Design and Access Statement

For the erection of a timber orangery

At

Church Farm

Hankerton

Wiltshire

SN16 9JZ

On behalf of

Mr and Mrs Savage

This Design and Access statement has been prepared as part of a Planning Application to construct a timber orangery at Church Farm, Hankerton.

The Site and surroundings

Hankerton

Hankerton is a small village located approximately 5 miles north east of Malmesbury.

The village is predominantly residential in a rural location.

Church Farm



Church Farm is a two storey detached property, stone construction with a tiled/slate roof.

The host dwelling is located to the north east of the village.

Church Farm is set within approximatley 1 hectare of private residential curtilage. The nearest neighbouring property lying 100 metres to the south west.

The boundaries to the property comprise mature trees and hedging making the location of the proposed orangery private and secluded. Due to the distance between the neighbouring property there will be no impact on the amenities currently enjoyed by the neighbouring occupiers.

There are residential properties to the south west and est with open fields to all other aspects.

The property is not listed and does not fall within the boundaries of a Conservation Area or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The dwelling itself does not fall with the Flood Zone but the land to the north west does.

Planning History

No recent history

The Proposal



The above is a view of the eastrn elevation of Church Farm and the location of the proposed orangery.

The orangery will be sited over the door and window to the far right.

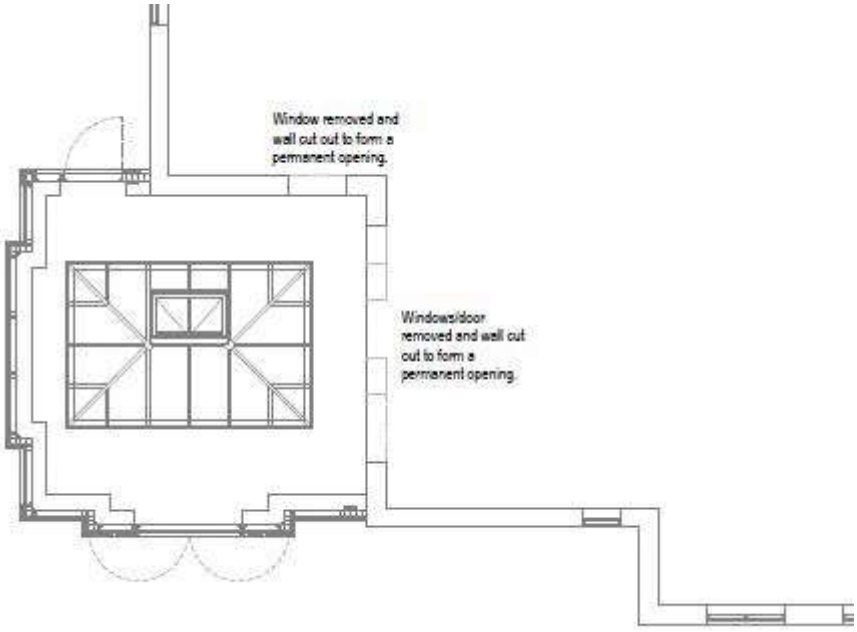




The window shown on the side elevation above will be removed along with stonework to form an opening into the proposed orangery.

The door and window shown on the second image will be removed along with stonework between and below to form a further opening into the orangery.

The works are outlined below.







The above are 3D images (for illustrative purposes only) of the proposed orangery in-situ.

The proposed works will have a positive effect on the aesthetics of the property. High quality, thoughtful architecture will complement the host dwelling.

The materials will blend in with the existing property and the design detailing is in keeping with and in proportion to that of the host dwelling.

The proposed works do not adversely affect any important architectural or historic features of the property. Nor do they adversely affect the buildings setting. The extension is in scale with the host dwelling, being subservient to the main dwelling. The materials ensure that the proposals will blend naturally with the host dwelling.

The choice of materials complements the original dwelling; it does not harm or detract from the original structure of the building but will improve its appearance.

Materials

Existing

Walls – Stone

Roof – Slate/Tile

Doors/Windows – Timber

Proposed

Wall/Base – Stone

Roof – Flat roof – single ply membrane – Sarnafil – incorporating a glazed lantern rooflight

Doors and Windows – Timber – Beige/Cream

Compatibility:

The proposed design has been chosen is to ensure it is subordinate to the host elevation and not be to the detriment of the host property, the setting of the property or the area in which the property is situated.

The design materials, timber, stone and glazing are appropriate for this style of development.

Landscaping

No landscaping proposed

Access

No special access arrangements have been made. The proposal is confined to a domestic dwelling and therefore no provision has been made for any disabled or public access.

Impact on neighbouring properties

The proposed orangery is located to the eastern elevation of the property and will face out on to open fields. Therefore, the proposal will not impact upon the amenities of any neighbouring properties.

Policy Considerations

National Planning Policy Context

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was introduced in March 2012 to streamline planning policy at the national level. At the heart of the NPPF is the presumption in favour of sustainable development – the "golden thread" running through the plan making a decision making process. The pursuit of sustainable development includes seeking improvements in the quality of the built environment, natural and historic environment through the gains obtained through the planning system.

The NPPF sets out how Local Planning Authorities should plan positively for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment.

12.Achieving well-designed places

124. The creation of high quality buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve. Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, creates better places in which to live and work and helps make development acceptable to communities. Being clear about design expectations, and how these will be tested, is essential for achieving this. So too is effective engagement between applicants, communities, local planning authorities and other interests throughout the process.

125. Plans should, at the most appropriate level, set out a clear design vision and expectations, so that applicants have as much certainty as possible about what is likely to be acceptable. Design policies should be developed with local communities so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area's defining characteristics. Neighbourhood plans can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development.

126. To provide maximum clarity about design expectations at an early stage, plans or supplementary planning documents should use visual tools such as design guides and codes. These provide a framework for creating distinctive places, with a consistent and high quality standard of design. However their level of detail and degree of prescription should be tailored to the circumstances in each place, and should allow a suitable degree of variety where this would be justified.

127. Planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments:

a) will function well and add to the overall quality of the area, not just for the short term but over the lifetime of the development;

b) are visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping;

c) are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change (such as increased densities);

d) establish or maintain a strong sense of place, using the arrangement of streets, spaces, building types and materials to create attractive, welcoming and distinctive places to live, work and visit;

e) optimise the potential of the site to accommodate and sustain an appropriate amount and mix of development (including green and other public space) and support local facilities and transport networks; and

f) create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users46; and where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion and resilience.

128. Design quality should be considered throughout the evolution and assessment of individual proposals. Early discussion between applicants, the local planning authority and local community about the design and style of emerging schemes is important for clarifying expectations and reconciling local and commercial interests.

Applicants should work closely with those affected by their proposals to evolve designs that take account of the views of the community. Applications that can demonstrate early, proactive and effective engagement with the community should be looked on more favourably than those that cannot.

129. Local planning authorities should ensure that they have access to, and make appropriate use of, tools and processes for assessing and improving the design of development. These include workshops to engage the local community, design advice and review arrangements, and assessment frameworks such as Building for Life47. These are of most benefit if used as early as possible in the evolution of schemes, and are particularly important for significant projects such as large scale housing and mixed use developments. In assessing applications, local planning authorities should have regard to the outcome from these processes, including any recommendations made by design review panels.

130. Permission should be refused for development of poor design that fails to take the opportunities available for improving the character and quality of an area and the way it functions, taking into account any local design standards or style guides in plans or supplementary planning documents. Conversely, where the design of a development accords with clear expectations in plan policies, design should not be used by the decision-maker as a valid reason to object to development. Local planning authorities should also seek to ensure that the quality of approved development is not materially diminished between permission and completion, as a result of changes being made to the permitted scheme (for example through changes to approved details such as the materials used).

131. In determining applications, great weight should be given to outstanding or

innovative designs which promote high levels of sustainability, or help raise the standard of design more generally in an area, so long as they fit in with the overall form and layout of their surroundings.

132. The quality and character of places can suffer when advertisements are poorly sited and designed. A separate consent process within the planning system controls the display of advertisements, which should be operated in a way which is simple, efficient and effective. Advertisements should be subject to control only in the interests of amenity and public safety, taking account of cumulative impacts.

Wiltshire Core Strategy

Core Policy 57
Ensuring high quality design and place shaping

A high standard of design is required in all new developments, including extensions, alterations, and changes of use of existing buildings. Development is expected to create a strong sense of place through drawing on the local context and being complementary to the locality. Applications for new development must be accompanied by appropriate information to demonstrate how the proposal will make a positive contribution to the character of Wiltshire through:
i. enhancing local distinctiveness by responding to the value of the natural and historic environment, relating positively to its landscape setting and the existing pattern of development and responding to local topography by ensuring that important views into, within and out of the site are to be retained and enhanced
ii. the retention and enhancement of existing important landscaping and natural features, (e.g. trees, hedges, banks and watercourses), in order to take opportunities to enhance biodiversity, create wildlife and recreational corridors, effectively integrate the development into its setting and to justify and mitigate against any losses that may occur through the development
iii. responding positively to the existing townscape and landscape features in terms of building layouts, built form, height, mass, scale, building line, plot size, elevational design, materials, streetscape and rooflines to effectively integrate the building into its setting
iv. being sympathetic to and conserving historic buildings and historic landscapes
v. the maximisation of opportunities for sustainable construction techniques, use of renewable energy sources and ensuring buildings and spaces are orientated to gain maximum benefit from sunlight and passive solar energy, in accordance with Core Policy 41 (Sustainable Construction and Low Carbon Energy)
vi. making efficient use of land whilst taking account of the characteristics of the site and the local context to deliver an appropriate development which relates effectively to the immediate setting and to the wider character of the area
vii. having regard to the compatibility of adjoining buildings and uses, the impact on the amenities of existing occupants, and ensuring that appropriate levels of amenity are achievable within the development itself, including the consideration of privacy,

overshadowing, vibration, and pollution (e.g. light intrusion, noise, smoke, fumes, effluent, waste or litter)

viii. incorporating measures to reduce any actual or perceived opportunities for crime or antisocial behaviour on the site and in the surrounding area through the creation of visually attractive frontages that have windows and doors located to assist in the informal surveillance of public and shared areas by occupants of the site

ix. ensuring that the public realm, including new roads and other rights of way, are designed to create places of character which are legible, safe and accessible in accordance with Core Policy 66 (Strategic Transport Network)

x. the sensitive design of advertisements and signage, which are appropriate and sympathetic to their local setting by means of scale, design, lighting and materials

xi. taking account of the needs of potential occupants, through planning for diversity and adaptability, and considering how buildings and space will be used in the immediate and long term future

xii. the use of high standards of building materials, finishes and landscaping, including the provision of street furniture and the integration of art and design in the public realm

xiii. the case of major developments, ensuring they are accompanied by a detailed design statement and masterplan, which is based on an analysis of the local context and assessment of constraints and opportunities of the site and is informed by a development concept, including clearly stated design principles, which will underpin the character of the new place

xiv. meeting the requirements of Core Policy 61 (Transport and New Development).

The aim in making the proposed alteration is to conserve the house as a family home for the 21st Century.

The proposed orangery will:-

- be aesthetically pleasing;

- cause minimal harm;

- create additional living space

We believe that the proposed orangery satisfies the requirements set out in the planning policies. The proposals will not detract from the host dwelling nor the surrounding area. They will enhance the property by virtue of good design and detailing and the sympathetic use of materials.

The proposed orangery will result in an improvement in the quality of the residential amenity for the applicant and will not impact negatively on the visual appearance of the site or residential amenity of neighbouring properties. The proposed extension is well proportioned in comparison with the host dwelling and sits comfortably within the site.

The application property is a family home; the character and setting of the property will not be harmed by the proposed works, only improved. The addition of the new structure would enhance the elevation of the property and help to ensure the preservation of the property in its present form as a family home.

The proposal is in keeping with the character of the building, the timber, lightweight glazed appearance being typical of a small-scale residential extension. The materials used are chosen carefully to compliment the host dwelling and will therefore not appear visually intrusive in the landscape.

The proposal would not have any significant adverse effect on the fabric of the host dwelling and the wider area. The scale, size and sympathetic choice of materials as well as the high-quality design ensure that the proposal would not be detrimental to the character of the host dwelling nor the surrounding area.

The design has been carefully considered to respect the existing building and its setting. It is perceived to be of minimal impact whilst providing significant improvements to meet client expectations.

We consider the proposed timber orangery has sufficient integrity to contribute to the amenity of Church Farm without detracting away from the beauty and character or conflicting visually or technically to the existing property.

Conclusion

As the owners of this property Mr and Mrs Savage are keen to make certain changes to enhance their enjoyment of this area. The applicants also want to ensure that when the work is completed, the finished project must be both high quality and allowing light into the existing area. Mr and Mrs Savage are also keen to avoid having a structure that did not respect & reflect the current building design. It was also important to design a structure that would have the minimum impact upon their neighbours. In conclusion we feel that the brief has been fully met.