PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:P10/1582

Type of approval sought		Full Planning Permission	
Ward		SEDGLEY	
Applicant		Mr Neil Swann	
Location:	BROCKSWOOD ANIMAL SANCTUARY, CATHOLIC LANE, SEDGLEY, DUDLEY, DY3 3YE		
Proposal	CHANGE OF USE OF PART OF BUILDING FROM STORE TO TEACHING UNIT WITH ELEVATIONAL CHANGES TO INCLUDE NEW WINDOWS AND ENTRANCE DOOR WITH RAMP		
Recommendation Summary:	APPROVE SUBJECT TO A 106 AGREEMENT		

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

The application building is a traditional Gornal stone farm building which has been adapted and altered over the years and is now used for storage and housing small animals for the adjoining animal sanctuary.

PROPOSAL

- This application is to convert the existing store building into teaching accommodation in association with Dudley College. The accommodation includes a new classroom, and a preparation area.
- 3 External alterations involve replacing the existing sliding door with new timber windows and timber panelling below. Also formed within this opening would be a new door to the facility. Also proposed are three conservation roof lights to the other elevation.
- A ramp is also proposed to the teaching space to ensure the facility can be used by all.
- 5 The application is submitted with a design and access statement.

No.Erection Of Concrete Panel Fence And Boundary Wall ToGranted03/04/67DB/67/2009Use Of Land As Wild Life SanctuaryGranted03/04/67DB/68/3541Layout Of Land As Wildlife Sanctuary.Granted26/02/68CD/77/1083Provision Of Loose Boxes And Animal EnclosureGranted05/09/7782/52112Change Of Use From Stables To Working Craft Centre And Sales Outlet.Granted10/01/8383/52306Change Of Use To Sale & Display Of Birds Animals & Garden Furniture Conversion To Craft Centre & ErectionRefused26/01/8483/52398Construction Of Car Park.Granted20/02/8491/51819Erection Of Toilet For Disabled Persons - Application For Deemed Consent Under Regulation 4.Granted21/11/9190/52295Application For Deemed Consent Under Regulation 4 For Construction Of Additional Car Park ForGranted10/01/9195/50050Siting Of 1 Mobile With Log Effect Cladding For Catering Use.Granted23/02/9595/51709Change Of Use From Craft Units To Commercial Retail Outlets For Pet And Pet Food Sales And Souvenir Sales.Granted25/01/9699/50769Siting Of One Temporary MobileGranted28/06/99	APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	DECISION	DATE
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PUBLIC CONSULTATION

6 No representations received, following consultation via the posting of a site notice.

OTHER CONSULTATION

- Group Engineer (Development): Has no objection to this proposal given the large car park and that the teaching will not coincide with peak usage at weekends or school holidays.
- 8 Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards: No adverse comments

RELEVANT PLANNING POLICY

Unitary Development Plan

S1 Social Inclusion, Equal Opportunities and Social Wellbeing

S5 Local Distinctiveness

DD1 Urban Design

DD4 Development in Residential Areas

DD6 Access and Transport Infrastructure

DD7 Planning Obligations

DD10 Nature Conservation and Development

CS3 Community Facilities

LR1 Open Space

NC4 Local Nature Reserves and

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

NC5 Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

HE1 Local Character and Distinctiveness

HE2 Landscape Heritage Areas

HE5 Buildings of Local Historic Importance

SO1 Green Belt

Supplementary Planning Guidance/Documents

Nature Conservation Supplementary Planning Document

Historic Environment Supplementary Planning Document
Parking Standards and Travel Plans Supplementary Planning Document
Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document

- National Planning Guidance
- PPS1 Delivering Sustainable Development
- PPG2 Green Belt
- PPS5 Planning for the Historic Environment
- PPS7 Sustainable Development in Rural Areas
- PPS9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

ASSESSMENT

- 9 The main issues are
 - Principle
 - Design
 - Neighbour Amenity
 - Parking and Sustainability
 - Nature Conservation
 - Planning Obligations

Principle/Policy

- The application site is located within the Green Belt where there are restrictions on any development which would materially affect the openness of the green belt. In considering conversions PPS2 Green Belt, requires the following to be considered:
 - Development should have no greater impact than the present use in respect of openness
 - Strict control must be taken over any proposed extensions
 - Operations associated with the use should be carefully considered such as hard standing

- Buildings are capable of reuse and are of permanent and substantial construction and are capable of conversion without significant rebuilding
- The form, bulk and general design are in keeping, with regard given to local building styles and materials.
- The site is also located within a landscape heritage area. (Policy HE2). Within such designations development will be resisted which would be detrimental to the character, quality and historic integrity of the landscape. The policy also seeks to protect and enhance views into, from and within the designation.
- In addition consideration has to be given to all other planning policies and matters, including access and neighbour amenity.

Design

- The building to be converted is a traditional former farm building located within the Brockswood Animal Sanctuary complex. The building which is constructed of Gornal stone is presently used for storage and housing small animals and is in good repair.
- 14 Works to the building involve replacing an existing sliding door opening with new windows and doors. The lower half of the windows and doors would be filled in timber following general good practice on conversion of rural buildings. Also proposed are three roof lights. These would be of a conservation type, which again are suited to rural conversions, as they are generally smaller, and do not project above the roof plane to the same extent as a standard one.
- Therefore the proposed changes are considered to be acceptable from a design point of view.

Green Belt and Landscape Issues

- The proposed development complies with provisions of green belt policy, in that the alterations are appropriate to the building and no extensions are proposed other than a disabled access ramp which would not materially affect the openness of the green belt.
- 17 The building to be converted is of substantial and permanent construction and has been well maintained and as such is capable of reuse without the need for significant rebuilding.
- In addition no other ancillary works would be associated with the use in that the parking and other support facilities are already in place at the site.
- The proposed conversion is unlikely to have impact on the heritage landscape designation in that the conversion is sympathetically designed and is within a complex of other buildings.

Parking and Sustainability

- There is a large on site car park, together with a close by overflow car park which would provide sufficient parking for the proposed use. In addition the peak visitor time for the sanctuary (i.e. weekends, school holidays and bank holidays) is unlikely to clash with when the class room is in use (i.e. school/college term time).
- In addition it is highly likely due to the teaching nature of the use that the majority of visits to the facility would be by minibus or on foot.
- It is accepted that the site is distant from the nearest public transport facilities which is a concern. However, as the proposed classroom use relates to wildlife and conservation the use cannot be readily located on an urban site. Therefore no objection can be sustained.

Nature Conservation

As the building to be converted is presently occupied and used for storage and keeping of small animals, it is not reasonable to seek the submission of a bat survey. However, if permission is granted an informative will be added to the decision notice.

Neighbour Amenity

The nearest neighbours, other than the dwelling associated with the sanctuary are some 100m away which is considered to be more than acceptable.

Planning Obligations

The proposed development has a requirement to provide planning obligations to mitigate against the consequential planning loss to the existing community. Should permission be granted a S106 Agreement would be required in respect of the following contributions:

•	Total Monies		£734.62
•	Monitoring Charge	•	£250.00
•	Transport Improvements		£484.62

- The applicant has not agreed to the payment of these offsite planning obligations at the date of agenda preparation.
- 27 Contributions towards nature conservation are not required as the application is for a change of use.

CONCLUSION

The proposed development is acceptable in principle, causes no harm to the green belt or landscape heritage area designations. Moreover, no significant harm would be caused to neighbour amenity or highway safety. Consideration has been given

to policies S1 Social Inclusion, Equal Opportunities and Social Wellbeing S5 Local Distinctiveness DD1 Urban Design DD4 Development in Residential Areas DD6 Access and Transport Infrastructure DD7 Planning Obligations DD10 Nature Conservation and Development CS3 Community Facilities LR1 Open Space NC4 Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation NC5 Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation HE1 Local Character and Distinctiveness HE2 Landscape Heritage Areas and HE5 Buildings of Local Historic Importance SO1 Green Belt of the Dudley Unitary Development Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the application be approved subject to:

- a) The development shall not be commenced until a scheme for the submission and approval of a planning obligation to guarantee the provision of transport infrastructure and a management and monitoring fee totalling £734.62 has been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
- b) The Scheme shall include the method, timing and arrangements including a means to guarantee a financial payment, increased through index linking from the first April each subsequent year, in accordance with the Council's planning obligations policies.
- c) The following conditions, with delegated powers to the Director of the Urban Environment to make amendments to these as necessary

Reason for approval

The proposed development is acceptable in principle, causes no harm to the green belt or landscape heritage area designations. Moreover, no significant harm would be caused to neighbour amenity or highway safety. Consideration has been given to policies S1 Social Inclusion, Equal Opportunities and Social Wellbeing S5 Local Distinctiveness DD1 Urban Design DD4 Development in Residential Areas DD6 Access and Transport Infrastructure DD7 Planning Obligations DD10 Nature Conservation and Development CS3 Community Facilities LR1 Open Space NC4 Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Importance for Nature

Conservation NC5 Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation HE1 Local Character and Distinctiveness HE2 Landscape Heritage Areas and HE5 Buildings of Local Historic Importance SO1 Green Belt of the Dudley Unitary Development Plan.

The decision to grant planning permission has been taken with regard to the policies and proposals in the adopted Dudley UDP (2005) and to all other relevant material considerations.

The above is intended as a summary of the reasons for the grant of planning permission. For further detail on the decision please see the application report.

Conditions and/or reasons:

- 1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.
- 2. Development shall not commence until an arrangement for the provision of transport infrastructure improvements and a monitoring and management fee has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall include the method, timing and arrangements to comply with the Council's policies for the provision of the infrastructure required in connection with the proposed development.
- 3. The roof lights shall be of a conservation type.
- 4. All new external joinery shall be of timber.
- 5. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans: 217-02a received by email 9 December 2010.







