

The Henley Society (Planning)
c/o 7 Vicarage Road
Henley-on-Thames, Oxon
RG9 1HF
26. 4. 2016

The Planning Manager (Southern Area) SODC
35 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park
Milton Ox 14 4SB

Dear Sir/Madam

The HENLEY SOCIETY made the following comments on planning applications:

P15/S3385/FUL – The Workshop, Newtown Rd. Please see our previous comments. We also remain concerned about the loss of B1 use on this non-residential site. The present proposed pressure on several sites for care home facilities in Henley would put unsustainable strain on local medical facilities, whilst doing nothing for the need to supply affordable housing for the working population of the town.

P16/S0077/O – Highlands Farm, Highlands Lane, Rotherfield Greys - Please, see our previous comments; the amendments have not addressed our concerns with regard to retention of the historic farmstead. Should SODC nevertheless be minded to allow its demolition we strongly recommend that the foundations of the farm house and barns are excavated professionally, as they have stood undisturbed on this site of great archaeological interest (both known to be Palaeolithic as well as Medieval – with the high possibility of evidence of occupation layers of the periods between these two, i. e. 3.000 BC and 400 AD, existing)

P16/S0970/O Thames Farm, Reading Road, Shiplake - Our comments remain the same as for previous applications. This green field site is not included in the Harpsden/Henley Neighbourhood Plan and the 95 dwellings would be in addition to the 500 homes Henley has to accommodate under the Plan.- The impact on traffic on the main south Henley access road, the increase in pollution in the town, the pressure on the infrastructure with regard to medical provisions, schools, parking will be immense. The proposals for building on this green field site are therefore not acceptable.

P16/S0995/LB 4 River Terrace - The careful re-instatement of the brick work where the modern door will have to be removed is essential and needs to be conditioned.

P16/S1011/HH Hill Crest Views, Harpsden Way - The building has been much extended in the past already. This proposal appears to include a two story flat roofed extension (difficult to assess properly from the drawing) This would be out of character with the existing.

P16/S1117/FUL Morriston, Fairmile - This site has a long planning history and the principle of an additional dwelling is acceptable. However, the proposed 5-bedroom house is too large and out of character with adjoining modest properties. Since the site is within the Henley Fairmile C.A. as well as the AONB particular care needs to be taken not to detrimentally affect this open and green character by the construction of an overbearing dwelling.

P16/S1120/HH 7 Kings Road - No objections to the principle, but the extension should not go beyond the rear building line of its neighbour. All new doors/windows must be in timber.

P16/S1137/HH - 30 Bellevue Road - Ok, but subject to neighbours

P16/S1141/LB - Atlantic House, 82 Bell Street - Works of repairs and alterations are proposed, but without much information about the details. Please, consult County Archaeology about proposed floor excavations on this site of possibly pre-town settlement on the edge of the Royal Manor site. Details about timber treatment and removal of brickwork to the fireplace in the rear hall need to be submitted, as this building has earlier fabric than that suggested in the List Description.

NB the applicants use a detailed recording of the building, done in 1984 by the Henley Archaeological & Historical Group, in their Heritage and Design Statement. Unfortunately they have included a page with the title 'A late medieval Manor House in Bell Street' from a later Journal, No 9, 1993, which relates to a totally different building and does not relate to No. 82 in any way.

P 16/S1143/HH - 16 Niagara Road No objections. All new windows and doors need to be in timber, not replaced in uPVC, as suggested in the application, as this falls within the C.A with an Article 4 direction.

P16/S1173/HH - 37 Kings Road No objections. All new doors & windows to be in timber for this bdg. in the C.A.

Yours faithfully

David Whitehead
p.p Ruth Gibson