
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

Development Control Committee – Tuesday 26th February 2008

Report Of The Director Of The Urban Environment –

Proposed Addition of a Building to the Council's List of Buildings of Local Historic Importance.

Purpose of report

- 1 To recommend to Committee that they formally resolve to add the building known as "The Grove", 47, Wollescote Road, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY9 7JS to the Council's List of Buildings of Local Historic Importance.

Background

- 2 On 5th February 2008 the Director of the Urban Environment used his delegated powers to refuse an application for planning permission that involved the demolition of "The Grove" which is an outstanding Arts and Crafts detached residence constructed in the early 1900's by renowned regional architect W J H Weller. The proposal was for the erection of six new dwellings on the cleared site (Reference P07/2297).
- 3 Objections were received from the Council's Historic Environment Team, the Victorian Society and from many local residents concerned at the loss of the building. The Grove is a major architectural set piece in the Arts and Crafts style constructed with a combination of brick and timber framing with corner turrets a striking roofscape and a very high quality period interior. Several other of the architects buildings, principally in Wolverhampton, are either statutorily or Locally Listed. The Grove itself is currently being considered by English Heritage for "spot listing".
- 4 Notwithstanding that, the Grove clearly meets the published criteria used by the Council to determine whether a building should be added to the Local List in being a particularly fine example of architectural style and utilising very high quality materials. Addition to the Local List will confer a formal planning status upon the property and allow the future application of Policy HE5 of the Dudley Unitary Development Plan (Adopted October 2005). This (inter alia) sets out the Council's commitment to resisting future proposals for demolition or damaging alteration or proposals that could adversely affect the setting of a Locally Listed Building.

Finance

- 5 There are no direct financial consequences arising from this report.

Law

- 6 Dudley Council has compiled and maintains a Local List of buildings considered to be of historic or architectural significance, in line with National Planning Policy Guidance as expressed in Planning Policy Guidance Note 15, "Planning and the Historic Environment". The decision to formally adopt a Local List was taken by Development Control Committee on 12th December 1996 after Public Consultation.

Equality Impact

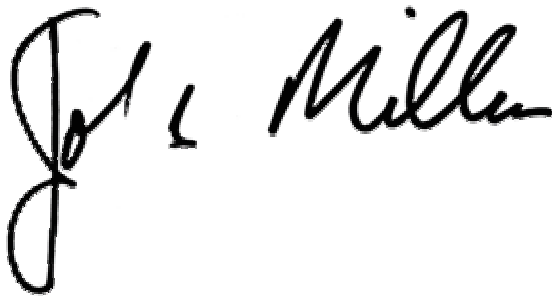
- 7 The proposals take into account the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy.

Recommendation

- 8 That the Committee resolve to add the building known as "The Grove", 47, Wollescote Road, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY9 7JS to the Council's List of Buildings of Local Historic Importance.

Background documents

- 9 Officers Report (Delegated) in relation to the refusal of Planning Application P07/2297 for the erection of six dwellings.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John B Millar'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

John B Millar
Director of the Urban Environment

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