

15/1466/OUT – Cayton Drive, Thornaby

APPENDIX 1 – Open Space, Recreation and Landscaping (provision / contribution)

Adopted Core Strategy Policy CS11 'Planning Obligations' requires all new development to provide contributions towards the cost of providing additional infrastructure and meeting social environmental requirements, highlighting priorities for Highways and transport, Affordable Housing and Open space, recreation and landscaping, with particular emphasis on the needs of young people.

The Councils adopted Open Space, Recreation and Landscaping Supplementary Planning Document advises that some sites may not be large enough to make reasonable on-site provision and off site provision can be made in lieu for both open space, recreation and landscaping and built facilities.

Policy CS11 advises of the need to have regard to the provisions of;

- Circular 05/2005 'Planning Obligations', (Superseded)
- SPD 2 'Open Space, Recreation and Landscaping' and
- SPD 6 'Planning Obligations'.

It is also necessary to have regard to the tests laid down in the CIL Regulations, these being that any obligation must be;

a) necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms

b) directly related to the development; and

c) fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development

Contributions relating to Open Space, Recreation and Landscaping

The standards contained in Stockton Borough Councils Supplementary Planning Guidance no. 2 '*Open Space, Recreation and Landscaping*' were locally derived using the PPG 17 companion guide assessment and contain standards for the quantity, quality and proximity of open space and built sports and recreation provision for residents of the Borough and which allows for an assessment of such being provided from new residential development within the Borough. These have been updated by the 2014 '*PPG17 Assessment-appendix 6 to the Open Space, Recreation and Landscaping SPD*'.

Guidance within SPD 2 is aimed at achieving;

- improvement in the quality and quantity of the open space provided within or associated with new developments,
- improve the quality of existing spaces and built sports facilities to better cope with the demand caused by new developments and existing users;
- to ensure that new open space and facilities are located within sensible distances of the population they serve; and
- to enable developers to present high quality landscape schemes, which enhance the local environment and landscape and help to make sure that all matters relating to landscaping are included within the planning and design process.

Para. 6.2 of SPD 2 advises that contributions should only be used for a type of space that is likely to be used by the resident / person to whom it relates. Contribution charges are based on the additional

number of residents as a result of the scheme and can be calculated using the ratios detailed in para. 2.2 of the SPD.

Although the Open Space, Recreation and Landscaping SPD (para. 4.10) advises that development of any scale (a plus one approach) needs to contribute to provision, taking into account recent appeal decisions, it has been accepted that the requirement for contributions shall only be applied to major schemes which relates to 10 or more houses. It has also been accepted that contributions should not be used to contribute to;

- privately operated provisions where public access would not be easily or readily available;
- open space within an area where there is either an existing adequacy or no viable unfunded scheme which can be provided,
- where an identified scheme does not meet the appropriate proximity standard and which is not reasonably related. (para. 4.5 and 5.4 of the SPD advise of the proximity standards)

The SPD advises that where the quantity standard is not met and cannot be improved by the contribution then it should be used to improve the quality of existing provision. Residential development can require the full charge of both the open space and built facilities costs being applied as detailed within the SPD.

This proposal relates to residential development which is detailed within SPD2 as being a form of development which requires a contribution to be made towards open space, recreation and landscaping.

For open space, the following is relevant;

The site is located within Thornaby and the table in the executive summary of the 2014 update to the SPD advises that the following areas of provision do not meet the quantity standard within this area.

- Outdoor Sports Facilities,
- Amenity Greenspace
- Allotments

SPD 2 recognises that built facilities are a more strategic provision with fewer instances. This means that single developments are unlikely to be able to wholly provide such facilities and off site contributions are necessary for provision of new or enhancement of existing facilities elsewhere.

In view of the nature of the proposed development being the provision of up to 45 family homes, it is considered that this will place some demand on the local area in relation to sports provisions for both children and adults and it is considered that some provision needs to be made where opportunity exists within reasonable proximity and where this can meet the requirements of Core Strategy Policy CS11 and SPD 2 as well as meeting the CIL tests. The contributions calculator is based on bed spaces and in view of this application being outline, contributions will need to be sought on a pro rata basis. Contributions are likely to be in the range of £40k towards built facilities and £45k towards other forms of open space and recreation.

The Councils Countryside and Green space Team and Sports Development Manager have been consulted on the application and have responded to advise of appropriate schemes within the local area where there is a defined shortfall in provision. Planned but unfunded schemes have been highlighted as follows;

- Extension / works to Thornaby Allotments
- MUGA at the Harold Wilson site and an extension to the play area.
- Extension of the changing facilities at Harold Wilson Playing Fields (from 4-6 changing rooms) to increase capacity.

The costs of these works exceed the likely contribution amounts and these sites are within reasonable proximity to the site to serve its future residents. As potential schemes can be affected by many factors it is considered appropriate to retain flexibility of where the monies would be spent, subject to them still providing the same type of open space and recreation and being within the appropriate proximity of the application site.

Contributions as highlighted are considered to accord with policy and pass relevant CIL tests for such and it has been confirmed that no other funding currently exists for the highlighted schemes. These have therefore been detailed within the Heads of Terms. Consideration has been given to appropriate trigger points for these contributions with the intention of providing the provision at the appropriate time whilst not unduly hampering the development from commencing. The following triggers are considered to be appropriate;

Provision of the payment in full (calculated on a pro rata basis of £841.59 per bedroom and to include inflation, within the development following completion of the 25th dwelling or at an earlier agreed time should the reserved matters application detail less than 30 dwellings.

References:

Core Strategy Development Plan Policy CS6 – Community Facilities (criteria 3). Adopted March 2010.

Core Strategy Development Plan Policy CS11 – Planning Obligations. Adopted March 2010.

CS6 requires the quantity and quality of open space, sport and recreation facilities throughout the Borough to be protected and enhanced indicating guidance standards being set out in the Open Space, Recreation and Landscaping SPD.

CS11 requires all new development to provide contributions towards the cost of providing additional infrastructure and meeting social environmental requirements, highlighting priorities for Highways and transport, Affordable Housing and Open space, recreation and landscaping, with particular emphasis on the needs of young people.

Stockton on Tees LDF Supplementary Planning Document 2 – Open Space, Recreation and Landscaping.

Stockton on Tees LDF Supplementary Planning Document 6 – Planning Obligations. Adopted May 2008 and 2014 update.

15/1466/OUT - Appendices

Appendix 2: Site Location Plan

