Planning Committee - 17 April 2018

Report Item 4

Application No: 18/00149/FULL Full Application

Site: NFDC Car Park, High Street, Lyndhurst, SO43 7NY

Proposal: Installation of wooden tree charter pole and associated works

Applicant: Mr S Phillips

Case Officer: Carly Cochrane

Parish: LYNDHURST

1. REASON FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

Contrary to Parish Council view

2. DEVELOPMENT PLAN DESIGNATION

Defined New Forest Village Conservation Area

3. PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

DP1 General Development Principles

4. SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE

Not applicable

5. NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

Sec 7 - Requiring good design

6. MEMBER COMMENTS

None received

7. PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS

Lyndhurst Parish Council: Recommend Refusal. The Committee considered that, although it welcomed the general idea, insufficient information had to be provided and the site was questioned.

8. CONSULTEES

No consultations required

9. REPRESENTATIONS

9.1 None received

10. RELEVANT HISTORY

10.1 None

11. ASSESSMENT

- The application site is located between the Visitors Centre and public WCs in Lyndhurst public car park, with the Defined Village boundary and the Lyndhurst Conservation Area. There is a range of street furniture between the buildings, including cycle stands, lamp post, bin and brick planters with vegetation.
- This application seeks planning permission for the installation of a 'Tree Charter Pole'; a wooden pole, measuring 5.5 metres in height, in place of an existing brick planter. The pole would be sunk into the ground to a depth of 1 metre, and there would be a stainless steel 'collar' at the point where the pole enters the ground, to divert rainwater. Text (approximately 30 words) and images would be carved into the pole representing the 'Nature' principle of the Charter. The National Park Authority, along with 26 other organisations, led on the collation of evidence and drafting of the Tree Charter articles which seek to guide policy and practice in the UK. The poles are intended to be the 'physical legacy' of the Charter, and there are to be 11 other poles across the country.
- 11.3 The main considerations relate to the siting of the proposed pole and whether it would have an adverse impact upon the character or appearance of the conservation area. The Parish Council have raised an objection on the basis of insufficient information and the siting of the pole. It is not considered that the proposal would result in any adverse impact upon the amenity of the occupiers of the nearest residential properties, which are located to the east.
- 11.4 The pole would be sited in the vicinity, and with a backdrop of, other street furniture of a similar scale, such as lamp posts, as well as trees within other existing planters. The site would be in place of an existing planter, within a pedestrian area between the Visitor Centre and the public WCs. As such, it would not result in any highway safety issue. Whilst the site is within a conservation area, by virtue of its setting and surroundings, it is not considered that the proposal would result in any adverse impact upon the character or appearance of the conservation area. The proposal would not involve any reflective or inappropriate materials which would be visually intrusive, and there is no means of lighting proposed.

Overall, it is considered that the proposed development would be in accordance with policy, and permission should be granted.

12. RECOMMENDATION

Grant Subject to Conditions

Condition(s)

The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2 Development shall only be carried out in accordance with

Drwgs: 1, 3.

No alterations to the approved development shall be made unless otherwise agreed in writing by the New Forest National Park Authority.

Reason: To ensure an acceptable appearance of the building in accordance with policies CP7, CP8, DP6 and DP1 of the New Forest National Park Core Strategy and Development Management Policies (DPD) December 2010.

Informative(s):

The Authority has considered the application in relation to its adopted Core Strategy, the National Planning Policy Framework and any other relevant material planning consideration and has confirmed to the applicant or their agent that the development is compliant and does not harm the character and appearance or amenities of the area.

