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Amanda Wilkes
Planning Department
Horsham District Council
Parkside, Chart Way
Horsham
West Sussex RH12 1RL

Dear Amanda

DC/20/1698: Erection of 9 No. double storey dwellings, car ports and garages with landscaping and associated works including access improvements previously approved under DC/17/1158: Land at former Swallowfields Nursery, Church Road, Mannings Heath.

The Parish Council strongly objects to this application because it does not comply fully with requirements of the Neighbourhood Plan because the proposed 9 houses exceeds the maximum number of 7 dwellings specified in policy 2, item 4.14.

Furthermore no bungalows are proposed which is contrary to the aspiration in Policy 2, item 4.15.

An assessment of conformity with the Nuthurst Parish Neighbourhood Plan (NP) 2015- 2031 is attached.

The Parish Council strongly urges HDC to refuse this application on the above grounds

Yours sincerely

Sarah Hall, Clerk Nuthurst parish Council

Attachment: Assessment of Conformity with the Neighbourhood Plan

DC/20/1698: Erection of 9 No. double storey dwellings, car ports and garages with landscaping and associated works including access improvements previously approved under DC/17/1158: Land at former Swallowfields Nursery, Church Road, Mannings Heath

Assessment of conformity with Nuthurst Parish Neighbourhood Plan (NP) 2015- 2031

The site is allocated for development in policy 2 of the NP. Developments on allocated sites need to meet policy 10 of the NP on housing design and policy 14 of the NP on green infrastructure and biodiversity.

NP	NP Policy/Proviso	Proposed Scheme	Comforms?
No. Policy	The residential development of 0.6 Ha	The area to be	Yes
2	of land at Swallowfield Nursery, Church	developed is within	162
2	Road, Mannings Heath, as shown on	the area designated in	
	the Policies Map, will be permitted	the NP Policy Map.	
	provided that:	the Will Oney Wap.	
2 i.	The scheme comprises primarily 2/3	1 x 2 bed semi	Complies as 7 of 9
	bedroom semi-detached houses or	1 x 3 bed semi	are 2/3 bed
	bungalows	4 x 3 bed terraced	houses.
		1 x 3 bed detached	(Note: only 1 x 2
		1 x 4 bed detached	bed house and no
		1 x 5 bed detached	bungalows)
2ii.	Access is by way of the lane between	Yes, in Transport	Yes
	Church Road to Windyridge.	Statement (TS)	
	The transport assessment of the	Visibility splays are	Yes, provided
	scheme has full regard to ensuring the	proposed in the TS by	WSCC is satisfied
	safety of the nearby junction of the	using strips of land to	that this is safe
	A281 with Church Road and includes	the northeast	and the applicant
	the provision of visibility splays at	abutting Church Road	owns those strips
	junction to ensure safe egress for	and to the southwest	of land.
	vehicles;	abutting the Brighton	
		Road.	
	the widening of the lane to allow the	Widening is proposed	Yes, provided
	safe shared use by vehicles and	in TS to 5.5 m at	WSCC is satisfied
	pedestrians; and	entrance to 4.8 m for	that this is safe for
		c 15-20m, with a	vehicles, cyclists
		footway for this	and pedestrians.
		distance.	
	the provision of passing bays, sufficient	One passing bay c6 m	Yes, provided
	to avoid the need for vehicles to	long with the lane	WSCC is satisfied
	reverse into Church Road	widened to 4.8 m is	that this allows
			two vehicles

		proposed in the TS, c50 m from Church Road. Note: rest of the lane is single carriageway.	including HGVs to pass safely
2 iii.	The scheme layout and landscape proposals retains the trees and bushes on the boundaries with the access lane, with the adjacent Swallowfield House and with the lane leading to Swallowfield House, to provide a screen and to reduce noise from the nearby A281 road;	Trees and bushes on boundaries with access lane, bordering Swallowfield House and with the lane to Swallowfield House proposed to be retained in Arboricultural Impact Assessment.	Yes, provided HDC's landscape officer and arboriculturalist is satisfied.
	protects any wildlife and biodiversity interests on the site;	Ecological report has redactions	Cannot assess because of redactions. HDC's ecologist needs to be satisfied.
	retains and renovates the pond in the corner of the site to provide a feature for the development; and	Retention and enhancement including wildflower area proposed in Planning Statement	Yes
	retains appropriate mature trees close to the pond and elsewhere on the site	Appropriate trees proposed to be retained in Planning Statement	Yes, provided HDC's landscape officer and arboriculturalist are satisfied.
2 iv.	The scheme pays due regard to the proximity of the undesignated heritage asset of Swallowfield House and its parkland setting.	Comprehensive heritage assessment provided in Planning Statement	Yes, provided HDC's Heritage Officer is satisfied
2 v.	The transport assessment of the scheme has full regard to extending the existing pavement on Church Road to the entrance to the development	Proposal to extend the pavement is included in the Planning Statement	Yes
4.14	This policy allocates land of 0.69 Ha adjoining the edge of Mannings Heath for a housing scheme that may comprise of four to seven dwellings	The proposal is for 9 houses	No, because exceeds maximum of 7 dwellings***
4.15	Given the character of the nearby residential area, the site is best suited to semi-detached houses (of no more	1 x 2 bed semi 1 x 3 bed semi 4 x 3 bed terraced	Does not comply. No bungalows proposed***

	than two storeys) and bungalows, rather than larger detached houses, although the policy allows for some of the latter type. The remaining development principles will ensure access, design, landscape and layout proposals will be suited to the site and that full regard is paid to addressing the need for road and pavement improvement works as a result of the development of this site.	1 x 3 bed detached 1 x 4 bed detached 1 x 5 bed detached All two storey Attractive courtyard design. Landscape features retained. Road and pavement improvements proposed	Yes, provided DC's landscape Officer and arboriculturalist and WSCC are satisfied
Policy 10	The scale, density, massing, height, landscape design, layout and materials of all development proposals, including alterations to existing buildings, will be required to reflect the architectural and historic character and scale of the surrounding buildings	The surrounding buildings nearby are eclectic mix of one large mansion, Swallowfield House (hidden by high wall) and two houses, Swallowfield Farm and Windy Ridge, (served by the access lane). Courtyard of mixed design including stock bricks, tile hanging, timber cladding, roof tiles and slates, projecting bays and gables	Yes, appears to satisfy policy 10
10 i	Make use of high quality building materials and finishes and include high quality landscaping	See policy 10 above. Replacement trees to be planted and further soft landscaping proposed	Yes, appears to satisfy this requirement
10 ii	Include adequate functional private garden space appropriate to dwelling size and type	Each property has small front amenity space and reasonable sized rear garden space.	Yes
10 iii	Include adequate off-street parking so as to minimise any need for on-street parking	Properties have between 2 and 4 spaces with 1 or 2 in garages or carport	Yes
10 iv	Include a landscape scheme which either provides for the retention of existing trees and hedges or, if any must be removed, for their	See 2iii above. Some replacement trees and further soft landscaping proposed	Yes, provided HDC's landscape officer and

	replacement by new trees and hedges of a suitable species.		arboriculturalist is satisfied.
4.41	Does it comply with the Parish Design Statement, a Supplementary Planning Document?	Materials and design (see policy 10 above) satisfy PDS. Provision of gardens, carports, garages and parking spaces satisfy PDS	Yes
Policy 14 14 i	They do not significantly affect habitats for flora and fauna and wildlife corridors and if they do appropriate measures are taken to mitigate the effects in agreement with the relevant authorities	Ecological statement has redactions	Can't assess properly because of redactions. HDC's ecologist needs to be satisfied
14 ii	They use, for example, natural Sussex post/rail fencing or hedges and not close boarded fencing in order to preserve wildlife corridors	Green hedges with modest close boarded fencing proposed in rear gardens for privacy (allowed in PDS)	Yes
14 iii	They do not affect ponds and lakes (natural and man-made), streams and rivers (surface and underground) and that adequate measures are taken, in consultation with appropriate authorities, to prevent localised flooding	Pond on site is to be retained and enhanced for wildlife including wild flower area. Not in flood zone area	Yes
14 iv	Public footpaths and bridleways are retained	None are affected by the development	Yes

*** Note: The applicant has subsequently submitted a second application for 7 dwellings (DC/20/1840) instead of 9 dwellings. On the application form, the applicant states that HDC's Planning Officers advised further consultation with Nuthurst Parish Council regarding the proposal since it would exceed 7 dwellings. Furthermore, the Planning Design and Access Statement says "The scheme submitted herein is for 7 dwellings and has been prepared to directly respond to the neighbourhood plan and recent Parish consultation."

This means that the applicant has acknowledged that this application for 9 dwellings (DC/20/1698) does not meet the requirements of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Conclusion

This application does not comply fully with requirements of the Neighbourhood Plan because the proposed 9 houses exceeds the maximum number of 7 dwellings specified in policy 2, item 4.14.

Furthermore no bungalows are proposed which is contrary to the aspiration in Policy 2, item 4.15.

Recommendation

The Parish Council opposes the application for the above reasons.