile of the roof.
- 59. To support the visitor centre and marquee a new management centre will be provided within the existing old squash building which is a two storey modern building of poor visual quality and no historic interest. The impact of these works will be considered fully in the accompanying planning application (13/0438/REV).
- 60. The reuse and restoration of the walled garden and other ancillary developments have clear benefits in heritage terms and will ensure that these important assets are retained and their significance better revealed. The creation of the visitor centre will enable the walled garden to be enjoyed by the wider public for many years to come.
- 61. The associated application for listed building consent has been granted under delegated powers application number 13/0439/LBC and the proposals are therefore considered to accord with saved policies EN28 & CS3.

## <u>Archaeology</u>

62. Tees Archaeology support the application in principle as it seeks to restore the existing elements of the former gardens and gardener's house. There are however some parts of the proposal that will have a negative impact on archaeological remains associated with the gardens. They recommend that archaeological monitoring takes places during those parts of the development where ground disturbance is necessary and that any features of archaeological interest are properly investigated and recorded.

Subject to a controlling condition the proposal is therefore considered to accord with saved policy EN30.

#### Ecology & Wildlife

63. Natural England have been consulted on the proposals and comment that the proposals do not impact on any protected species. Following their standing advice they recommended additional information be submitted. This information was submitted and considered by Tees Valley Wildlife who state that in the light of the response provided by the applicant and the Natural England Standing Advice the flow charts now indicate that Permission could be granted.

It is therefore considered that the proposal would not have any adverse impact on protected species or wider ecology issues.

#### Flooding/Drainage

- 64. The Head of Technical Services comments that they have no record of flooding to the site. The applicant proposes to use sustainable drainage within the site to be maintained by the management company. The maximum allowable discharge rate into the ordinary watercourse is 3.5l/s/ha.
- 65. The development must not increase the risk of surface water run off from the site or cause any increased flood risk to neighbouring sites. Any run off must not exceed predevelopment rates. Any increase in surface water generated by the development or existing surface water / ground water issues on the site must be alleviated by the installation of a suitable drainage system within the development site.

66. There is a current outstanding objection from the Environment Agency relating to a lack of drainage information provided by the applicant. The applicant has provided additional information in order to address the concerns of the Environment Agency and their formal response is awaited.

## Contaminated Land

67. A Phase I Contamination Study has been prepared by Delta Simons which confirms that from a review of available information, significant potential sources of contamination have not been identified on the site and Environmental Health have raised no concerns.

The application is therefore considered to raise no issues of land contamination.

## CONCLUSION

- 68. The impacts of the proposal have been considered against national and local planning policy. The development as proposed is considered to be in line with general planning policies set out in the development plan, is acceptable in highway safety, does not adversely impact on the neighbouring properties, the registered historic park and garden of Wynyard, heritage assets, ecological habitat or flooding.
- 69. It is recommended that the application be Approved with Conditions subject to no outstanding objection from the Environment Agency for the reasons specified above.

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### WARD AND WARD COUNCILLORS

Ward Northern Parishes
Ward Councillor Councillor J Gardiner

#### <u>IMPLICATIONS</u>

Financial Implications: As report

Environmental Implications: As report

# **Human Rights Implications:**

The provisions of the European Convention of Human Rights 1950 have been taken into account in the preparation of this report

# **Community Safety Implications:**

The provisions of Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 have been taken into account in the preparation of this report.

# **Background Papers:**

National Planning Policy Framework 2012 Stockton on Tees Local 1997 Core Strategy Development Plan Document (March 2010) Regeneration DPD Temporary Structures in Historic Places- English Heritage (September 2010)