Agenda Item 17

PLANNING APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE 7 November 2013

Item No:

<u>UPRN</u> <u>APPLICATION NO.</u> <u>DATE VALID</u>

13/P0543

Address/Site 14 Marryat Road, Wimbledon SW19 5BD

(Ward) Village

Proposal: Erection of swimming pool pavilion building with basement,

construction of underground link between swimming pool pavilion and existing house beneath garden and pathway

connecting with part basement under existing house and garden

and installation of condensers for ventilation system.

Drawing Nos P010, P106, W135, W136, P133, TMC-11028-L C, W350 and

Design and Access Statement

Contact Officer: Richard Allen (8545 3621)

RECOMMENDATION

GRANT Planning Permission subject to conditions

CHECKLIST INFORMATION

- Heads of agreement: No
- Is a screening opinion required: No
- Is an Environmental impact statement required: No
- Has an Environmental Impact Assessment been submitted: No
- Press notice-Yes
- Site notice-Yes
- Design Review Panel consulted-No
- Number neighbours consulted -11
- External consultants: None
- Density: n/a
- Number of jobs created: n/a
- Archaeology Priority Zone:

1. **INTRODUCTION**

1.1 This application has been brought to the Planning Applications Committee due to the number of objections received.

2. **SITE AND SURROUNDINGS**

2.1 The application site comprises a large detached house situated on the southeast side of Marryat Road. The application property is a locally listed building. To the rear of the site is the rear elevation and garden of 5 Rushmere Place that is at a higher ground level than the application site. The application site is within the Merton (Wimbledon North) Conservation Area.

3. **CURRENT PROPOSAL**

- 3.1 Planning permission was granted in February 2012 (LBM Ref.12/P0066) for the erection of a swimming pool pavilion building within the rear garden of 14 Marryat Road. The current application seeks revisions to the previous approval involving the construction of underground link between a swimming pool pavilion building and existing house, the construction of a part basement beneath existing house and construction of a terrace and basement beneath existing house and construction of a basement beneath garden and pathway and installation of condenser ventilation system.
- 3.2 The underground link between the existing house and the pool pavilion would be 27 metres in length and 3.5 metres in width. The underground link would have an internal height of 2.6 metres. A pathway from the house to the pool pavilion would be constructed above the underground link and grass reinstated above.
- 3.3 The pool pavilion building would be 17.5 metres in width and 5.8 metres in length. The pool building would have a curved roof with an eaves height of 2.4 metres and an overall height of 3.5 metres. The pool house would have a contemporary design with a glazed front elevation and brick side and rear elevations.

4. **PLANNING HISTORY**

- 4.1 In May 1996 Planning Permission and Conservation Area Consent was granted for demolition of front boundary wall, entrance porch and chimney stack and erection of single storey rear extension, replacement portico, new windows and formation of in/out driveway (LBM Refs.96/P0282 and 96/P0283).
- 4.2 In February 2011 planning permission was refused for the erection of a swimming pool pavilion in rear garden, increasing the width of two dormer windows at the side and front of the house, increasing height of front boundary wall, installation of glazed enclosure to front entrance, installation of

metal gates, replacement of existing UPVC windows with timber windows and replacement of existing rear window with timber doors (LBM Ref.10/P3139). Planning permission was refused on the ground that the enclosure of the porch and height of the wall would be detrimental to the character and appearance of the locally listed building and that the pool building was of excessive height.

- 4.3 In July 2011 planning permission was granted under delegated powers for the erection of a swimming pool pavilion in the rear garden, widening of two existing dormer windows at the side and front of the house, increase in height of the front boundary wall, glazed enclosure of existing portico, installation of metal car gates and entrance gate, replacement of existing UPVC windows at the side and rear with timber windows and replacement of existing window at the rear with new timber doors (LBM Ref.11/P2822).
- 4.4 In October 2011 conditions 7 and 8 of LBM planning permission 11/P1530 was discharged (LBM Ref.11/P2822).
- 4.5 In November 2011 an application for a non-material amendment to LBM planning permission Ref.11/P1530 was granted in respect of revisions to windows (LBM Ref.11/P2821).
- 4.6 In February 2012 planning permission was granted for the construction of a swimming pool pavilion in the rear garden (LBM Ref.12/P0066).
- 4.7 In August 2012 an application for a non-material amendment was granted in respect of LBM planning permission 11/P1530 in respect of revisions to design and size of dormer windows (LBM Ref.12/P1515).

5. **CONSULTATION**

5.1 The application has been advertised by site notice procedure and letters of notification to occupiers of neighbouring properties. In response 11 letters of objection have been received. The grounds of objection are set out below:-

Noise

- Plans show ventilation system fresh air intakes and condensers at regular intervals alongside boundary wall between 14 and 16 – likely to cause noise and amenity disruption to rear garden of 16 and other rear gardens, will be extremely intrusive, permission should be based on no noise impact from any aspect of the basement within neighbouring gardens, noise report is focussed on noise at adjoining properties, appears to take into account ambient traffic noise when there generally is none

Size/ Impact of Construction on Stability and Hydrology

- -The proposal is excessive in the context of the plot, basement should be restricted to a size more in keeping with the existing house.
- -Given the scale of the project and volume of excavation, the failure to provide a basement impact assessment, site specific ground investigation report and construction method statement is unacceptable

- -water table is well above level of basement, may impact on stability of no.16 -The owners of 12 and 16 Marryat Road do not object to the pool pavilion building, but do object to the underground link between the house and the pool pavilion, the basement beneath the garden and the size of the basement underneath the existing house.
- should be demonstrated that there is no impact on adjoining properties -basement excavations are more tightly monitored in other boroughs

Trees

- lack of impact on mature boundary trees within neighbouring gardens as well as the application site should be clearly demonstrated, underground link will affect them, not all neighbouring trees are shown
- 5.2 The Wimbledon Society state that the proposed development is to build a huge basement under the existing property and more or less the whole site including the rear garden, construction management plan and hydrology report required, shouldn't allow extensive basements under locally listed buildings if it entails extensive demolition, they should not be allowed within a conservation area if it would damage or destroy any trees. It is therefore essential that tree protection conditions be imposed on any grant of planning permission especially at the back. Not acceptable in current format -applicants should be encouraged to re-consider and submit revised plans
- 5.3 The Parkside Residents Association state that the proposal is of disproportionate scale, especially in the context of the plot which is bordered on three sides by residential properties and that a substantial proportion of the garden is being excavated. A key element of the proposal is the underground link between basement areas beneath the house and the pool pavilion. It will serve not just as a passageway but as utility and storage areas and would be sited close to the boundary with 16 Marryat Road with ventilation equipment installed on that boundary. The equipment should be located elsewhere on the plot. The glass flooring to the link will also cause an unnecessary intrusion at night. Evidence should be provided to demonstrate that neighbour's trees are not affected and will be adequately protected. The application site and its neighbour is locally listed – impact on the structures. If the Council is minded to grant permission, should be a condition requiring a Construction Method Statement before work commenced and ideally a full ground conditions survey. Generally, the full impact of basement constructions should be fully examined at planning stage including – construction method/ soli conditions/hydrology, noise from air conditioning and ventilation equipment /impact on trees. Given the potential significance of amendments to the proposals, if permission is granted any amendment should require a fresh planning permission. Site working hours should be restricted to weekdays 8am-5pm and sat 8am-1pm

5.3 Tree Officer

The Council's tree officer states that the submitted arboricultural information provides a satisfactory level of information relating to the protection of trees within the site and there are no arboricultural objections to the proposed scheme, provided that the trees are protected in accordance with the

submitted arboricultural method statement and tree report. However, submitted drawing number W350 does not provide any information relating to the technical specification for the soil levels i.e. the lawn area above the basement.

6. **POLICY CONTEXT**

- 6.1 The relevant policies contained within the Adopted Merton Core Strategy (July 2011) are CS13 (Open Space, Nature Conservation, Leisure and Culture) and CS14 (Design).
- The retained policies contained within the Adopted UDP (October 2003) are NE.11 (Trees-Protections), BE.1 (Conservation Areas; New Development; Change of Use, Alterations and Extensions), BE.11 (Local List; Rehabilitation and Maintenance), BE.15 (New Buildings and Extensions, Daylight, Sunlight, Privacy, Visual Intrusion and Noise) and PE.2 (Pollution and Amenity).
- 6.2 <u>The London Plan (July 2011)</u> The relevant policy within the London Plan is 7.21 (Trees and Woodlands).

7. PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 It should be noted that planning permission has previously been approved for the construction of a swimming pool pavilion building at the rear of the garden under LBM planning permission ref.11/P2822 (dated 6 October 2011) and that this is an extant planning permission. Therefore the main planning considerations relate to the impact of further basement construction including the underground link between the house and the pool pavilion upon neighbour amenity, trees and the conservation area.

7.2 Neighbour Amenity

The concerns of the objectors are noted. However, the pool pavilion building has previously been approved by LBM planning permission Ref.12/P0066 (dated 16 February 2012) and there is therefore an extant planning permission for the pool pavilion. The main neighbour amenity issue would therefore concern potential noise and nuisance during construction of the basement beneath the house and garden and potential noise from plant and equipment associated with the swimming pool. However, planning conditions can be imposed to restrict hours of construction and to limit the background noise level of any plant or equipment. The proposal would therefore be acceptable in terms of retained UDP policies BE.15 and PE.2

7.3 Trees

The Council's tree officer has confirmed that the proposal is acceptable subject to tree protection and landscaping conditions being imposed on any grant of planning permission. The proposal is therefore acceptable in terms of retained UDP policy HE.11.

7.4 Conservation Area Issues

Although the construction of a large basement can some times cause inconvenience to neighbours during the construction phase, once constructed none of the development would be visible from the public realm and the pool pavilion building would only be visible from the immediate neighbouring properties. The proposals would not therefore have any impact upon the character and appearance of the Merton (Wimbledon North) Conservation Area. The proposal is therefore considered to be acceptable in terms of retained UDP policy BE.1.

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

9.1 The proposal does not constitute Schedule 1 or Schedule 2 development. Accordingly there is no requirement for an EIA submission.

10. **CONCLUSION**

10.1 The proposed pool pavilion and associated basement link and provision of a basement beneath the existing house is considered to be acceptable in design terms and the proposal would preserve the character and appearance of the Merton (Wimbledon North) Conservation Area. Neighbour amenity concerns can also be addressed by appropriate planning conditions. Accordingly, it is recommended that planning permission be granted.

RECOMMENDATION

GRANT PLANNING PERMISSION

Subject to the following conditions:-

- 1. A.1 <u>Commencement of Development</u>
- 2. B.1 External Materials to be Approved
- 3. C.2 No Additional or Enlarged Window or Door Openings
- 4. C.8 No Use of Flat Roof
- 5. D.10 External Lighting
- 6. D.11 Hours of Construction
- 7. The tree protection measures set out in the submitted Arbourticultural Report and Method statement shall be installed prior to commencement of the development hereby permitted and shall be maintained for the duration of the construction works.

Reason for condition: To protect and safeguard the existing retained trees in accordance with retained policy NE.11 of the Merton UDP (October 2003).

8. The height of the flat roof section of the pool building hereby approved shall be constructed 1.1 metres below the height of the retained boundary wall between the application site and 5 Rushmere Place.

Reason for condition: To protect the amenities of the conservation area and to comply with retained Merton UDP policies BE.1 and BE.15.

9. Informative

Any development involving the provision of a swimming pool with a volume exceeding 10 cubic metres of water will need metering. The applicant should contact Thames Water on 0845 9200 800.

















