Development Management, Economic Development and Planning,
County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, BA14 8JN
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Wiltshire Council

Application for Planning Permission

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Publication of applications on planning authority websites

Please note that the information provided on this application form and in supporting documents may be published on the Authority's website. If you require any further clarification, please contact the Authority's planning department.

Site Location

Disclaimer: We can only make recommendations based on the answers given in the questions.

If you cannot provide a postcode, the description of site location must be completed. Please provide the most accurate site description you can, to help locate the site - for example "field to the North of the Post Office".

Number

Suffix

Property Name

Garstons

Address Line 1

Park Lane

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Wiltshire

Town/city

Heytesbury

Postcode

BA12 0HE

Description of site location must be completed if postcode is not known:

Easting (x)

393416

Northing (y)

142348

Description

Applicant Details

Name/Company

Title

First name

Rupert

Surname

Godfrey

Company Name

Address

Address line 1

Garstons, Park Lane

Address line 2

Heytesbury

Address line 3

Town/City

WARMINSTER

County

Country

United Kingdom

Postcode

BA12 0HE

Are you an agent acting on behalf of the applicant?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Contact Details

Primary number

***** REDACTED ******

Secondary number

Fax number

Email address

***** REDACTED ******

Site Area

What is the measurement of the site area? (numeric characters only).

6.40

Unit

Hectares

Description of the Proposal

Please note in regard to:

- **Fire Statements** - From 1 August 2021, planning applications for buildings of over 18 metres (or 7 stories) tall containing more than one dwelling will require a 'Fire Statement' for the application to be considered valid. There are some exemptions. View government planning guidance on fire statements or access the fire statement template and guidance.
- **Permission In Principle** - If you are applying for Technical Details Consent on a site that has been granted Permission In Principle, please include the relevant details in the description below.
- **Public Service Infrastructure** - From 1 August 2021, applications for certain public service infrastructure developments will be eligible for faster determination timeframes. See help for further details or view government planning guidance on determination periods.

Description

Please describe details of the proposed development or works including any change of use

Garstons is a residential dwelling, with 34 acres (13.75 ha) of land, split roughly 50:50 by the River Wylye. We wanted to enhance the environmental quality of the farmland across the river, and increase biodiversity, by creating a large wetland area in one of the fields - not exactly 'rewilding' but trying to create a mosaic of habitats.

In the past, the fields have been used for either grazing sheep, haymaking, or arable cropping. They will no longer be 'farmland' as such. We have already planted 250 native trees in the fields (and plan more next spring), to further increase biodiversity.

After the heavy rain in January 2023, the whole proposed area was flooded - not joined to the river, but a huge lake was created (see photos attached to proposal). This suggested that the water table was not far below the surface, and, indeed, even in mid-June - after six weeks with virtually no rain - when a silage cut was taken, the ground there was almost too boggy for a tractor to operate, and the ruts it made filled immediately with water.

This suggested that to create a large wetland area was not practical, so we scaled back our plans to a pond in this wet area. When we had a trial hole dug, it was clear that it would not be practical to make a large pond , as any excavation filled very within minutes with water.

We made a small scrape (which will hopefully encourage teal, when vegetation has grown up) separate from the larger one where we thought it might be drier. For the larger area, we had the topsoil removed, and a metre of subsoil taken below the water table level. A small island was left, hopefully to encourage wildfowl to nest, though as we've already seen an otter swimming in the pond, this may be optimistic.

This subsoil was spread on an area adjacent to the pond, and later re-covered with topsoil. This area will be used as a wildflower / wild bird mix habitat, to increase biodiversity further.

Although the field is bordered by the River Wylye, the ponds are 'stand alone' and not filled by, or emptied into, the river itself. The nearest edge of the small pond is 30 metres from the River itself, and the holes have filled naturally from the water table.

Has the work or change of use already started?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

If yes, please state the date when the work or change of use started (date must be pre-application submission)

26/06/2023

Has the work or change of use been completed?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

If Yes, please state the date when the work or change of use was completed (date must be pre-application submission)

03/07/2023

Existing Use

Please describe the current use of the site

A silage cut was taken in early June, before work started.

Is the site currently vacant?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

If Yes, please describe the last use of the site

Under previous ownership, the fields were used for grazing sheep and cattle, and the larger field in an arable rotation.

When did this use end (if known)?

13/10/2022

Does the proposal involve any of the following? If Yes, you will need to submit an appropriate contamination assessment with your application.

Land which is known to be contaminated

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Land where contamination is suspected for all or part of the site

◯ Yes
⊘ No

A proposed use that would be particularly vulnerable to the presence of contamination

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Materials

Does the proposed development require any materials to be used externally?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Pedestrian and Vehicle Access, Roads and Rights of Way

Is a new or altered vehicular access proposed to or from the public highway?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Is a new or altered pedestrian access proposed to or from the public highway?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Are there any new public roads to be provided within the site?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Are there any new public rights of way to be provided within or adjacent to the site?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Do the proposals require any diversions/extinguishments and/or creation of rights of way?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Vehicle Parking

Does the site have any existing vehicle/cycle parking spaces or will the proposed development add/remove any parking spaces?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Trees and Hedges

Are there trees or hedges on the proposed development site?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

And/or: Are there trees or hedges on land adjacent to the proposed development site that could influence the development or might be important as part of the local landscape character?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

If Yes to either or both of the above, you may need to provide a full tree survey, at the discretion of the local planning authority. If a tree survey is required, this and the accompanying plan should be submitted alongside the application. The local planning authority should make clear on its website what the survey should contain, in accordance with the current 'BS5837: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations'.

Assessment of Flood Risk

Is the site within an area at risk of flooding? (Check the location on the Government's Flood map for planning. You should also refer to national standing advice and your local planning authority requirements for information as necessary.)

⊘ Yes
◯ No

Is your proposal within 20 metres of a watercourse (e.g. river, stream or beck)?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Will the proposal increase the flood risk elsewhere?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

How will surface water be disposed of?

☐ Sustainable drainage system

☐ Existing water course

☐ Soakaway

☐ Main sewer

☑ Pond/lake

Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

Is there a reasonable likelihood of the following being affected adversely or conserved and enhanced within the application site, or on land adjacent to or near the application site?

To assist in answering this question correctly, please refer to the help text which provides guidance on determining if any important biodiversity or geological conservation features may be present or nearby; and whether they are likely to be affected by the proposals.

a) Protected and priority species

◯ Yes, on the development site
◯ Yes, on land adjacent to or near the proposed development
⊘ No

b) Designated sites, important habitats or other biodiversity features

◯ Yes, on the development site
◯ Yes, on land adjacent to or near the proposed development
⊘ No

c) Features of geological conservation importance

◯ Yes, on the development site
◯ Yes, on land adjacent to or near the proposed development
⊘ No

Supporting information requirements

Where a development proposal is likely to affect features of biodiversity or geological conservation interest, you will need to submit, with the application, sufficient information and assessments to allow the local planning authority to determine the proposal.

Failure to submit all information required will result in your application being deemed invalid. It will not be considered valid until all information required by the local planning authority has been submitted.

Your local planning authority will be able to advise on the content of any assessments that may be required.

Foul Sewage

Please state how foul sewage is to be disposed of:

☐ Mains sewer
☐ Septic tank
☐ Package treatment plant
☐ Cess pit
☐ Other
☑ Unknown

Are you proposing to connect to the existing drainage system?

◯ Yes
⊘ No
◯ Unknown

Waste Storage and Collection

Do the plans incorporate areas to store and aid the collection of waste?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Have arrangements been made for the separate storage and collection of recyclable waste?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Trade Effluent

Does the proposal involve the need to dispose of trade effluents or trade waste?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Residential/Dwelling Units

Does your proposal include the gain, loss or change of use of residential units?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

All Types of Development: Non-Residential Floorspace

Does your proposal involve the loss, gain or change of use of non-residential floorspace?
Note that 'non-residential' in this context covers all uses except Use Class C3 Dwellinghouses.

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Employment

Are there any existing employees on the site or will the proposed development increase or decrease the number of employees?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Hours of Opening

Are Hours of Opening relevant to this proposal?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Industrial or Commercial Processes and Machinery

Does this proposal involve the carrying out of industrial or commercial activities and processes?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Is the proposal for a waste management development?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Hazardous Substances

Does the proposal involve the use or storage of Hazardous Substances?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Site Visit

Can the site be seen from a public road, public footpath, bridleway or other public land?

⊘ Yes
◯ No

If the planning authority needs to make an appointment to carry out a site visit, whom should they contact?

◯ The agent
⊘ The applicant
◯ Other person

Pre-application Advice

Has assistance or prior advice been sought from the local authority about this application?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Authority Employee/Member

With respect to the Authority, is the applicant and/or agent one of the following:
(a) a member of staff
(b) an elected member
(c) related to a member of staff
(d) related to an elected member

It is an important principle of decision-making that the process is open and transparent.

For the purposes of this question, "related to" means related, by birth or otherwise, closely enough that a fair-minded and informed observer, having considered the facts, would conclude that there was bias on the part of the decision-maker in the Local Planning Authority.

Do any of the above statements apply?

◯ Yes
⊘ No

Ownership Certificates and Agricultural Land Declaration

Certificates under Article 14 - Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended)

Please answer the following questions to determine which Certificate of Ownership you need to complete: A, B, C or D.

Is the applicant the sole owner of all the land to which this application relates; and has the applicant been the sole owner for more than 21 days?

⊘ Yes
◯ No

Is any of the land to which the application relates part of an Agricultural Holding?

⊘ Yes
◯ No

Can you give appropriate notice to all the other owners/agricultural tenants? (Select 'Yes' if there are no other owners/agricultural tenants)

⊘ Yes
◯ No

Certificate Of Ownership - Certificate B

I certify/ The applicant certifies that:

◯ **I have/The applicant has given the requisite notice to everyone else (as listed below) who, on the day 21 days before the date of this application, was the owner* and/or agricultural tenant** of any part of the land or building to which this application relates; or**
⊘ **The applicant is the sole owner of all the land or buildings to which this application relates and there are no other owners* and/or agricultural tenants**.**

*** "owner" is a person with a freehold interest or leasehold interest with at least 7 years left to run.**

**** "agricultural tenant" has the meaning given in section 65(8) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990**

Person Role

- [x] The Applicant
- [ ] The Agent

Title

First Name

Rupert

Surname

Godfrey

Declaration Date

12/07/2023

- [x] Declaration made

Declaration

I / We hereby apply for Full planning permission as described in this form and accompanying plans/drawings and additional information. I / We confirm that, to the best of my/our knowledge, any facts stated are true and accurate and any opinions given are the genuine options of the persons giving them. I / We also accept that: Once submitted, this information will be transmitted to the Local Planning Authority and, once validated by them, be made available as part of a public register and on the authority's website; our system will automatically generate and send you emails in regard to the submission of this application.

- [x] I / We agree to the outlined declaration

Signed

Rupert Godfrey

Date

11/07/2023