

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES . CHURCH STREET . LEDBURY . HEREFORDSHIRE HR8 1DH Tel. (01531) 632306 Fax (01531) 631193 e-mail: admin@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk website: www.ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk

6 January 2020

TO: Councillors Banister, Harvey, Howells and Knight

Dear Member

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Major Planning Applications and Consultations on Monday, 11 January 2020 at 4.00 pm for the purpose of transacting the business set out below via Zoom at the following link:

Yours faithfully

Angela Price Clerk

AGENDA

Apologies for absence

2. Declarations of Interests

To receive any declarations of interest and written requests for dispensations. Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Ledbury Town Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

(Note: Members seeking advice on this item are asked to contact the Monitoring officer at least 72 hours prior to the meeting)

- 3. Notes of a meeting of the Major Planning Applications and Consultations Working Party held 18 November 2020 (Pages 7 10)
- Application to develop a Lidl Supermarket, Nursery and possible surgery Leadon Vale development (Deeley Group) (Pages 11 - 23)
- Application No. 203535 –2nd phase for the erection of 46 dwellings at Land to the south of Leadon Way (Barretts)
- 6. Bovis Housing Development 140 dwellings, Leadon Way, Ledbury
- 7. Update on Viaduct Inquiry

Distribution: All councillors

Agenda Item 3

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Notes of a meeting of the Major Planning Applications and Consultations Working Party held on Monday, 7 December 2020.

16. Apologies for absence

None received

17. Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received from Councillor Harvey

18. Notes of the Major Planning Applications and Consultations Working Party held on 18 November 2020

Members noted that the some of the points in relation to minute number 13 were missing from the notes. Councillor Bannister reminded members of a lengthy discussion on the Barratts second phase of the erection of 46 dwellings and that the position of the three taller houses were to be erected in the most visible point of the development, which will be seen from the town. He asked whether this could be added to the notes.

The Town Clerk advised that the minute taker would add the above information into the minutes as requested by Councillor Bannister, and that an amended set of notes would be available for the next meeting.

RESOLVED: That the notes of the Major planning Applications Working Party be deferred to the next Major Planning Applications Working Party, noting the above amendment.

19. Application to develop a Lidl Supermarket, Nursery, and possible surgery.

Members were provided with a response to comments received by Herefordshire Councils Highway report regarding the proposed mixed-use development at Leadon Way, Ledbury.

Members raised concerns in respect of the following points:

Active Travel

Members felt that the information on the travel was not adequate noting that the nearest bus stop was located 400 metres away from the development and that it was classed as walking distance. Councillor Howells reminded members that Ledbury Council had previously proposed that Barret Homes re-route an existing bus into the site to encourage more residents to use public bus services.

Councillor Bannister noted that in previous meetings there were discussions in relation to Ledbury Town Council possibly investing/providing electric bus

services to larger developments on the outskirts of the town, however Ledbury Town Council have not been approached or asked.

Over Capacity of Junction and Roundabouts

Councillor Bannister referred members to the trip generation data in the report and advised that the report stated that the roundabouts currently could cope with extra traffic. However, Hereford Council are proposing to make changes to the roundabout to make it safer due to the development on the cricket ground.

Retail impact

Members discussed the retail impact assessment and noted that the report provided by Herefordshire Council differs considerably from that provided by the developer, even with the amendments that have been made. The developers state that Tesco, Co-op and Aldi are not in the "town centre" and whilst members conceive this may be the case of Aldi, they consider it would be worth establishing the town centre boundary to identify where Tesco and Co-op are sited in relation to that boundary.

Employment

The developers suggest that there will be an increase in employment as a result of the development. However, Members consider that the impact on shops such as Tesco, Aldi and Co-op may be such that they reduce their employee base, and that this would off-set any increase suggested by Deeley.

Correspondence in relation to The Clinical Commissioning Group

There was a lengthy discussion on the location and size of the proposed surgery. Councillor Bannister pointed out that on page 5 of the letter dated 17 November 2020 to Carl Brace from Ed Thomas, that Mr Hayward, a representative of the clinical commissioning group, confirmed that he had no problem with the location and no principle objection to the site. The letter also stated that the commissioning bodies and the facility would not be required to be in use until 2027. Members wanted to know how the date of 2027 was created and whether this has been backed with data or evidence as opposed to the opinion of Mr Haywood.

As a result of the above points it was felt that it would be beneficial for Members to meet with the developers to discuss these and any other relevant points. However, it was felt that a meeting with Herefordshire Council Planners (Carl Brace and Kevin Bishop) would be beneficial prior to a further meeting with Deeley.

RECOMMENDATION

 That the Economic Development & Planning Committee agree that a meeting with Herefordshire Council Planners (Carl Brace and Kevin Bishop) be arranged to in order to seek their views on the above points.

20.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	RESOLVED that the next meeting of the Major Planning Applications Working Party would be held on Monday, 11 January 2021.	
The meeting ended at 5:30 pm.		
Sign	ed	Date

2.

That following the above meeting a meeting be arranged with Deeley Group Ltd to discuss the proposed development.

RECOMMENDATION FROM MAJOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD ON 7 DECEMBER 2020

Following discussions it was agreed that there were a number of issues that needed to be considered in respect of the Deeley application to develop the site known as Leadon Vale, where it was proposed to build a Lidl Supermarket, Nursery and GP Surgery.

Members of the Working Party considered the following points for further discussion:

- Active Travel in respect of the location of bus stops in relation to the proposed development, the dangers to anyone travelling by cycle or walking due to the location of the site and that there will be another pelican crossing across the bypass.
- 2. The potential for the over capacity of the junction and roundabout with the increased traffic as a result of other developments in the area, such as the cricket ground.
- 3. The retail impact the report provided by Herefordshire Council differs considerably from that provided by the developer, even with the amendments that have been made.
 - The developers state that Tesco, Co-op and Aldi are not in the "town centre" and whilst members conceive this may be the case of Aldi, they consider it would be worth establishing the town centre boundary to identify where Tesco and Co-op are sited in relation to that boundary.
- 4. Employment The developers suggest that there will be an increase in employment as a result of the development. However, Members consider that the impact on shops such as Tesco, Aldi and Co-op may be such that they reduce their employee base, and that this would off-set any increase suggested by Deeley.

As a result of the above points it was felt that it would be beneficial for Members to meet with the developers to discuss these and any other relevant points. However, it was felt that a meeting with Herefordshire Council Planners (Carl Brace and Kevin Bishop) would be beneficial prior to a further meeting with Deeley.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Economic Development & Planning Committee agree that a meeting with Herefordshire Council Planners (Carl Brace and Kevin Bishop) be arranged to in order to seek their views on the above points.
- 2. That following the above meeting a meeting be arranged with Deeley Group Ltd to discuss the proposed development.



MEMORANDUM

To

: Consultee

From

Mr C Brace, Planning Services, Blueschool House - H31

Tel

01432 261947

My Ref

: 201718

Date

10 December 2020

APPLICATION NO &

Planning Re-consultation - 201718 - Land South of Leadon Way &

SITE ADDRESS: DESCRIPTION:

East of Dymock Road, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2JQ

A hybrid application comprising: An application for full planning permission for the erection of a children's day nursery (Use Class D1), food store (Use Class A1), with associated access, landscaping

and associated work; and An application for outline planning

permission for the erection of a medical centre (Use Class D1), with

all matters bar access reserved.

APPLICANT(S):

Deeley Properties Ltd and Countrywide Farmers PLC

GRID REF:

OS 370392, 236681

APPLICATION TYPE:

Outline

http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/searchplanningapplications WEBSITE LINK:

Additional ☐ Amended and Additional ☑ New or Re-Consultation ☑ Amended

Plans or documents have been received for the proposal described above which are now available in Wisdom. If you have any further comments to make please respond by 31 December 2020.

Should you require further information please contact the Case Officer.

Any comments should be added below and actioned in Civica to Mr C Brace.

Comments:

Consultation response from: Nigel Koch, Senior Landscape Officer

Amended drawings

I have reviewed the amended drawings (including additional trees, revised tree species and additional footpath). In principle I have no objection to these amendments. I do however make a recommendation to assist in softening the fencing and hard treatment along the path between Lidl and the Nursery. Plant a hedge (non-thorny) along the length of Nursery boundary. This will not only give a green fringe to this area, but also provide a degree of privacy for the Nursery.

Additional document (Environmental Colour Assessment)

I am pleased that the applicant has addressed the important topic of colour within the context of the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and local landscape setting, and provided an Environmental Colour Assessment (ECA). The information contained within the ECA is comprehensive and provides the assurance that a coordinated and appropriate colour scheme can be provided for the buildings, signage and landscape.

From my understanding, a final colour palette has not yet been confirmed, but the recommendations are clearly defined within the ECA. I provide suggestions for the next steps.

Hard Elements (roof, facades, details, signs, and landscape elements)

Submit a written specification of materials, finishes and final colours, and ensure this is maintained throughout the design process, through to construction. It goes without saying, that the attention to detail, down to the colour of the grout, will signify the difference between mediocrity and excellence.

Provide samples of the proposed external materials and finishes, as per standard conditions, and include an informative to ensure that this includes signage, and hard landscape materials and assembled on the site. This will allow real conditions under natural light and context to assess the assemblage, and allow for adjustment if necessary. Ensure to consult with the LPA, so they can be informed of the process.

Green roof

The use of a 'meadow' native/indigenous green roof instead of a sedum roof to my understanding has been determined and will be developed on this basis. The provision of details and written specification pertaining to the species, installation and growing conditions will be required, along with a management plan and maintenance schedule to ensure successful establishment and ongoing health in perpetuity for the life of the building.

End of comments

DATE RETURNED: 30/12/2020

Carl Brace Herefordshire Council Plough Lane Hereford HR4 OLE

20 July 2020

Dear Mr Brace

Planning Application P201718/O: A hybrid planning application comprising:

- An application for full planning permission for the erection of a children's day nursery (Use Class D1) and food store (Use Class A1) including access, car parking landscaping and associated work; & - An application for outline planning permission for the erection of a medical centre (Use Class D1), with access to be determined now and all other matters Reserved at Land south of Leadon Way (A417) and east of Dymock Road (B4216), Ledbury, Herefordshire

The site of the proposed development lies within the setting of the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), which is an area designated for its national landscape importance. The Malvern Hills AONB Partnership seeks to encourage high quality design and to protect and enhance the landscape.

National Planning Policy Framework

Paragraph 172 of the NPPF requires "great weight" to be given to conserving and enhancing the landscape and scenic beauty of the AONB.

Herefordshire Local Plan

Policy SS6 "Environmental quality and local distinctiveness" of the local plan states that:

'Development proposals should conserve and enhance those environmental aspects that contribute towards the county's distinctiveness, in particular its settlement pattern, landscape, biodiversity and heritage assets and especially those with specific environmental designations.... Development proposals should be shaped through an integrated approach to planning the following environmental components from the outset, and based on sufficient information to determine the effect upon each where they are relevant:

 landscape, townscape and local distinctiveness, especially in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty; ...'

'The management plans and conservation objectives of the county's international and nationally important features and areas will be material to the determination of future development proposals. Furthermore, assessments of local features, areas and sites, defining local distinctiveness in other development plan documents, neighbourhood development plans and supplementary planning documents should inform decisions upon proposals."

Para 3.99 of the Local Plan also states that "Management Plans have been prepared for both the Wye Valley and Malvern Hills Areas of Outstanding Beauty. These documents will be relevant to assessment of the effects of development upon these important assets. The most rigorous approaches to assessing the effect of development should be taken for those areas with international and national

designations, including proposals outside but having an effect upon them, in accordance with the protection afforded to such areas in the National Planning Policy Framework".

Policy LD1 "Landscape and Townscape states that development proposals should:

- demonstrate that character of landscape and townscape has positively influenced the design, scale, nature and site selection, protection and enhancement of the setting of settlements and designated areas;
- conserve and enhance the natural, historic and scenic beauty of important landscapes and features, including Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty... through the protection of the area's character and by enabling appropriate uses, design and management;
- incorporate new landscape schemes and their management to ensure development integrates appropriately into its surroundings; and
- maintain and extend tree cover where important to amenity, through the retention of important trees, appropriate replacement trees lost through development and new planting to support green infrastructure."

Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan

The AONB Management Plan (2019-24), a material consideration in relation to planning, contains following policies relevant to this application:

- BDP2 Development in the AONB and its setting should be in accordance with good practice guidance including that produced by the AONB Partnership.
- BDP4 Development proposals that may affect land in the AONB, including those in its setting, should protect and/or enhance key views and landscape character. AONB guidance relating to views and development in views should be used where relevant

The AONB Unit comments on this application as follows.

It is noted that the submitted Landscape Appraisal (27 May 2020) site states that the site lies approximately 1 kilometre from the boundary of the Malvern Hills AONB and therefore acknowledges at paragraph 3.6 that the site is "deemed to be included within the Malvern Hills AONB visual setting". It is also noted that page 19 of the Landscape Appraisal refers to "The provision of an extensive green roof to the food store building, angled towards the east and the Malvern Hills AONB will help soften the effect of the food store building in the landscape when viewed from an elevated position".

The Planning Statement (May 2020) also acknowledges that the site is visible from the Malvern Hills AONB. It is noted and welcomed that paragraph 2.7.1 states that "Regard has been had to the Malvern Hills AONB, Guidance on the Selection and Use of Colour in Development to assist with understanding the selection of building materials, reflecting the darker earth tones of the local vernacular and landscape rather than highly reflective cladding and roof finishes that can be seen at a distance".

The site lies approximately 900 metres from the Malvern Hills AONB and is within the setting of the AONB. It is noted in the pre application advice provided that the advice from Herefordshire County Council stated that there was a need to consider the visual impact of large roof areas and facades (particularly viewed from the Malvern Hills AONB) and that buildings should be finished in dark recessive colours with low reflectivity and/or with natural finishes. We endorse this advice.

It is noted that the Proposed Building Elevations (Drawing Number 0305 P-OO) refers to the proposed insulated metal panes being colour RAL 9010 it would be preferable in this instance to use a matt dark grey, specifically for the right side elevation that would appear to be particularly visible from the Malvern Hills AONB, which would be more muted. There are limited views from the AONB looking directly down onto the site, so the colours of the building walls when viewed across the site are probably as important as the roof.

With regard to lighting, the advice in the Malvern Hills Management Plan and accompanying guides - including 'Guidance on Lighting Design' and section 9 of the Malvern Hills AONB 'Guidance on Building Design' – lighting should be followed. This should include ensuring that any external lighting that is only installed where necessary and should be kept to an absolute minimum and that lighting should be kept low to the ground wherever possible.

Regarding the proposed green roof to the food store building, it is requested that this uses meadow grass and not sedum to avoid the colour of the roof changing to red in Autumn. Care should be taken in selecting the grass species to avoid a uniform green finish since this can look highly artificial in winter, especially since the roof will have a very regular rectangular appearance within views.

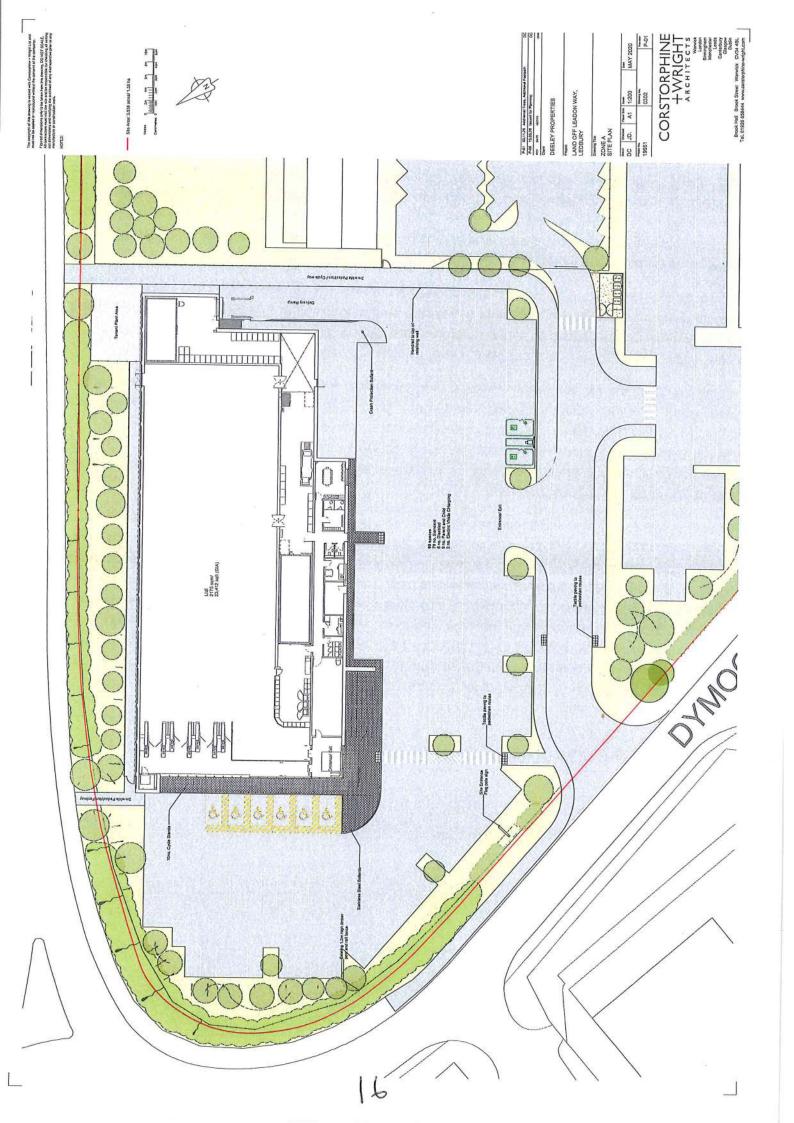
To help break up the massing of the proposed development, including the extensive areas of hard landscaping, planting within the development should be utilised to help assimilate the buildings as well as the car parking into the landscape as referenced within the Malvern Hills AONB 'Guidance on Building Design. We feel that there could be more soft landscaping within the site. Careful consideration should be given to the type of hard surfacing to be used, in order to help break up the large open areas of hard landscaping.

The current overall design is disappointing and is a missed opportunity in terms of making this new development something positive. It currently has the appearance of an industrial estate but with more detailed landscaping there is the opportunity to produce an area which has a visually 'domestic' scale and much more intimate character, whilst still providing adequate parking. This would seem especially important for a development which includes a medical centre and nursery; the users of which would benefit from a well-designed, less impersonal landscape. This would also help it to relate to the adjacent new housing and, by taking design cues from the nearby 'old' town, help it to 'read' as part of Ledbury. In terms of its contribution to the setting of the AONB this would be much more positive, and we very much endorse the pre-app advice provided to the applicant in this respect.

I hope that you can take these comments into consideration,

Best wishes

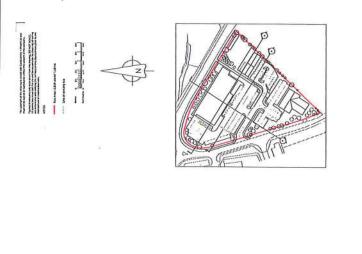
Karen Humphries Assistant manager, Malvern Hills AONB



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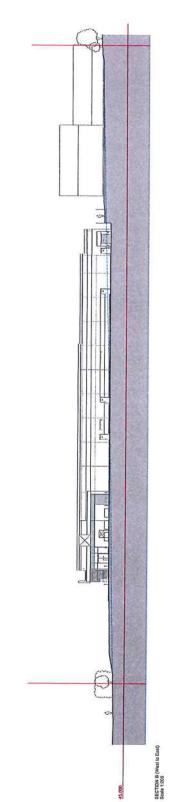
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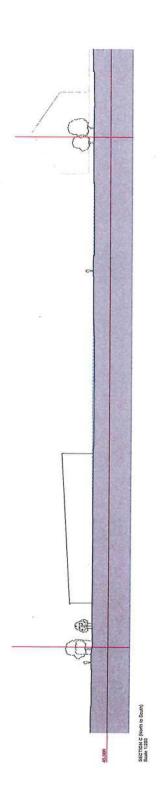




SECTION A (West to East) Scale 1:200







18

