



The Town and Country Planning Act 1990
Approval of Full Planning Permission with Conditions
Application Reference Number: PL/2026/01841
Decision Date: 07/10/2026

Applicant:	OneTwoEightCo 47 The Bell House Hotel, Bell House Hotel, High Street, Sutton Benger, Wiltshire, SN15 4RH
Particulars of Development:	Proposed internal and external alterations to hotel to include demolition of single storey toilets and associated works
At:	47 The Bell House Hotel, Bell House Hotel, High Street, Sutton Benger, SN15 4RH

In pursuance of its powers under the above Act, the Council hereby **GRANT PLANNING PERMISSION** for the above development to be carried out in accordance with the application and plans submitted (listed below).

In accordance with policy DM3 (1)(a) of the National Planning Policy Framework, Wiltshire Council has worked proactively to secure this development to improve the economic, social and environmental conditions of the area.

Subject to the following conditions:

- 1 The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

REASON: To comply with the provisions of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

- 2 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans:
 - 786-3-00: Site Location Plan
 - 786-3-01 EX: Existing Site Plan
 - 786-3-02A EX ground floor plan
 - 786-3-03A EX first floor plan

- 786-3-04A EX elevations
- 786-3-05 EX: Existing Sections
- 786-3-11A PR: Proposed Site Plan (22/05/2026)
- 786-3-12B PR: Proposed Ground Floor Plan (22/05/2026)
- 786-3-13A PR: Proposed First Floor Plan (22/05//2026)
- 786-3-14B PR: Proposed Elevations (22/05/2026)
- 786-3-15 PR: Proposed Courtyard Elevations
- 786-3-16 PR: Proposed Street Scene Elevations
- Window Details – Flush Fit Window Sections (21/05/2026)

(received 25/03/2026 unless otherwise stated)

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

- 3 The development will be carried out in accordance with the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), prepared by ABR Ecology Limited and dated 28th September 2026, submitted in support of the application on 29/09/2026.

REASON: To ensure the development is undertaken in an acceptable manner, to minimise detrimental effects to the neighbouring amenities, the amenities of the area in general, detriment to the natural environment through the risks of pollution and dangers to highway safety, during the construction phase.

- 4 The development shall be carried out in strict accordance with the details set out in the Ecological Assessment Report, prepared by ABR Ecology Limited and dated 28th September 2026, submitted in support of the application on 29/09/2026, in particular Section 4 'Compensation, Mitigation and Enhancement Plan' and accompanying Appendix 1. This shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the biodiversity enhancements for bats, nesting birds and hedgehogs.

REASON: To provide mitigation / enhancement for biodiversity.

- 5 No external light fixture or fitting shall be installed within the application site unless details of existing and proposed new lighting have been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing. The submitted details will demonstrate how the proposed lighting will impact on bat habitat compared to the existing situation.

The plans will be in accordance with the appropriate Environmental Zone standards set out by the Institution of Lighting Professionals (ILP) Guidance Notes on the Avoidance of Obtrusive Light (GN 01/2021) and Guidance note GN08/23 "Bats and artificial lighting at night", issued by the Bat Conservation Trust and Institution of Lighting Professionals. The approved lighting shall be installed and shall be

maintained in accordance with the approved details and no additional external lighting shall be installed.

REASON: To avoid illumination of habitat used by bats and in the interests of the amenities of the area and to minimise unnecessary light spillage above and outside the development site.

- 6 The development will be carried out in strict accordance with the hereby approved Construction Method Statement (786-3) in terms of the installation of the flagstone floor in the front bay.

REASON: To ensure appropriate biodiversity mitigation and enhancement.

Informatives

- 1 Any alterations to the approved plans, brought about by compliance with Building Regulations or any other reason must first be agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority before commencement of work.
- 2 The applicant is requested to note that this permission does not affect any private property rights and therefore does not authorise the carrying out of any work on land outside their control. If such works are required, it will be necessary for the applicant to obtain the landowners consent before such works commence. If you intend carrying out works in the vicinity of the site boundary, you are also advised that it may be expedient to seek your own advice with regard to the requirements of the Party Wall Act 1996.
- 3 There is a low risk that bats may occur at the development site. Many species of bat depend on buildings for roosting, with each having its own preferred type of roost. Most species roost in crevices such as under ridge tiles, behind roofing felt or in cavity walls and are therefore not often seen in the roof space. Bat roosts are protected all times by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (as amended) even when bats are temporarily absent because, being creatures of habit, they usually return to the same roost site every year. Planning permission for development does not provide a defence against prosecution under this legislation or substitute for the need to obtain a bat licence if an offence is likely. If bats or evidence of bats is found during the works, the applicant is advised to stop work and follow advice from an independent ecologist or the applicant is advised to follow the advice of a professional ecologist or to contact Natural England's Batline through the internet.
- 4 The habitat within the proposed development site and the surrounding area is suitable for roosting, foraging and commuting bats. An increase in artificial lux levels can deter bats which could result in roost abandonment and/or the severance of key foraging areas. This will likely result in a significant negative impact upon the health of bat populations across the region. Artificial light at night can have a substantial adverse effect on biodiversity. Any new lighting should be for the purposes for safe access and security and be in accordance with the appropriate Environmental Zone standards set out by the Institute of Lighting Engineers in their publication GN01:2021, 'Guidance for the Reduction of

Obtrusive Light' (ILP, 2021), and Guidance note GN08/23 "Bats and artificial lighting at night", issued by the Bat Conservation Trust and Institution of Lighting Professionals. Suitable lighting to ensure dark foraging and commuting routes can be retained could be secured via condition.

- 5 The applicant should note that under the terms of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) it is an offence to disturb or harm any protected species including for example, breeding birds and reptiles. The protection offered to some species such as bats, extends beyond the individual animals to the places they use for shelter or resting. Please note that this consent does not override the statutory protection afforded to any such species. In the event that your proposals could potentially affect a protected species you should seek the advice of a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist and consider the need for a licence from Natural England prior to commencing works. Please see Natural England's website for further information on protected species.
- 6 The effect of paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 is that planning permission granted for development of land in England is deemed to have been granted subject to the condition (biodiversity gain condition) that development may not begin unless:

(a) a Biodiversity Gain Plan has been submitted to the planning authority, and

(b) the planning authority has approved the plan.

The planning authority, for the purposes of determining whether to approve a Biodiversity Gain Plan, if one is required in respect of this permission would be Wiltshire Council.

There are statutory exemptions and transitional arrangements which mean that the biodiversity gain condition does not always apply. For further information on exempt developments please refer to:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-net-gain-exempt-developments>

Based on the information available this permission is considered to be one which will not require the approval of a biodiversity gain plan before development is begun because one or more of the statutory exemptions or transitional arrangements is considered to apply.

Níc Thomas - Director of Planning, Economy and Climate

NOTES

- 1 **Other Necessary Consents.** This document only conveys permission for the proposed development under Part III of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the applicant must also comply with all the byelaws, regulations and statutory provisions in force in the area and secure such other approvals and permissions as may be necessary under other parts of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 or other legislation.
 - 1.1 the need in appropriate cases to obtain approval under Building Regulations. **(The Building Regulations may be applicable to this proposal. Please contact the Council's Building Control team before considering work on site);**
 - 1.2 the need to obtain an appropriate order if the proposal involves the stopping up or diversion of a public right of way or other highway (including highway verge);
 - 1.3 the need to obtain a separate "Listed Building Consent" to the demolition, alteration or extension of any listed building of architectural or historic interest;
 - 1.4 the need to make any appropriate arrangements under the Highways Act 1980, in respect of any works within the limits of a highway. The address of the Highway Authority is County Hall, Trowbridge, BA14 8JD (It is the responsibility of the applicant to ascertain whether the proposed development affects any listed building or public right of way / other highway, including highway verge).
- 2 **Appeals.** If the applicant is aggrieved by the decision of the local planning authority to grant permission subject to conditions, he may appeal to the Secretary of State for the Environment in accordance with Section 78(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 within six months of the date of this decision. (Information and forms relating to the appeals process can be found at the Planning Portal - <http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/appeals>).
- 3 **Climate Change.** Wiltshire Council acknowledges the climate emergency and is seeking to make the county carbon neutral. You are encouraged to include energy efficiency that exceeds building regulations and to meet residual energy demand through renewable energy and low-carbon technologies, including high levels of electric vehicle charging points. The developer is encouraged to contact the climate team to discuss this further. climate@wiltshire.gov.uk
- 4 **CIL.** The applicant is advised that the development hereby approved may represent chargeable development under the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) and Wiltshire Council's CIL Charging Schedule. A separate Community Infrastructure Levy Liability Notice will be issued by the Local Planning Authority. Should you require further information with regards to CIL please refer to the Council's Website [Community Infrastructure Levy \(CIL\) - Wiltshire Council](#)