

Consultee Comments for Planning Application P22/01300/O

Application Summary

Application Number: P22/01300/O

Address: Land At Sodbury Road Wickwar South Gloucestershire GL12 8PG

Proposal: Erection of up to 180 dwellings, a local shop and associated infrastructure (Outline) with access to be determined; all other matters reserved.

Case Officer: Jonathan Ryan

Consultee Details

Name: Ms Alison Catlin

Address: South Gloucestershire Council, Department for Environment and Community Services, PO Box 299, Community Cultural Services,, Civic Centre, High Street, Kingswood, BS15 0DR

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On Behalf Of: Arts And Development

Comments

Places affect us all they are where we live, work and spend our leisure time. Well-designed places influence the quality of our experience as we spend time in them and move around them. We enjoy them, as occupants or users but also as passers-by and visitors. They can lift our spirits by making us feel at home, giving us a buzz of excitement or creating a sense of delight. They have been shown to affect our health and well-being, our feelings of safety, security, inclusion and belonging, and our sense of community cohesion. National Design Guide (updated Jan 2021)

The NPPF highlights the social objective of the planning system by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support health, social and cultural well-being.

Within the NPPG there is reference to cultural facilities and services that meet community needs. Plans should take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community and to ensure that developments and 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.

In line with this the South Gloucestershire Local Plan: Core Strategy (adopted December 2013 Policy CS23 - Community Infrastructure and Cultural Activity states that The Council will work with partners to provide additional, extended or enhanced community infrastructure and encourage participation in cultural activity. Developers of Major Residential Schemes, and schemes that will attract a large number of users, will be required to demonstrate how their proposals will contribute to the objectives of the South Gloucestershire Cultural, Heritage and Arts Strategies, through the

provision of additional, extended or enhanced facilities and access to/or facilitation of art and cultural activities for the new residents.

The NPPF states that 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. In Section 12:130, the NPPF also states that 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.

This is highlighted in South Gloucestershire Local Plan: Core Strategy (adopted December 2013) Policy CS1 High Quality Design Point 7

Where the scale, location and/or significance of the new development proposals warrants it, embed public art within the public realm or in a location where it can be viewed from public areas.

The National Design Guide states that It is based on national planning policy, practice guidance and objectives for good design as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. Specific, detailed and measurable criteria for good design are most appropriately set out at the local level. Public art is clearly required as a specific local criteria in South Gloucestershire planning guidance and as such should be included in proposals for new developments.

Recommendation

In the light of this policy basis and planning requirements for the two neighbouring sites, if the application is approved, the Council should apply a planning condition for a public art programme that is relevant and specific to the development and its locality and commensurate with its size and importance. The programme should be integrated into the site and its phasing plan.

This application makes no reference to public art in its Design and Access statement nor has a specific document relating to public art. Therefore, the condition should require full details and designs to be agreed as part of reserve matters.

The public art programme should be devised and managed by a public art professional to ensure a high quality scheme.

Ixia, the national public art advisory body, defines Public Art as three types of activity, one or more of which may be relevant or appropriate for a particular site:

1. Art in public places, for example permanent artworks like the Angel of the North or temporary interventions as part of a series or festival;
2. Art as public space, when artist collaborate with design and other professionals and members of the public on the function and design of buildings and spaces; and

3. Socially-engaged practice, when the involvement of individual members of the public or specific group is at the centre of the artists work

Artists can work collaboratively in a variety of ways to contribute to public realm and building projects, including

- Working as a member of the design team, and engaging with the context and function of the development

- Contributing to the master planning process at a conceptual level and contributing to the social and sensory dimensions of place-making

- Working creatively with communities in order to explore, identify and articulate priorities and issues within the locale

- Creating innovative temporary works in order to engage with the community or to reveal aspects of the site as it undergoes a period of change

Public Art is widely recognised as having a broad range of benefits including:

- Environmental regeneration, place-making, identity

- Economic encourages inward investment, promotes a sense of confidence and positivity

- Social promotes civic and personal pride, encourages people to rediscover and interact with their environment, used as a tool to facilitate social inclusion

- Cultural community development tool, raises the profile of the arts in general, offers opportunities for people to participate in the arts

The type of collaboration and outputs of a programme will depend on the nature of the development and the particular needs of the site or locality.

For further information on South Gloucestershire Councils advice on art and design in the public realm, please refer to SGC Art and Design in the Public Realm Advice Note . For general information regarding public art, please go to www.publicartonline.org.uk