

DELEGATED REPORT

Application No: P/22/0162

Site Address: 14 Anthony Grove
Abercanaid
Merthyr Tydfil
CF48 1YX

Development: Demolition of detached garage and erection of new detached garage

Case Officer: David James

Site Visit: 25th July 2022

Application Expiry Date: 15th August 2022

Consultation reply date expired: 14th July 2022

APPLICATION SITE

The application site relates to a detached bungalow situated within the residential area of Abercanaid. The property faces northeast onto a shared drive and turning area. It is bound by other dwellings to either side and to the rear, and, partially to the front.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

This application seeks full planning permission for the construction of a detached garage. The garage would be sited within the side garden area of the property, in a similar position to a smaller existing garage.

The proposed garage would be of an irregular shape, considerably wider at the front than at the rear. It would measure a maximum of 7m wide, 9.5m deep and 2.6m high, incorporating a flat roof. It would have a roller shutter in its front elevation, a door in its northwest side elevation (facing the bungalow), and a window in its southwest (rear) elevation. The walls of the garage would have a brickwork finish, the roof would be edpm rubber, the roller shutter would be black galvanised metal, and the window and door would be upvc.

The proposal also includes the erection/repair of a blockwork wall measuring a maximum of 2.1m in height, to the southeast of the proposed garage.

PLANNING HISTORY

There is no recent planning history relating to the application site.

CONSULTATION

Engineering and Highways Manager

No objection

PUBLICITY

In accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012, letters were sent to the adjoining properties.

No letters of objection were received following this publicity exercise.

POLICY CONTEXT

National Policy

The Future Wales – the National Plan 2040 sets out a strategy for addressing key national priorities through the planning system, including sustaining and developing a vibrant economy, achieving decarbonisation and climate-resilience, developing strong ecosystems and improving the health and well-being of our communities.

Planning Policy Wales (PPW) Edition 11 (February 2021) sets out the land use policies of the Welsh Government. The most relevant sections are:

Sections 3.3 – 3.16 sets out the principles of good design in new development proposals, which should take into account its relationship to its surrounding context.

The policies in PPW are supported by Technical Advice Notes (TANs). The most relevant TAN to this application is as follows:-

TAN 12 - Design advises that the Assembly Government is strongly committed to achieving the delivery of good design in the built and natural environment, which is fit for purpose and delivers environmental sustainability, economic development, and social inclusion at every scale throughout Wales.

Local Policy

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) 2016-2031:

Policy SW4 – Settlement boundaries

Policy SW11 – Sustainable design and Placemaking

Policy SW12 – Improving the Transport Network

Policy CW1 – Historic Environment

Policy EnW1 – Nature Conservation and Ecosystem Resilience

Policy EnW4 – Environmental Protection

Other Material Considerations – Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG):

SPG 4 - Sustainable Design

SPG 5 - Nature and Development

SPG 6 – Householder Design

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The main issues to consider when assessing this application relate to whether the proposal would have an acceptable impact on the character and appearance of the existing property and wider street scene. The impact on the amenity of neighbouring residents is also an important consideration.

In terms of visual amenity, the proposed garage would be located on the southeast side of the bungalow. The bungalow is located at the end of a cul-de-sac, and a shared drive and turning area. It also has relatively high vegetation on its front boundary. Given this, as well as the proposed garage's relatively low height and its 5.5m set back from the property's front boundary, it would not be readily visible in the front street scene. As such, it would not have an adverse impact on the appearance of the dwelling when viewed from the highway.

It is acknowledged that the garage would be relatively large. However, it would not extend in front of, or behind, the bungalow, and can be easily accommodated within the plot. It would also be of a relatively low height and would be mainly be constructed of materials that match the bungalow. It is noted that there are other garages, of varying design and scale, in the street scene. As such, it is considered to be of an acceptable design and its scale would not appear out of proportion with the dwelling or plot. Taking this in account, the proposal accords with Policy SW11 of the LDP.

Regard has also been had for the impact of the proposal on the residential amenities of the surrounding occupants. In this respect, it is noted that the garage would be sited on the opposite side of the bungalow from the adjoining dwelling of 15, Anthony Grove to the northwest. The application site is located at a lower level than the adjoining dwellings of 32, Anthony Grove and Colliery Cottage, to the rear. The garage would also be set back approximately 11.5m from the boundaries of these properties. As such, it would have no harmful impact on the residential amenity of these dwellings.

The application site is also at a lower level than the adjoining dwelling of Brooklands. The garage would be set back from the boundary with this adjoining dwelling by 2m. Given the garage's low height, and with no windows or doors facing Brooklands, it is not considered that the proposal would have any harmful impact in terms of loss of light, overlooking or loss of privacy, or overbearing impact. The same is true of the proposed blockwork wall, which would be set back 2m from the boundary with Brooklands.

The garage would be set back approximately 5.5m from the shared boundary with 12b, Anthony Grove, to the front. Given this, and the garage's low height, it is not considered that the proposal would have any harmful impact in terms of loss of light, overlooking or loss of privacy, or overbearing impact.

Considering the above, the overall impact of the proposal would be acceptable in terms of loss of light, loss of privacy and overbearing impact. Therefore, the development is deemed to be acceptable with respect to residential amenity and thus in compliance with Policy SW11 of the LDP.

The duty to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, under section 3 of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ("the WBFG Act") has been taken into

consideration when determining this application. In reaching the following recommendation, the ways of working set out at section 5 of the WBFG Act have been considered and thus the proposal is in accordance with the sustainable development principle through its contribution towards one or more of the Welsh Ministers well-being objectives set out as required by section 8 of the WBFG Act.

Accordingly the following recommendation is made:

RECOMMENDATION: BE APPROVED subject to the following CONDITIONS:

1. The development shall begin not later than five years from the date of this decision.

Reason - To comply with Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans and documents:

AG-02 (Proposed Plans & Elevations) received 20th June 2022

AG-04 (Proposed Site) received 20th June 2022

Reason -To ensure compliance with the approved plans and clearly define the scope of the permission.

INFORMATIVES

1. This planning permission does not provide consent to undertake works that require a European Protected Species (EPS) licence.

All bats and their roosts are protected under UK and European legislation. It is an offence to deliberately kill, injure, capture or disturb a bat or to recklessly damage or destroy their breeding sites or resting places.

If works are planned on a building/tree in which bats are found to be roosting, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) must be contacted. on 0300 065 3000 or at <https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/species-licensing/apply-for-a-protected-species-licence/bat-licences/?lang=en>.

If work has already commenced and bats are found, or if any evidence that bats are using the site as a roost is found, work should cease and NRW should be contacted immediately.

Under these circumstances, an EPS licence is likely to be required to undertake the works within the law.

2. All birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) while they are breeding.

If works to any trees, hedgerows and/or other nesting bird habitat (including buildings with suitable features) are to be undertaken, they will take place outside of the bird nesting season. If the works must be undertaken during the nesting season (generally from 1st March until 31st August, although birds are known to nest outside of these dates in suitable conditions), a breeding bird survey will be required and must be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist. Any active nests identified will be protected until the young have fledged.

Where a Schedule 1 species (as defined in the Wildlife and Countryside Act - <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/schedule/1>) is involved, compensation for impacts, e.g., loss of nesting sites, will be devised and implemented.

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED



Head of Town Planning

DATE:

27/7/22