Agenda



Planning Review Committee

Date: Wednesday 27 April 2016

Time: **4.00 pm**

Place: The Old Library, Town Hall

For any further information please contact:

Catherine Phythian, Committee and Member Services

Officer

Telephone: 01865 252402

Email: cphythian@oxford.gov.uk

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record the meeting please let the Contact Officer know how you wish to do this before the start of the meeting.

Planning Review Committee

Membership

Chair Councillor James Fry North;

Vice-Chair Councillor Jean Fooks Summertown;

Councillor Stephen Goddard Wolvercote;
Councillor Sam Hollick Holywell;
Councillor Pat Kennedy Lye Valley;
Councillor Mark Lygo Churchill;

Councillor Chewe Munkonge Quarry and Risinghurst;
Councillor Dee Sinclair Quarry and Risinghurst;
Councillor Ed Turner Rose Hill and Iffley;

The quorum for this meeting is five members. Substitutes are permitted

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AGENDA

Pages

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3 FLOREY BUILDING, 23-24 ST CLEMENT'S STREET:15/03643/FUL

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This application was approved at the West Area Planning Committee on 12 April 2016 and subsequently called in by Councillors Benjamin, Wade, Hollingsworth, Simmons, Brandt, Pressel, Wolff, Tarver, Thomas, Hollick, Wilkinson and Brown for the following reasons:

- to consider the wider impacts on both the heritage and the local economy because of the visitors the building attracts. There are also public concerns about the way the decision was conducted.
- this extension is inappropriate to a Grade II listed building.
- concerns about a lack of proper process a local resident advises that comments by herself and others were sent as requested by The Queen's College to a retired member of OCC staff but do not appear to have been passed on to the College itself.
- impact on a listed building
- The Queens College objected to the development on the neighbouring car park on grounds that it would obscure views of the iconic Stirling building, but this proposed block-like structure would be considerably closer! It is a sensitive decision on a major development proposal that should consider the wider impacts, and it is important that officers test their recommendations thoroughly with elected members.

Application Number: 15/03643/FUL

Proposal: Refurbishment and extension of existing student

accommodation building to provide 25 additional study

bedrooms, conference and support facilities.

Site Address: Florey Building 23-24 St Clement's Street (site plan:

appendix 1)

Committee Decision: The Committee resolved to grant planning permission for application 15/03643/FUL subject to the following conditions including those agreed at the meeting.

Conditions:

- 1. Development begun within time limit.
- 2. Develop in accordance with approved plans.
- 3. Material Samples in Conservation Area.
- 4. Landscape Plan.
- 5. Landscape Implementation.
- 6. Hard Surface Design Tree Roots.

- 7. Underground Services Tree Roots.
- 8. Tree Protection Plan Implementation.
- 9. Arboricultural Method Statement Implementation.
- 10. Student Accommodation Full Time Courses.
- 11. Student Accommodation No cars.
- 12. Student Accommodation Out of Term Use.
- Management Plan including Service Management and Traffic Management Strategy and for the York Place entrance a restriction on delivery hours
- 14. Archaeology WSI.
- 15. Travel Plan.
- 16. Student Travel Information Packs.
- 17. Cycle and Refuse Areas Provided.
- 18. Construction Traffic Management Plan.
- 19. Noise Levels as stated in Noise Assessment Report.
- 20. Air conditioning plant.
- 21. Scheme of extraction / treating cooking odours from kitchen.
- 22. Sustainability Statement Implementation
- 23. Flood Risk Assessment Recommendation Implementation.
- 24. Drainage Strategy.
- 25. Biodiversity Measures / Enhancements.
- 26. Development of a Servicing Plan for all uses.
- 27. Contaminated Land Risk Assessment.
- 28. Scheme to provide noise insulation to reduce noise breakout.

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 MARCH 2016

The Committee is asked to approve the minutes of the last meeting as a true and correct record.

5 DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The following dates are scheduled for meetings of this Committee (if required):

2016
6 May 2016
22 June 2016
13 July 2016
10 August 2016
14 September 2016
12 October 2016
9 November 2016
20 December 2016

2017 18 January 2017 15 February 2017 15 March 2017 12 April 2017

24 May 2017

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DECLARING INTERESTS

General duty

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed "Declarations of Interest" or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your* employment; sponsorship (ie payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council's area; licenses for land in the Council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council's website.

Declaring an interest

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest.

If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Members' Code of Conduct and public perception

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members' Code of Conduct says that a member "must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself" and that "you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned". What this means is that the matter of interests must be viewed within the context of the Code as a whole and regard should continue to be paid to the perception of the public.

*Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR DEALING WITH PLANNING APPLICATIONS AT AREA PLANNING COMMITTEES AND PLANNING REVIEW COMMITTEE

Planning controls the development and use of land in the public interest. Applications must be determined in accordance with the Council's adopted policies, unless material planning considerations indicate otherwise. The Committee must be conducted in an orderly, fair and impartial manner.

The following minimum standards of practice will be followed.

- 1. All Members will have pre-read the officers' report. Members are also encouraged to view any supporting material and to visit the site if they feel that would be helpful.
- 2. At the meeting the Chair will draw attention to this code of practice. The Chair will also explain who is entitled to vote.
- 3. The sequence for each application discussed at Committee shall be as follows:-
- (a) the Planning Officer will introduce it with a short presentation;
- (b) any objectors may speak for up to 5 minutes in total;
- (c) any supporters may speak for up to 5 minutes in total;
- (d) speaking times may be extended by the Chair, provided that equal time is given to both sides. Any non-voting City Councillors and/or Parish and County Councillors who may wish to speak for or against the application will have to do so as part of the two 5-minute slots mentioned above;
- (e) voting members of the Committee may raise questions (which shall be directed via the Chair to the lead officer presenting the application, who may pass them to other relevant Officers and/or other speakers); and
- (f) voting members will debate and determine the application.

4. Preparation of Planning Policy documents – Public Meetings

At public meetings Councillors should be careful to be neutral and to listen to all points of view. They should take care to express themselves with respect to all present including officers. They should never say anything that could be taken to mean they have already made up their mind before an application is determined.

5. Public requests to speak

Members of the public wishing to speak must notify the Committee and Member Services Officer before the meeting starts giving their name, the application/agenda item they wish to speak on and whether they are objecting to or supporting the application. Notifications can be made via e-mail or telephone, to the Committee and Member Services Officer (whose details are on the front of the Committee agenda) or given in person before the meeting starts.

6. Written statements from the public

Members of the public and councillors can send the Committee and Member Services Officer written statements to circulate to committee members, and the planning officer prior to the meeting. Statements are accepted and circulated by noon, two working days before the start of the meeting. Material received from the public at the meeting will not be accepted or circulated, as Councillors are unable to view proper consideration to the new information and officers may not be able to check for accuracy or provide considered advice on any material consideration arising.

7. Exhibiting model and displays at the meeting

Applicants or members of the public can exhibit models or displays at the meeting as long as they notify the Committee and Member Services Officer of their intention at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting so that members can be notified.

8. Recording meetings

Members of the public and press can record the proceedings of any public meeting of the Council. If you do wish to record the meeting, please notify the Committee clerk prior to the meeting so that they can inform the Chair and direct you to the best plan to record. You are not allowed to disturb the meeting and the Chair will stop the meeting if they feel a recording is disruptive.

The Council asks those recording the meeting:

- Not to edit the recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation of the proceedings. This includes not editing an image or views expressed in a way that may ridicule, or show a lack of respect towards those being recorded.
- To avoid recording members of the public present unless they are addressing the meeting.

For more information on recording at meetings please refer to the Council's <u>Protocol for Recording</u> at <u>Public Meetings</u>

9. Meeting Etiquette

All representations should be heard in silence and without interruption. The Chair will not permit disruptive behaviour. Members of the public are reminded that if the meeting is not allowed to proceed in an orderly manner then the Chair will withdraw the opportunity to address the Committee. The Committee is a meeting held in public, not a public meeting.

10. Members should not:

- (a) rely on considerations which are not material planning considerations in law;
- (b) question the personal integrity or professionalism of officers in public;
- (c) proceed to a vote if minded to determine an application against officer's recommendation until the reasons for that decision have been formulated; or
- (d) seek to re-design, or negotiate amendments to, an application. The Committee must determine applications as they stand and may impose appropriate conditions.



West Area Planning Committee

12th April 2016

Application Number: 15/03643/FUL

Decision Due by: 15th February 2016

Proposal: Refurbishment and extension of existing student

accommodation building to provide 25 additional study

bedrooms, conference and support facilities.

Site Address: Florey Building 23-24 St Clement's Street (site plan:

appendix 1)

Ward: St Clement's Ward

Agent: Ms Fiona Lamb Applicant: Mr David Goddard

Recommendation:

The West Area Planning Committee is recommended to grant planning permission for the following reasons:

- The development proposals represent an appropriate response to the issues of increasing student accommodation on site, providing conference facilities and of restoring the listed building. The City Council has given considerable weight and importance to the desirability of preserving or enhancing designated heritage assets and their settings, including the listed building and conservation area, and that any harm that would result from the proposed development is justified by the public benefits of the proposal. The proposal has been designed to safeguard the amenities of the adjoining properties and would not create any adverse impacts in terms of highways, flood risk, sustainability, archaeology, biodiversity and land contamination that could not be mitigated by appropriately worded conditions. Therefore the proposal is considered to comply with policies contained within the Oxford Local Plan, Oxford Core Strategy, Sites and Housing Plan and National Planning policy and guidance.
- 2 Officers have considered carefully all objections to these proposals. Officers have come to the view, for the detailed reasons set out in the officer's report, that the objections do not amount, individually or cumulatively, to a reason for refusal and that all the issues that have been raised have been adequately addressed and the relevant bodies consulted.
- 3 The Council considers that the proposal accords with the policies of the development plan as summarised below. It has taken into consideration all other

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material matters, including matters raised in response to consultation and publicity. Any material harm that the development would otherwise give rise to can be offset by the conditions imposed.

Conditions:

- 1 Development begun within time limit
- 2 Develop in accordance with approved plans
- 3 Material Samples in Conservation Area
- 4 Landscape Plan
- 5 Landscape Implementation
- 6 Hard Surface Design Tree Roots
- 7 Underground Services Tree Roots
- 8 Tree Protection Plan Implementation
- 9 Arboricultural Method Statement Implementation
- 10 Student Accommodation Full Time Courses
- 11 Student Accommodation No cars
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- 21 Scheme of extraction / treating cooking odours from kitchen
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- 24 Drainage Strategy
- 25 Biodiversity Measures / Enhancements
- 26 Development of a Servicing Plan for all uses
- 27 Contaminated Land Risk Assessment

Main Local Plan Policies:

Oxford Local Plan 2001-2016

- **CP1** Development Proposals
- CP6 Efficient Use of Land & Density
- CP8 Design Development to Relate to its Context
- **CP9** Creating Successful New Places
- **CP10** Siting Development to Meet Functional Needs
- CP13 Accessibility
- CP19 Nuisance
- CP20 Lighting
- CP21 Noise
- TR1 Transport Assessment
- TR4 Pedestrian & Cycle Facilities
- **HE2** Archaeology
- **HE3** Listed Buildings and Their Setting

HE7 - Conservation Areas

NE15 - Loss of Trees and Hedgerows

Core Strategy

CS2_ - Previously developed and greenfield land

CS11_ - Flooding

CS25_ - Student accommodation

CS12 - Biodiversity

CS18 - Urban design, town character, historic environment

Sites and Housing Plan

HP5_ - Location of Student Accommodation

HP6_ - Affordable Housing from Student Accommodation

HP15 – Residential Cycle Parking

Other Material Considerations:

- National Planning Policy Framework
- This application is within the St. Clement's And Iffley Road Conservation Area and is affecting a Grade II Listed Building.
- Planning Practice Guidance

Relevant Site History:

68/19646/A H - Residential graduate accommodation with caretakers flat: Approved

71/24116/A H - Formation of new carriageway to Florey Building: Approved

<u>72/12926/A_H</u> - Renewal of temporary consent for garage for two vehicles: Temporary Permission

<u>82/00512/GFH</u> - Revised access to Florey Building and St. Clement's Car Park associated works: Deemed Consent

Public Consultation

Statutory Consultees:

Historic England:

- The Florey building is 'truly remarkable' and has historic, architectural and aesthetic significance;
- The interiors contribute to the completeness as they are as Stirling designed;
- The building has always been challenging to live in and use and restoration and modernisation are necessary for its long-term future;
- The proposals represent a much-needed upgrading of the accommodation of this highly-important building. The proposals involve a high degree of change and a degree of harm, however they are probably the least harmful means of meeting the College's brief. The harm is less than substantial but not insignificant. Historic England accepts that this is justified to ensure that the building has a sustainable long-term future;

- The design of the western extension and the infill under the podium, is the most sensitive means of providing the extra accommodation needed to house the entire first year undergraduate cohort
- The harm mostly would arise from the infilling of the area under the podium and from the internal reconfiguration as the building would lose its completeness and not be as Stirling intended; and the extension would make it more difficult to appreciate the building's remarkable form and views would be compromised; and
- Historic England defers to the Council to weigh the balance between harm and benefit.

The Twentieth Century Society:

- The Society has been involved in pre-application discussions on the above site with the architects.
- Has concerns relating to the insertion of the new porter's lodge and additional ground floor accommodation. It is hard to ascertain from the provided visualisations the overall impact on the building. The movement forward of the screen wall affects the permeability of the space in terms of the passage of light between the quad and the rear approach of the building. This is a key feature of the building: the perceived separation of elements that the view of sky between the building and pods beneath confers is vitally important to the design ethos of the space. We would request that the Council seek assurances that it is the intentions of the applicants to maintain these views.
- Objects in principle to the loss of the mezzanine level in the majority of the double height rooms on the 4th/5th floor. The earlier proposals envisaged the retention of six of these 'heritage rooms': now reduced to three. The Society would like to see a minimum of six of these rooms being retained and in their original configuration. The loss of such a large part of significant heritage is not considered acceptable, especially as an earlier iteration of the proposals was considerably less damaging.
- Disappointed that the original internal décor and fittings in the student rooms are to be lost. Wants consideration being given to the retention of some of the timber detailing and original fabrics in the refurbished rooms, as well as some elements of the original colour scheme.
- It is noted that inserting the new rooms into the mezzanine will have an impact on the external appearance of new glazing system being proposed for the building. The "cascade effect" in the glazing is of fundamental importance and the detailing of the floor junctions with the glass at this point is critical in maintaining the glazing pattern. Whilst the Society understands the need for the new glazing system and acknowledges that considerable expertise has gone in to ensuring the similarity of the new to the original fabric, the join area at the new floor junction contains extra opening lights which break the continuity in glazing at this point. The Society would like to see this detail revised to minimise the visual impact of the changes at this critical junction.
- The proposed new annexe will be out of the main axis of view on the initial approach to the Florey Building, which the Society considers to be the correct approach to ensure that it is read as subservient to the listed building. The Society considers the proposed scale and massing of the new build extension to be uncontentious. The use of a complementary cladding material is appropriate. The Florey Building is rugged and robust, as well as being quirky in nature, and can withstand an extension that develops this ethos. The desire to re-invigorate

the road approach and especially the Riverside walk is welcomed, as is the very necessary proposal to provide a proper common room space.

Oxfordshire County Council Highways Authority:

- The county council is not opposed to the principle of the application, but without further information, would object
- The car park within the site will be reduced from 26 spaces which are currently
 used predominately by staff but also students at the beginning and end of term,
 to one disabled space. The site will also be able to accommodate service and
 maintenance vehicles and spaces for these vehicles will not be marked. The
 existing access to the site from St Clement's will be retained and an additional
 access point proposed from York Place
- The application would provide 78 cycle parking spaces to the south and east of the building away from the access and turning areas. This would accord with the adopted cycle parking standards
- The Transport Statement provides details of the accessibility of the site by noncar modes, however, there is no information included to demonstrate how staff that currently use the car park will be expected to travel to the site in future.
- There is no information to demonstrate that a Student Travel Information Pack for every student will be produced to promote sustainable transport
- There are no details to ensure how students will not bring or keep motor vehicles in Oxford
- A Construction Traffic Management Plan will be required
- The Transport statement outlines that the development will not have a negative impacts upon the highway network. However, there would be a concern about how drop off and pick up times will be managed to avoid queueing on the highway.
- The Transport Statement states that the additional two storey building set out in the application will be used to accommodate up to 100 people for various functions such as lectures and dances. While it is accepted that the location of the site is easily accessible by sustainable modes of transport, no information is provided to indicate where the users of this facility are likely to travel from or what impact this is likely to have on trip generation. This information is requested.

Third Parties

York Place Residents' Association

- The Residents' Association objects in the strongest possible terms to The Queen's College's plans to create an additional building and using York Place to service the Florey site
- The Association attended a preliminary 'consultation' exercise in the summer and were shocked to discover the extent of the work proposed. We therefore tried to engage the College in discussion on its plans and regret that the College has not responded in any meaningful way.
- We are now presented with essentially unchanged plans, underlying the fact that the summer exercise served no useful purpose whatsoever.
- We have come to admire the architect, Sterling's, conception and vision that the building represents and appreciate its being recorded as a Listed Building. Indeed, the Florey Building is recognised as an important Oxford landmark, and it seems that visiting

architects, their students and supporters of modern architecture make a bee-line to see and photograph it. Their preferred view, indeed the ONLY comprehensive view, is from York Place itself and the path leading down to the river. We therefore consider a plan to erect a new, barrack-like structure of even one storey obscuring the Florey Building, right up against it and in close proximity to nos. 7 and 8 York Place, entirely out of place (some have called it 'sacrilege', others 'a desecration'). We strongly oppose the proposal on aesthetic as well as on cultural heritage grounds.

- We cannot at all accept the argument that the proposed two-storey building represents an acceptable compromise between heritage concerns and practical usage. Indeed, Queen's, with its considerable resources, is in a position to adjust its undergraduate intake so that the number of students corresponds to the present number of rooms in the Florey Building. If it is felt that increased breakfast facilities are required, then internal re- planning is surely preferable to an ugly building on the doorstep, obscuring a representative and valuable example of 20th century architecture. Queen's also, unlike other poorer colleges, does not have to rely on conference income to balance its books, and extra facilities to increase conference provision beyond that available on its main site in the centre of town is entirely unnecessary. That the College can consider the astronomical cost of refurbishment of the Florey Building at all speaks of its considerable wealth.
- We understood from The Queen's College that it was in the process of purchasing from the City the strip of land stretching from the foot of York Place, adjacent to 8 York Place, down to the river. This is, of course, the access by the general public to the towpath on the right, leading to Angel and Greyhound Meadow, which the College blocked off months ago. The Residents' Association was not consulted on this matter. To the left, the towpath leads to the FRONT doors of houses on the river. As owners, we have used this access 'without force, stealth or permission', as the legal phrase goes, since the houses were built in 1981. Indeed, the strip represents an essential route for tradespeople and their vehicles and skips builders, painters, window-cleaners, roofers, delivery-men, etc. to carry out necessary works.
- There is also a safety issue. The City's HMO licence is only granted if there is safe exit from the houses on to the towpath and up to York Place. It must be understood that there has also to be access for fire-engines.
- We vehemently oppose any plan for deliveries to, and rubbish collections from, the Florey Building via York Place which is already congested by lorries dropping off supplies to the Public House, the Cocktail Bar and the constant flow of traffic by the estate agents whose car-park if off the private forecourt of nos. 1 − 8, as well ambulances and vehicles servicing Anchor Court. The (relatively narrow) exit to St Clement's is frequently blocked.
- More traffic in York Place should be resisted. The Queen's College already has a dedicated road from St Clement's Street for deliveries, rubbish-collection, etc., and this should remain the only access.
- There is no way that a proposal involving a rectangular 2-storey building alongside the path down to the river could be made acceptable. We understand that this building would effectively become a restaurant/kitchen for undergraduates and the conference trade, involving deliveries, smells via extractor fans, rubbish collections and noise within very close proximity to residential housing, i.e. nos. 1 8 York Place and the Anchor Housing complex. And all that at the expense of obscuring a 20th century architectural masterpiece

103 Southfield Road

Queens College is to be commended for appointing Avanti Architects whose skill in dealing with modernist buildings is second to none. I accept that some additional accommodation may be warranted, and commend some of the design proposals.

With regard specifically to work proposed to the Florey Building itself, there are a number aspects to which I do however object:

- a) It appears from the drawings that the proposed additional space inserted underneath the main volume of accommodation will adversely affect the crucial view of sky and light that separates the original lower forms from the upper form suspended above. The separation of these two elements is essential to the quality of the design. I don't believe this need preclude additional accommodation, but rather that careful reconsideration of levels, heights and site lines is necessary to ameliorate this unfortunate impact.
- b) The proposed enlargement of the opening into the enclosed ground floor quad space destroys the initial conception of this as a private, quiet space, most particularly given the noise and busyness of St Clements. Such a wide opening is contrary to Oxford's tradition of enclosed spaces surrounded by accommodation: it should remain a "secret" place, hidden from view until entered.
- c) The loss of the tall uninterrupted glazing that fronts the 4th and 5th floors: this change to the glazing rhythm is important for which a glazing solution should be found if the additional floor is to be inserted. The details of this glazing, as well as other architectural details are not sufficiently clear from the drawings. Given the listed status of the building further details are important in order to understand the proposals fully. I have no doubt that with further development Avanti can develop the design in detail for the Florey Building itself to satisfactorily accommodate some of the necessary accommodation.

The proposed annexe however has no redeeming features. The essence of the Florey is that it stands as an isolated form, perceived as a sculptural object. The annexe renders this impossible as it only be some 5.7 meters from the Florey at its closest and some 7m at most. Queens' recognised this when objecting to the adjacent car park development - yet that proposal was some 16 m away.

In terms of locating the annexe I am aware there is a drain running across the site on which they do not propose to build - but that is not an excuse for so adversely affecting this heritage asset which is regarded as so important worldwide.

Pre-Application Discussions / Oxford Design Review Panel

The applicant has undertaken extensive pre-application discussions with officers, Historic England, C20 Society, Alan Berman, Oxford Civic Society, Oxford Architectural and Historical Society, Oxford Preservation Trust, and public / local community and neighbouring properties prior to submission of the application.

A public consultation was held on the 9th July 2015, with invites issued to residents of York Place and Anchor Court, businesses and residents adjacent to the entrance to the site, and local amenity groups. 14 people attended the event.

The scheme has been reviewed by the Oxford Design Review Panel on the 16th October 2015, and 2nd July 2015. Copies of their comments are included within **appendix 2** of this report

Officers Assessment:

Site Location and Description:

- 1. The site is located on the northern side of St Clement's St and is bordered by the River Cherwell and Angel and Greyhound Meadow to the north, St Clements public car park and new student housing to the east, residential properties of York Place and Anchor Court to the west and south respectively (appendix 1).
- 2. The site comprises The Florey Building, which is a nationally significant heritage asset and was listed at Grade II in 2009. It was designed by James Stirling and Partners and completed in 1971 and forms one of a trio of "Red Buildings", now a famous part of the architect's work. The building has a comprehensive list description which emphasises its innovative design, architectural value and associational value with James Stirling. The site is also within the St Clement's and Iffley Road Conservation Area
- The four storey building currently accommodates 78 study rooms within a structure that is suspended above a sculpted podium and wraps around a quad which faces northwards towards the River Cherwell and Angel and Greyhound Meadow.
- 4. The main vehicular and pedestrian access is from St Clement's Street alongside the entrance to the public car park, although a secondary access is located within York Place. The forecourt around the building currently provides approximately 26 parking spaces which are used by Queens College staff.

Proposal

- 5. The proposal is seeking planning permission and listed building consent for the refurbishment of the listed building and the erection of a two-storey linked extension at the western end of the building.
- 6. The listed building would be refurbished to provide more modern student accommodation in order to house the college's undergraduates. The development would provide 23 new study bedrooms increasing the total number of bedrooms from 78 to 101. The works would include providing en-suite facilities for all rooms, improved access and circulation within existing corridors, alterations to the ground and lower floors to improve the existing bar area and a new bedroom for the caretaker / porters lodgings, and gyp-rooms incorporating basic cooking facilities on each floor.
- 7. In addition to these works, a new two-storey linked extension would also be created in order to provide a kitchen, servery, dining rooms, multi-purpose space for lectures, dances, conference functions and exercise classes, study rooms and basement plant room.
- 8. The development would seek to maintain the existing access from St Clement's Street for pedestrian, cycle, and vehicular movements. A secondary access is

also proposed via York Place which is to be used for servicing, deliveries and maintenance although the majority of movements will be via the main access.

- 9. Officers consider that the main determining issues would be as follows
 - Principle of Development
 - Student Accommodation
 - Built Form & Impact upon Designated Heritage Assets
 - Impact on adjoining properties
 - Noise Impact
 - Landscaping
 - Highways & Transport
 - Flood Risk
 - Sustainability
 - Archaeology
 - Biodiversity
 - Contaminated Land
 - CIL
 - Other matters

Principle of Development

- 10. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) encourages the effective use of land by reusing land which has been previously developed, it also aims to secure good standards of design and amenity, to support the transition to a low carbon future, and to focus significant development in locations which are sustainable and where the fullest possible use of transport by sustainable mean can be made. The proposed development is consistent with those principles.
- 11. Policy CP6 of the Oxford Local Plan requires that development proposals make maximum and appropriate use of land and the best use of a site's capacity in a manner both compatible with the site itself as well as the surrounding area. Larger scale and higher density proposals are encouraged in appropriate locations.
- 12. The proposal would seek to make better use of an existing college site by refurbishing the existing student accommodation in order to increase the number of rooms and also improve the overall standard of accommodation while also providing additional ancillary space. The principle of the development would therefore accord with the above-mentioned aims of the National Planning Policy Framework and also local development plan policies.

Student Accommodation

13. Oxford Core Strategy Policy CS5 encourages the provision of purpose-built university provided accommodation in order to house their students in order to limit the number of students living outside of such accommodation. Sites and Housing Plan Policy HP5 also states that planning permission will only be granted for student accommodation that is on or adjacent to an existing university or

- college academic site; or in the city centre, district centre, or on a main thoroughfare; or on land that is allocated for student accommodation.
- 14. The proposal would seek to increase the density of an existing purpose-built student residence which is located on a main thoroughfare. The planning statement makes clear that Queen's College have a need to additional residential, education and conference accommodation due to a lack of space on other sites. The existing student accommodation within the Florey Building needs updating to modern standards and therefore the proposed refurbishment works represent an opportunity to increase the number of bedrooms within the building to address this need. At the same time the college also has limited space within its city centre site to expand and therefore need to make better use of this site for additional space.
- 15. Officers consider that the college has identified a clear need to improve their educational and student accommodation and therefore making better use of their existing sites including one which is located on a main thoroughfare would accord with the aims of the above-mentioned policies. Sites and Housing Plan Policy HP5 makes clear that student accommodation of 20 or more bedrooms would need to include some indoor and outdoor communal space for the occupants; a management regime for the building; and an undertaking to prevent residents from parking their cars within the site and anywhere in Oxford. The Florey Building already has some indoor and outdoor communal space and this would be improved as part of the proposal. The management plan and restriction on students bringing cars into the city would be secured by condition.
- 16. In addition to the above, Sites and Housing Plan Policy HP6 states that new student accommodation that includes 20 or more bedrooms will be required to make a financial contribution towards delivering affordable housing elsewhere in Oxford. However, it goes on to state that an exception to this requirement will be made where the proposal is for the redevelopment and/or intensification of a site, including proposals for the extension of a site on contiguous adjoining land where the main use is student accommodation. It is clear that the proposed development would qualify for this exception to the requirement to provide an affordable housing contribution.

Built Form & Impact upon Designated Heritage Assets

- 17. The Florey Building is a grade II listed building within the St. Clement's And Iffley Road Conservation Area. Having regards to the building's internationally recognised importance it is essential that any interventions are handled in an extremely sensitive manner so as to maintain its significance. Throughout the design development the applicant has given consideration to this significance and involved the Oxford City Council Heritage Officers, Historic England, and the 20th Century Society in the development of the proposed scheme.
- 18. Conservation principles, policy and practice seek to preserve and enhance the value of heritage assets. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) reaffirmed the aim for the historic environment and its heritage assets to be

conserved and enjoyed for the quality of life they bring to this and future generations. The NPPF requires proposals to be based upon an informed analysis of the significance of any affected Heritage Asset and expects applicants to understand the impact of any proposal upon the asset with the objective being to sustain that significance. These aims are embodied in Local Plan Policy HE7 which seeks to preserve or enhance the special character and appearance of the conservation area or its setting. In considering the impact of development on the significance of Heritage Assets, the objective must be for new development to sustain that significance but where there is potential for harm, then the public benefits must clearly outweigh that harm.

- 19. Section 66 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires local planning authorities to have special regard to the desirability of preserving a listed building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. In the Court of Appeal, Barnwell Manor Wind Energy Ltd v East Northants District Council, English Heritage and National Trust, 18th February 2014, Sullivan LJ made clear that to discharge this responsibility means that decision makers must give considerable importance and weight to the desirability of preserving the setting of listed buildings when carrying out the balancing exercise (of judging harm against other planning considerations).
- 20. Policy CS18 of the Oxford Core Strategy 2026 requires development to demonstrate high-quality urban design responding appropriately to the site and surroundings; creating a strong sense of place; contributing to an attractive public realm; and providing high quality architecture. The Local Plan requires new development to enhance the quality of the environment, with Policy CP1 central to this purpose. Policy CP8 requires development to relate to its context with the siting, massing and design creating an appropriate visual relationship with the form, grain and scale of the surrounding area.
- 21. The proposed internal refurbishments to the Florey Building would restore and modernise the listed building while also creating additional student accommodation to house the entire undergraduate cohort. These works are considered in detail as part of the listed building consent (15/03644/LBC) which should be read in conjunction with this report.
- 22. The refurbishment works propose a number of external alterations to the building, including replacing the secondary glazing on the inner courtyard elevation with double glazing to match the original glazing bars; replacing the flashing on the stepped ledges between each storey with new profiled aluminium in a red colour to mirror the original tiled elements that delineated the floors; the restoration of the riverside terrace and walk. These repairs would replace some of the less successful interventions that have occurred to the Florey Building improving the overall condition and appreciation of the listed building and also the conservation area. This would accord with the above mentioned policies.
- 23. The proposed annexe would be located to the west of the Florey Building and would have two storeys and a glazed link to the main building. The building takes the form of an elongated rectangle with splayed front entrance which refers

to the canted bay characteristic of the Florey and the glazed link designed to be as simple and lightweight as possible. The refurbishment of the main building has enabled all the student rooms to be accommodated within that structure allowing the annexe to be as small as possible to fulfil the college's requirements and minimise the impact upon the listed building. At competition stage, taller buildings were proposed by other architects and these were rejected as causing too much harm to the setting of the Florey Building. The design and approach to the annexe addresses the main form and design of the Florey Building, whilst also differentiating between the new and the old as different volumes without competing or being too bold or radical. The overall scale and massing responds to that of the Florey without competing with it. The annexe has been designed to match the spacing and pattern of the main building and the footprint elongated due to site constraints and the major Thames sewer running down from York Place. The building has been kept as far away from the main building as possible in order to reduce the impact. The splayed end wall has a large window with a cantilevered main entry below and the splayed angle addresses the Florey's projecting end stairs. The width of the link block is dictated by the slope of the land and the amount of space required for ramped access. Although there will be some loss of heritage material, this has been kept to the minimum. The link would pass underneath the Florey's podium but would still appear separate to the main building.

- 24. The use of cladding materials albeit with different colour to the Florey would help differentiate the building from the listed building in material terms, in a similar way to Stirling's History Faculty Library in Cambridge which has concrete buildings surrounding it on the Sidgwick site. The rain screen cladding would be use ribbed terracotta tiles in reddish-black. This cladding would be in large panels, expressed by construction joint subdivisions, being suppressed construction joint subdivisions with vertical ribs, thus would appear as vertical cladding in three horizontal bands. The glazing system would have planar windows, flush with the cladding so as to read as part of the outer cladding, thus giving the appearance of sharp lines and sheer surfaces. The doors and windows would have black silicone bonded frames with flush glazing methods. The roof would be a green roof with biodiversity benefits and a reference to the green of the meadows nearby.
- 25. The Oxford Design Review Panel considered that the design of the proposed annexe building was more compelling than originally put forward at preapplication stage, and showed architectural merit in its own right. The panel suggested that the design could be further refined emphasising new elements through the proposed colour, scale, and texture of materials in order to ensure that the annexe is a distinct addition (appendix 2). Historic England considered that the design of the annexe and the infill is the most sensitive means of providing the extra accommodation needed to house the entire first year undergraduate cohort.
- 26. Having reviewed the proposal, officers consider that the size, scale, and design of the two-storey annexe and its impacts upon the listed building and conservation area have been carefully considered. As the Florey is already completely

different in scale and character from the rest of that part of the conservation area, the two-storey annexe was carefully designed to complement and not compete with the Florey and cannot be said to have a detrimental effect on the character or appearance of the conservation area.

- 27. Regarding the impacts on the setting of the listed Florey Building, there would be a partial loss of views towards the building and the full appreciation of its silhouette would be harmed to a lesser extent in some areas, however the loss of views have been kept to a minimum. Although the appreciation of the buildings original conception would be altered by the intervention in some views the proposed annexe is positioned away from the main axis of the building, in order to minimise its impact upon key sightlines of the building. The Florev is a substantial building tucked away from the main frontages of St Clement's Street. Its rear elevation can be partially seen and its staircase towers are a prominent feature in these views, but the location of the annexe would have no impact upon these views. The views from York Place would in parts be partly obscured by the new building but the loss of the views have been kept to a minimum and longer views from York Place would not be altered. While the main building is visible from the Angel and Greyhound Meadow, the glazing reflects the trees along this boundary and reduces its impact upon this setting. The annexe would be slightly visible from the north-east and Magdalen Bridge there is substantial foliage which restricts the view. It is considered that there would be no impact on the Grade II listed 27 St Clement's. The 20th Century Society identified that the perceived separation of elements that the view of sky between the building and pods beneath confers is vitally important to the design ethos of the space, and requested that the Council seek assurances that it is the intentions of the applicants to maintain these views. In response the architects have confirmed that the view of the sky between the building and the pods has been mostly retained.
- 28. The Florey Building roof is visible from South Park. There may be some impacts on this view from the proposed plant and by photovoltaic roof panels and details of these would be required by condition so as to minimise any adverse impacts. It is not considered that these would be visible from elsewhere such as from the meadows or St Clement's as these elements would be in the middle of the roof.
- 29. Overall officers consider that the size, scale and massing of the development would be appropriate for the site and would not harm the significance of the St. Clement's And Iffley Road Conservation Area Conservation Area or the setting of the listed buildings surrounding the site. This would accord with the aims of the NPPF and also the above-mentioned policies of the Oxford Core Strategy 2026, Oxford Local Plan 2001-2016, and Sites and Housing Plan 2026.

Impact upon Adjoining Properties

30. The Florey Building is located within a dense urban environment with buildings of varying size and scale and differing uses all in close proximity to each other. The proposed two-storey linked extension has the potential to have an impact upon the residential properties of Anchor Court and York Place that surround the site and therefore needs to be considered.

- 31. The flatted development of Anchor Court is located to the south of the Florey Building and has its main windows in its east and west elevations which do not overlook the site. As such it is considered that the proposed two-storey extension would not have an adverse impact upon the amenities of this adjoining development in terms of loss of light, privacy, or overbearing impact.
- 32. The residential properties in York Place lie to the west of the Florey Building with nos.7 and 8 directly adjacent to the site. The main elevations of these properties face north and south respectively, with the elevation of no.7 facing directly onto the rear elevation of no.8. The properties do not have any primary windows facing eastwards towards the Florey Building, with the only windows being obscure glazed bathroom windows at first and second floor level in no.7. The two-storey extension would be sited parallel to the flank wall of these adjacent properties, although no.7 does taper away from the extension towards the north. The building would be sited approximately 3.6m at its closest point adjacent to 8 York Place, and approximately 5.6m 7.6m from no.7.
- 33. With respect to 8 York Place, the orientation of this property to the Florey Building would mean that the proposed extension would not result in a loss of light or outlook to the habitable room windows of this property. The proposed extension may result in some loss of light to the habitable room windows in the front of 7 York Place, however, given the proposed gap between the extension and this property, along with the position of the habitable room windows in the front of this building (i.e. set further towards the western side of the building rather than closer to the site), then it is considered that any loss of light would not be so significant to warrant refusal.
- 34. In terms of overbearing impact, the proposed extension would introduce a two-storey built form between the Florey Building and the adjoining properties. While this would increase the sense of enclosure around these properties in York Place including Anchor Court, the siting would maintain a suitable gap between properties and the distances would not be too different to the surrounding urban grain which has numerous instances of large scale buildings sitting in close proximity to other properties including newly developed buildings. As such the gaps between the properties and the extension would mean that the development would not create any adverse overbearing impact to any of the adjoining properties.
- 35. The proposed extension has been designed to minimise any loss of privacy to no.7 and 8 York Place. The ground floor windows in the western elevation of the extension would not overlook either of these properties, and although there are some windows at first floor level, they either face onto the flank wall of 8 York Place (in the case of the study room) and are angled so as to minimise views onto the flank wall and rear garden of 7 York Place.
- 36. Therefore officers consider that the proposed extension has been designed in a manner that would seek to minimise the impact upon the adjoining properties in terms of loss of light, outlook, and privacy in accordance with Oxford Local Plan

Policy CP10.

Noise Impact

- 37.A Noise Assessment Report has been submitted with the application. The report considers the potential noise impact of the proposed plant on the refurbished student accommodation and on the proposed extension on the surrounding residential properties (Anchor Court, York Place, and Alice House Student Accommodation).
- 38. The report has carried out an assessment of the current background noise levels within the area and recommends that the plant will be designed to achieve a rating level of 5dB below the existing background noise level. Oxford City Council Environmental Health Officers have advised that the noise levels for the mechanical plant should be set by condition in order to safeguard the amenities of the adjoining residential properties.
- 39. During the consultation process, concerns have been raised about the potential nuisance caused by deliveries from the York Place service area. The Transport Assessment has indicated that only one recycling and waste collection will occur each week, and there will be no more than one delivery per day of catering supplies. York Place is already serviced by refuse collections, and the commercial premises on St Clement's are serviced from this area. The use of this space for serving of the two-storey extension would not materially increase noise and disturbance given the extent to which it would be used. Officers have recommended a management plan for the student accommodation be secured by condition, and this should also include a management plan for servicing and deliveries so as to preserve the amenities of the York Place and Anchor Court properties.

Landscaping

- 40. A Landscape Strategy and comprehensive Arboricultural report which includes and Impact Assessment and Method Statement has been submitted with the application. The landscape strategy states that the overarching aims of the strategy would be to reinforce the landscape setting of the building within the conservation area, by decluttering views through to the meadow from High Street; addressing the sensitivity of boundaries with neighbours through retaining trees to the east and a living roof to the building to the west; enhancing the riverside experience with a new specimen tree and riverside garden.
- 41. Having reviewed the landscape strategy, officers would note that the proposals require removal of 4 existing trees; 1 alder, 2 field maple, and 1 Himalayan birch referenced T1, T2, T8 and T10 in Arboricultural report. These tree losses will not have a significant detrimental effect on public amenity and can be adequately mitigated by new landscaping as proposed; details can be secured by planning condition. The construction work will encroach within the notional root protection areas of retained trees T3, T5 and T11. However, the site circumstances are such that if reasonable care is taken these trees are not likely to be harmed. It is essential that any new underground drainage and services is located to avoid damage to retained trees. Also new hard surfaces within the RPA of retained trees must be

- appropriately designed to avoid damage to roots and ensure water and air permeability. Retained trees will need to be robustly protected during the construction phase. Further details of these matters could be secured by condition.
- 42. The landscaping around the building was an important part of Stirling's design and is part of the setting of the listed building. However various additions such as chain-link fencing, car parking arrangements, general neglect and unsympathetic treatment have harmed the setting. The riverside walk appears neglected. The landscape strategy proposes new gates at the entrance which would improve the setting however there is a lack of detail in this regard. These details should be secured by condition.
- 43. A new ramp would be constructed out of part of the steps to the riverside thus improving access; although this is a change to Stirling's design it would not harm this part or the setting and is in the spirit of his design intent to improve access to the river and how the building addresses the river.
- 44. Therefore subject to appropriate conditions the landscaping proposals accords with Policies CP1, CP11, and NE15 of the Oxford Local Plan.

Highways and Transport

- 45. The site is within the Transport Central Area as defined by the Oxford Local Plan, which is an area of the city centre that is considered to be highly accessible by non-car modes of transport, and serviced by a range of shops and facilities. A Transport Statement has been submitted with the application which considered the highway impacts of the proposed development.
- 46. Access: The existing access from St Clements will remain the primary access point to the site and a secondary gated access will be provided via York Place. The main access will handle the majority of vehicle movements and will be used to provide the main access for pedestrian, cycle movements to the site. This would include pick up and drop offs, and servicing and maintenance vehicles. As this retains the current situation there would be no objection to this remaining as the main access.
- 47. With respect to the secondary access, although the Transport Statement suggests that a secondary access from York Place will be created, it was observed that there is already a secondary vehicle access albeit an underused one in this location. This access would only be used to facilitate the delivery of catering supplies to the building. The applicant has confirmed that this would only take the form of one small delivery vehicle per day. There would also be one recycling and one waste collection per week accessing this secondary access.
- 48. Although it is understood from the consultation process that there are concerns about the potential impact that the use of this secondary access will have upon York Place, officers recognise that there is already an access to the site in the proposed location which could be used by Queens College for servicing and maintenance at the current time. The Transport Statement has demonstrated that this will only be used for a small number of vehicles, in a similar fashion to

the other commercial uses that are serviced from York Place. Swept Path Diagrams have been provided which demonstrate how these catering vehicles would access the site. Moreover officers would note that York Place would already be serviced by recycling and waste collections. Therefore there would be no material reason to object to the use of this access.

- 49. <u>Traffic Generation</u>: The Local Highways Authority has raised a concern that the Transport Statement has not provided details of how the users of the academic accommodation in the two-storey extension are likely to travel to the site and what impact this is likely to have upon trip generation.
- 50. The applicant has confirmed that the function space is expected to be used for academic purposes and by college members. It is therefore not expected to attract any vehicular movements other than the servicing and maintenance vehicles discussed above. Outside of term time, the space may be used by residential guests who will be occupying the building for various periods. This is not expected to attract any vehicular movements since delegates / guests will not be able to bring their own vehicles to the site.
- 51. The Local Plan designates this as a city centre site which is highly accessible by non-car modes of transport which enables travel demand in these locations to be met by these other forms of transport. Therefore the Local Highway Authority's concerns in this regard are difficult to support and officers consider that the academic accommodation is unlikely to generate significant levels of traffic over and above the servicing and maintenance vehicles.
- 52. The Local Highways Authority has also expressed a concern about how the pickup and drop-off of students at the start and end of term will be managed. The applicant has confirmed that these arrangements will be organised by the college. The students will be allowed on-site with vehicles but this will be restricted to a reduced number and arranged over a number of days and pre-booked in advance in order to minimise the impact of traffic in the vicinity of the site. A Traffic Management Strategy will be prepared by the college, and implemented prior to occupation. This should be secured by condition
- 53. Car Parking: The scheme is proposing no on-site parking, with the exception of a single accessible parking space for disabled users. Sites and Housing Plan Policy HP5 makes clear that proposals for student accommodation will only be granted where the developer undertakes to prevent residents from parking their cars within the site and anywhere in Oxford. This would be achieved by condition and officers would also recommend a condition securing Travel Information Packs for students to highlight their transport options.
- 54. The area around the building is currently used by staff of Queens College for parking, and has approximately 26 spaces. The college currently permits certain members of staff to park in this location but the spaces are to be removed as part of the development and as such staff will be encouraged and expected to use public transport as the college are not providing alternative parking. The reduction of operational parking is welcomed within the Transport Central Area

- given the availability of other forms of transport. Therefore the loss of these spaces should not be seen as a constraint on development.
- 55. Cycle Parking: The application would provide 78 cycle parking spaces to the south and east of the building away from the access and turning areas. This would accord with the adopted cycle parking standards within the Sites and Housing Plan. The cycle parking should be secured by condition.
- 56. <u>Construction Traffic Management Plan</u>: Having regards to the nature of the site, a construction traffic management plan will be required by condition to ensure that this is managed appropriately without impact on the local highway network.
- 57. Overall the proposed development is considered acceptable in highway terms, subject to the above conditions in accordance with the aims of Oxford Local Plan Policies CP1, CP10, TR1 and TR4 and Sites and Housing Plan Policies HP15.

Flood Risk

- 58. A Flood Risk Assessment has been submitted which identifies that the majority of the site including all ground floor developments are within Flood Zone 1, while the riverside access path around the building is in Flood Zone 3.
- 59. The assessment states that the risk of fluvial flooding of the site is very low. The finished floor levels of the building will be set at the 100year plus climate change plus 300m freeboard level. The refurbishment of the lower ground floor windows will also ensure that the cill heights of the windows will be set at this level. The improvements to the footpaths around the river frontage will ensure that this is not blocked to cause impacts on flood conveyance. The assessment identifies that there is still a risk of the lower floor breakfast room flooding during a design exceedance, but that this will be managed through a flood evacuation procedure and subscription to the EA Flood Warning Service.
- 60. In terms of drainage design, a sustainable urban drainage scheme will be developed to ensure that surface water run off does not exceed current rates, and may include a green roof on the two-storey extension, permeable paving, and bio-retention tree pits. This could be secured by condition
- 61. Officers consider that the proposal would accord with Oxford Core Strategy CS11.

Sustainability

- 62. The site is not a qualifying site for a Natural Resource Impact Analysis because the new student accommodation is within the existing listed building, and the two-storey extension is less than 2,000m². Oxford Core Strategy Policy CS9 which states that all development should optimise energy efficiency by minimising the use of energy through design, layout, orientation, landscaping and materials.
- 63. A Sustainability Statement has been submitted. The project aims are to improve the energy performance of the existing building, and is seeking to reduce energy

demand through building fabric improvement, passive design measures and soft landings engagement. The strategy has demonstrated that a 45% reduction in energy consumption and approximately 60% reduction in carbon dioxide equivalent emissions per square foot area compared to the existing building will be achieved. The strategy considers on site-renewables. It will use ground source heat pumps, and photovoltaics on the uppermost roof of the building. A green roof is to be used on the new extension. Energy monitoring and management will be achieved through site-wide energy metering. The construction will also use sustainable materials in line with BREAMM principles.

64. Overall, officers consider that the energy strategy would accord with the aims of Policy CS9.

Archaeology

- 65. An Archaeological Desk Based Assessment has been submitted with the application. The site is of interest because of the potential for archaeological deposits from all periods. The site is located on the first gravel terrace close to the current channel of the River Cherwell. Nearby borehole data suggests that the northern part of the application site is underlain by superficial deposits of alluvium which have the potential to seal prehistoric activity, whilst in the southern part made ground may sit directly over the underlying natural mudstone. The potential for earlier palaeo-channels and for the presence of peat deposits across parts of this site is noted by the desk based assessment. The site is located close to a historic crossing point of the Cherwell and is likely to have been an attractive location for Mesolithic and later activity. A small amount of Mesolithic flint was recovered during a nearby archaeological evaluation in St Clement's Car Park in 2010.
- 66. The settlement of St Clement's is likely to have its origins in the late Saxon period. A small settlement on the banks of the river was originally known as Bruggeset suggesting a bridge settlement and may be related to the settlement of a Danish garrison in the early 11th century. The dedication of St Clement's Church and the presence of a 'Viking warrior' burial near Magdalen Bridge may be further evidence for such a garrison (Blair 1994). A manor is first mentioned in St Frideswide's charter of 1004 when three hides beyond Cherwell Bridge were granted to the minster, dropping to two hides by 1166 (Lobel 1957). A manor house, Bolshipton, originally owned by St Frideswide's nunnery, is recorded the north side of St Clement's Street (formerly High Street) nearly opposite the Black Horse Inn, until its destruction in 1643. Furthermore a hospital is documented in St Clement's in 1345 but its location is not known. In 1643 year the Royalist defences were extended around St Clements to defend Magdalen Bridge. Bolshipton House and parts of the settlement to the east of it appears to have been levelled to provide a clear field of fire between the Royalist lines and the Parliamentarian siege works on Headington Hill. A transcription of De Gomme's map of the Royalist defences mapped on the Urban Archaeological Database projects the outer defensive line through the basement footprint of the proposed scheme. However the exact line of the defences has yet to be established archaeologically. A recording action in 1983 located a feature 3.5m deep and 17m wide on the site of Anchor Court just to the south of the proposed basement

- footprint raising a question mark over the exact location and sequence of the defences in this area.
- 67. The parish of St Clements remained a separate parish until 1836 when it was incorporated with the city. It was notable for being located just outside the jurisdiction of the university control of the assizes, staple food prices and weights and measures. In the post-medieval period the application site was mostly gardens, although a small structure is shown in the vicinity of the new extension on Davis's Map of Oxfordshire (1797). The site was partially developed for working class housing in the early 19th century. Waste pits and wells belonging to the terraced housing at Magdalen Prospect (now demolished) may be present within the proposed basement footprint.
- 68. In this case, bearing in mind the site constraints, including the likely depth of modern made ground in the location of the basement (up to 2m) and the results of the archaeological desk based assessment, officers would recommend that a condition be attached requiring a written scheme of investigation to be approved before the commencement of development.

Biodiversity

69. Officers consider that there is not a reasonable likelihood of protected species or habitats being impacted by the proposals. However, the National Planning Policy Framework and Oxford Core Strategy Policy CS12 both make clear that opportunities should be taken to include features beneficial to biodiversity within new developments. As such the site and development offer an opportunity for enhancements, and therefore a condition should be imposed which seeks details of these measures. The measures could include the provision of bat roosting devices and swift roosting devices.

Contaminated Land

- 70. A Ground Investigation Report has been submitted with the application. Having reviewed the report, the Councils Environmental Health Officers have indicated the report would not constitute an appropriate Phase 1 report in accordance with the Defra and Environment Agency guidance Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination.
- 71. This Phase 2 site investigation report does not include any pollutant linkages, conceptual site model or risk assessment. The report also does not offer any conclusions or recommendations regarding the contaminated found on the site, with the exception of ground gas, which was found to not pose a risk. The ground investigation was limited in spatial scope, with only 4 exploratory hole locations tested for contaminants (BH101, BH102, TP102 and WS103). Only one of these (BH101) was in the footprint of the proposed extension, where significantly elevated PAHs were found in the made ground. It is also noted that some of the exploratory hole locations differ between the maps provided in the document.
- 72. The western boundary of this site is bordered by land identified as potentially contaminated in accordance with Oxford City Council's Land Quality Strategy,

due to the former use as printing works. The eastern part of the site falls within another area of land identified as potentially contaminated due to the former use as boathouses. It is unclear whether groundworks are proposed in this area, but no samples from this area were analysed for contaminants. No groundwater quality analysis or risk assessment was carried out despite groundwater being struck and monitored in 3 of the four boreholes

73. As such officers are not satisfied that the submitted ground investigation is adequate to inform a risk assessment for this site. Therefore, a condition should be attached requiring the phased risk assessment to be carried out and the provision of a validation report for any remedial works identified as part of this phased assessment

Community Infrastructure Levy

74. The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a standard charge on new development. The amount of CIL payable is calculated on the basis of the amount of floor space created by a development and applies to developments of 100 square metres or more. Based on the floor area of the proposed development the proposal will be liable for a CIL payment of £66,498.75.

Other Matters

75. Rights of Access: During the consultation process, the York Place Residents Association has claimed that they have a right of access across the strip of land that lies adjacent to 8 York Place and runs down the river. Whether or not there is a right of access across this strip of land and around the towpath, is a matter for the applicant to deal with in terms of whether they are able to implement any planning permission and would not constitute a material consideration for the determination of this application

Conclusion:

76. The proposal is considered to be acceptable in terms of the aims and objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework, and relevant policies of the Oxford Core Strategy 2026, Sites and Housing Plan 2011-2026, and Oxford Local Plan 2001-2016 and therefore officers recommendation to Members would be to approve the application.

Human Rights Act 1998

Officers have considered the Human Rights Act 1998 in reaching a recommendation to grant planning permission, subject to conditions. Officers have considered the potential interference with the rights of the owners/occupiers of surrounding properties under Article 8 and/or Article 1 of the First Protocol of the Act and consider that it is proportionate.

Officers have also considered the interference with the human rights of the applicant under Article 8 and/or Article 1 of the First Protocol caused by imposing conditions. Officers consider that the conditions are necessary to protect the rights and freedoms of others and to control the use of property in accordance

with the general interest. The interference is therefore justifiable and proportionate.

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Officers have considered, with due regard, the likely effect of the proposal on the need to reduce crime and disorder as part of the determination of this application, in accordance with section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. In reaching a recommendation to grant planning permission, officers consider that the proposal will not undermine crime prevention or the promotion of community safety.

Contact Officer: Andrew Murdoch

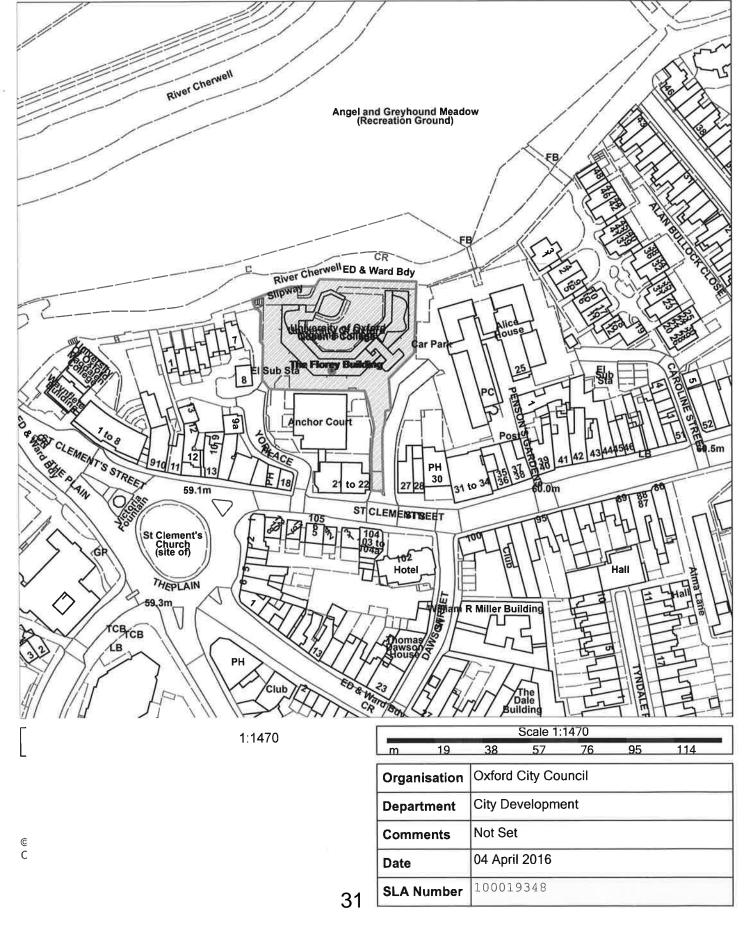
Extension: 2228

Date: 18th March 2016

Appendix 1

The Florey Building 15/03644/LBC







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CONFIDENTIAL

23 July 2015

Amir Ramezani **Avanti Architects** 361-373 City Road London EC1V 1AS

Our reference: DCC/0648

Oxford City Council: Florey Building

Dear Amir Ramezani,

Thank you for presenting the scheme at the follow-up ODRP design review on 2 July 2015. We are pleased to continue our involvement in this significant scheme for Oxford and look forward to the completed works. The scheme has progressed significantly since the last ODRP design review on 16 October 2014. The proposed design is responding well to the 21st century needs of Queen's College students while building upon the architectural quality of Stirling's work. We applaud the heritage report which is testament to the design team's thorough analysis of the listed building. The changes to the floor plans of the Florey Building including the additional rooms at ground floor, and the improved access arrangements and landscape design across the site are successful. Whilst the proposed annex building has also improved, the design could be even more distinct to the Florey Building to ensure a fully successful scheme. It is important that the design, detailing, materiality, and even colour of the new elements of architecture should be distinctive and consistent for both the annex building and the ground level insertions to the existing Florey Building. This would then confidently delineate where the work of Stirling finishes and the new architecture interacts with it.

Public space and landscape

The proposed landscape design is highly commendable as the open spaces - the riverside walk, central courtyard and the public space to the south - are now more distinct and their uses more defined. A pleasant route is beginning to emerge across the site that links these outdoor spaces. We encourage the team to continue to develop the character and use of the outdoor spaces for 21st century university students and define site-wide route in the treatment of the hard and soft landscaping.

The access improvements and the public space to the south of the Florey Building, particularly through strategic discussions with neighbouring landholders on the shared use of the vehicular road from St. Clement's Street, are to be greatly congratulated. Removing the car parking, repositioning the entrance gate and providing new hard







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landscaping and signage create a legible, safe and inviting main entrance. The new planting beds to the west and east of the Florey Building add greenery and soften the impact of the hard surfaces.

The landscape design of the central courtyard is in keeping with Stirling's original proposal and the meadow-like species and potted plants reflect the arid character of this space. The efforts to maintain and enhance the original truncated handrails that form one edge of the central courtyard are commendable as they are key sculptural features of Stirling's original concept. Whilst the combined ramp and steps connecting the central courtyard to the riverside is a useful feature, ensuring this route is easy to use and safe, particularly at the junctions between these elements, will be key to its success.

Stirling's vision of the riverside walk is successfully reinterpreted in the current design proposal. The new elements of the riverside walk work well as they are distinct from the listed elements of the Florey Building, for example, the proposed grey paving stones alongside the terracotta brick wall. The riverside location is successfully expressed in the choice of hard and soft landscaping, particularly the proposed weeping willow that provides a focal point along the riverside walk and the marshland planting. We suggest considering the growth and long-term maintenance of the weeping willow at this stage and removing the proposed planting bed that obscures the A-frame along the riverside. More detail is required on the treatment of the edge along the river, such as railings and lighting, to ensure it is safe for all users, particularly at nighttime and in the winter months. A collaborative initiative by the Oxford City Council, Queen's College, neighbouring landholders and other key stakeholders to clear rubbish in and alongside the river will also help encourage rest and relaxation along the river, as well water-based leisure activities such as punting.

Florey Building

The design interjections to the Florey Building have been sensitively handled and preserve the quality of the listed building. The changes to the ground floor student accommodation – moving the inner wall of the cloister, relocating some ground floor rooms and providing a wider gap between the ground floor units and the C-shaped building above to highlight the existing A-frames preserve the effect of a 'floating' building – are to be commended. Lifting the ground floor rooms onto a plinth is also a positive change; a different colour or material could help to further differentiate the plinth from the original elements of the Florey Building. Punctuating the ground floor elevation facing the central courtyard with windows is successful as it provides outdoor views to the north and helps to activate the central courtyard without undermining the original concept. Continuing to explore the size and placement of these windows – possibly creating more or larger openings – could further strengthen this concept. The improvements to the main building entrance, including the level changes, create a more legible and pleasant entrance experience. Stirling's narrow entrance, on the other hand, creates a more private and secluded courtyard as the open space is more hidden. The proposed plant and photovoltaics on the roof, and changes to the breakfast room are acceptable ensuring the existing building functions successfully as 21st century student accommodation. It is unlikely that the original and replacement ceramic tiles will look the same in terms of their appearance and texture; both types of tiles







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are likely to weather differently over time creating a patchwork effect. We urge the team to take great care in assessing and selecting the new ceramic tiles.

Florey Annex

The proposed annex building is now more compelling and shows architectural merit in its own right but could be refined further. The dark crimson hues of the vertical metal cladding contrast well with the horizontality of the terracotta tiles of the listed building. However, some aspects of the proposed annex building still appear too referential to the Florey Building. An even braver design approach – one that matches the design rigour without recreating the design of the Florey Building – will help to ensure a confident building. Emphasising the new elements even further, in the proposed colour, scale and texture of the materials, will help to ensure the annex building is a distinct new addition to the site. We suggest exploring a simpler building by incorporating a parapet wall to calm the roofline and by revisiting the shape and scale of the proposed windows. Currently the proposed projecting windows on the roof and to the west detract from the simple building form. Conversely, the vertical window on the east comer of the annex building seems appropriate. We recommend a nighttime view of the Florey Building and annex building to ensure coherence between the two within their surrounding context.

Thank you for consulting us and please keep us informed of the progress of the scheme. If there is any point that requires clarification, please telephone us.

Yours sincerely

Victoria Lee Design Council Cabe Advisor Email Victoria.lee@designcouncil.org.uk Tel +44(0)20 7420 5244

cc (by email only)

Fiona Lamb

Avanti Architects

Paul Madden

The Queen's College, University of Oxford

David Goddard

The Queen's College, University of Oxford

Fiona Bartholomew

Oxford City Council

Richard Peats

Historic England







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Review process

Following a site visit, and discussions with the design team and local authority and a pre-application review, the scheme was reviewed on 2 July 2015 by John Lyall (chair), Dan Jones, Deborah Nagan, Eddie Booth, Jon Rowland and Neil Deely. These comments supersede any views we may have expressed previously.

Confidentiality

Since the scheme is not yet the subject of a planning application, the advice contained in this letter is offered in confidence, on condition that we are kept informed of the progress of the project, including when it becomes the subject of a planning application. We reserve the right to make our views known should the views contained in this letter be made public in whole or in part (either accurately or inaccurately). If you do not require our views to be kept confidential, please write to <a href="mailto:design:







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03 November 2014

Amir Ramezani Avanti Architects 361-373 City Road London EC1V 1AS

Our reference: DCC/0648

Oxford City Council: Florey Building

Dear Amir Ramezani,

Thank you for presenting to Cabe's review meeting on 16 October 2014. We are delighted to review this proposal and look forward to continuing our involvement in the scheme as the design progresses. The refurbishment of the Florey Building is timely as it is in need of a general uplift and we commend Queen's College on taking on this worthwhile endeavour. We applaud the extensive analysis and sensitive design approach to this outstanding building that responds to James Stirling's vision and satisfies the needs of the students and college today. The principle of additional student rooms to accommodate a full year group is sound. However, we urge the design team to clearly define which building elements need to be retained to determine the alterations that can be made to achieve the full potential of the scheme. The design rationale for the new building elements that wrap around and dive under the listed building is interesting but requires further attention, and a landscape strategy is needed to improve the relationship between the existing building, new elements and surrounding context.

Design philosophy

A clear philosophy and rigid set of criteria is needed to respond to the complex requirements of the listed building. It appears that the design philosophy is less developed than the architectural thinking. The design philosophy will help to inform the design approach to new and existing elements, and the criteria will precisely define if/what building or public space alterations can be made and to what extent. For example, are there aspects of the listed building or open space that can benefit from alterations that improve their use, such as the breakfast room on the lower ground floor?

We do not think that the new structures are compelling pieces of architecture in their own right yet. They should work with – not replicate or compete with – the listed building. At present, the proposed structures neither have the same look and feel of the listed building nor are they different enough to be read as new elements. It is unlikely that the original and new red tiles will look the same in terms of their appearance and texture; both types of tiles will weather differently over time. We encourage the design team to develop a stronger, bolder design approach and







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palette of colours and materials for both architectural and landscape elements to give more distinction between the old and new, and to echo the strong aspirations of Stirling. Alternatively, developing an architectural style that is high quality but has a transitory feel can give the new structures distinction whilst giving the sense that they can be removed or evolve over time.

Public space and landscape

A thorough landscape and public space strategy is needed to set the scene for this significant building and help it to connect to the surrounding context. The entrance route from St. Clement's Road is part of the experience of the listed building for residents, employees and visitors. To help improve wayfinding to the building, access into the site and views, we suggest that through discussions with the landowner of the adjacent site this route, where possible, should be wider to ensure that safe access is provided for cars and pedestrians. Leftover spaces, such as the west comer of the site above the sewer, should be fully incorporated in the landscape design to create a pleasant and feel across the whole site.

The private courtyard is a key element of Stirling's design and efforts to maintain the character and develop the use of this space are crucial to the success of the scheme. The proposed trees at the centre of the courtyard weaken the clear horizontal hierarchy and sight lines established by Stirling, and block the views from bedrooms, and we therefore feel that they are not appropriate in this space. The courtyard is adequately framed by trees on the opposite side of the river. The new ramp and steps in the courtyard are to be commended as they strengthen the relationship between the public open space and the river, and help to provide passive surveillance to the route along the river and activate this space. Opening the route along the river will help to fulfill Stirling's aspirations for the Florey Building. However, a clear strategy for security and maintenance is needed to determine if/how this space can be used by the public. If public access is provided in the future, new signage, renewed hard landscaping, tree maintenance and a lighting strategy will help to make this space feel safe and appealing.

A long-term strategy for the wider public realm developed alongside the works to the Florey Building through a partnership between Oxford City Council, Queen's College and other relevant neighbouring landholders will help to resolve security, maintenance and accessibility issues for the users, and local and visiting community.

Florey Building

We welcome the principle of dividing some of the single rooms with double height spaces to create two separate rooms, and the ambition to retain some of the double height rooms as a historic reference. However, the changes to the corridor space, while providing each of the rooms with an ensuite bathroom, create a convoluted route around the periphery of the building.

We question whether the removal of the existing separating wall on the ground floor and the principle of placing new student rooms below the Florey Building are still aligned with the original concept of the building. The new rooms on the ground floor reverse the fundamental order of the listed building – they do not face onto other student rooms or



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the river, and are not lifted off the ground. We are concerned that these rooms feel less secure and private as they face onto the vehicular entrance and car parking. An understanding of how this new space will be experienced at nighttime will also be helpful in assessing the quality of this space.

Improving the design of the main entrance of the Florey Building will help to create a stronger focal point for residents, employees and visitors as the current entrance is not particularly obvious. However, we think the entrance could be narrower to maintain the sense of privacy as in the original design and more distinct to help users navigate and orient themselves.

Florev Suite

We welcome the principle of the new Florey Suite to provide new dining facilities, a lecture theatre and supporting amenities for students. The 'wrapped' form of the proposed building works well as it seems to reflect the form of the listed building. As with the other new elements, enhancing the identity of the Florey Suite in its form, detailed treatment and materials will continue to give it integrity as a new piece of architecture.

Thank you for consulting us and please keep us informed of the progress of the scheme. If there is any point that requires clarification, please telephone us.

Yours sincerely

Victoria Lee Cabe Advisor, Design Council Email Victoria.Lee@designcouncil.org.uk Tel +44(0)20 7420 5244

cc (by email only)

Linda Irving Bell

The Queen's College, Oxford University

Fiona Lamb

Avanti Architects

Fiona Bartholomew

Oxford City Council

Review process

Following a site visit and discussions with the design team and city council, the scheme was reviewed on 16 October 2014 by John Lyall (chair), Colin Haylock, Deborah Nagan, Eddie Booth, Jon Rowland Neil Deely. These comments supersede any views we may have expressed previously.







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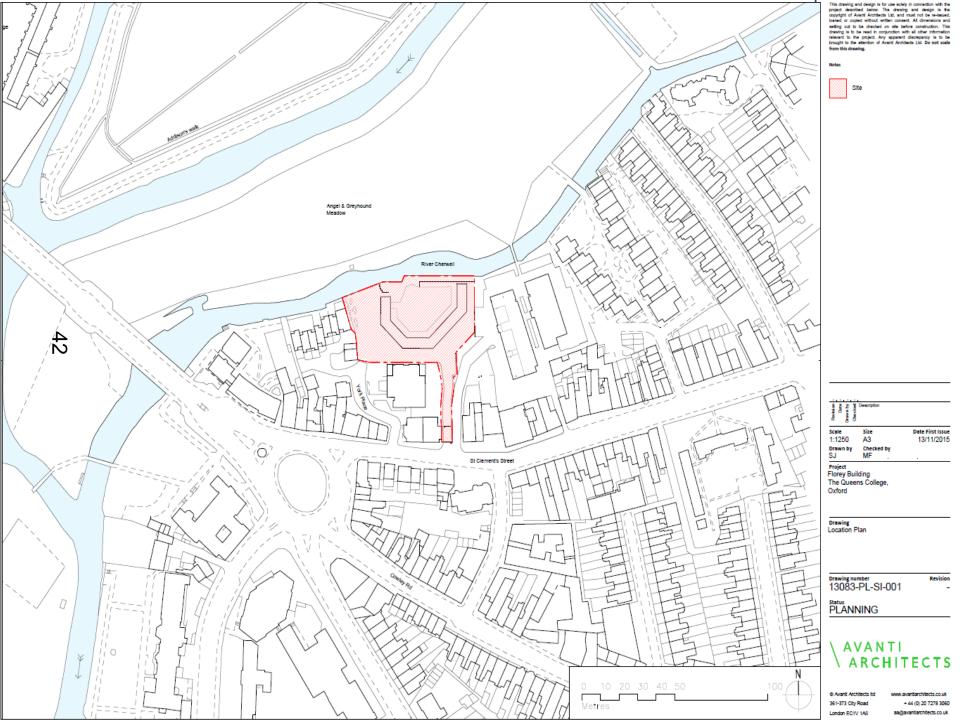
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Welcome to the West Area Planning Committee

- This planning committee meeting is held in public but it is not a public meeting.
- There will be an opportunity for the public to address the committee on each application.
- If you wish to speak for or against a planning
 application, you need to have either requested it in advance, or hand in one of the available speaker forms, or speak to the clerk.
- Information on meeting protocol and conduct at the committee is set out in the Code of Practice.
- This is in the committee agenda just before the first planning application report.



























View of Florey facing onto the river















View of access to river between The Florey and 8 and 7 York Place

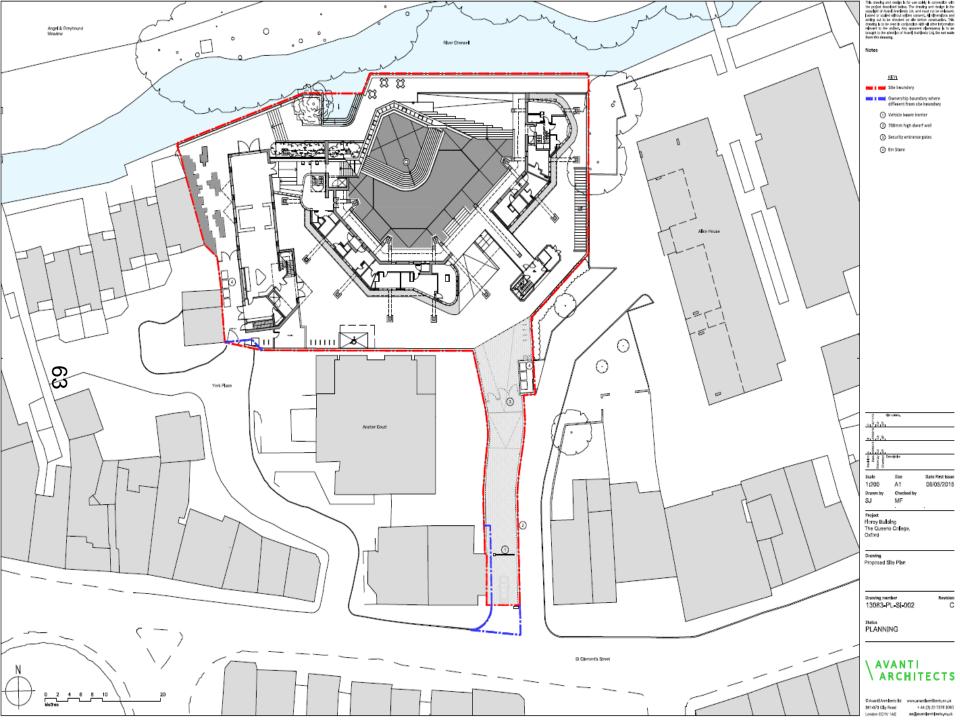


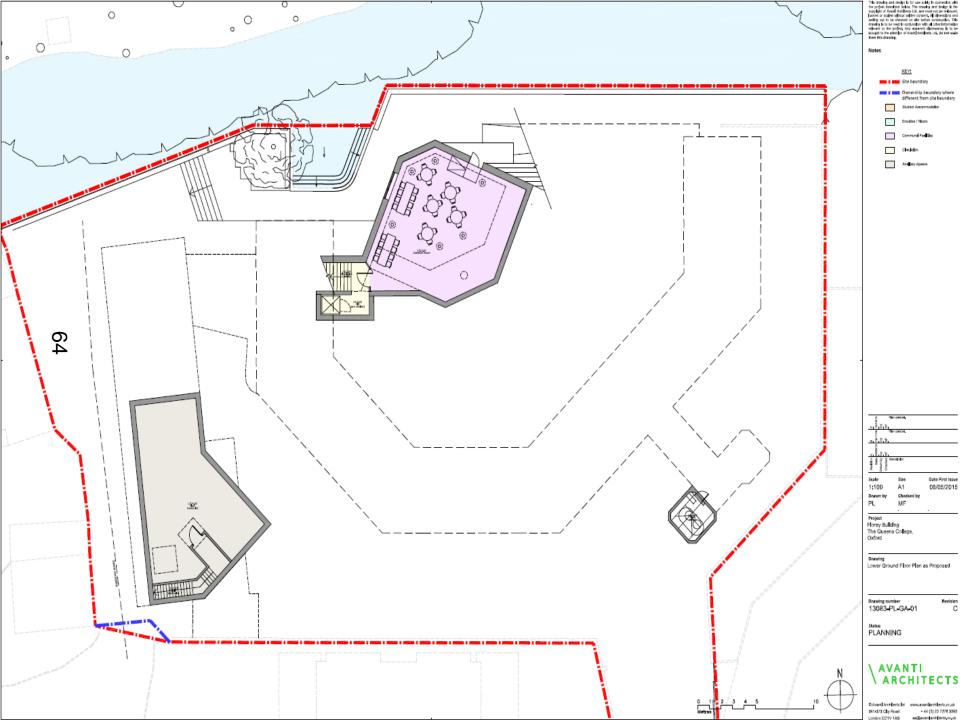


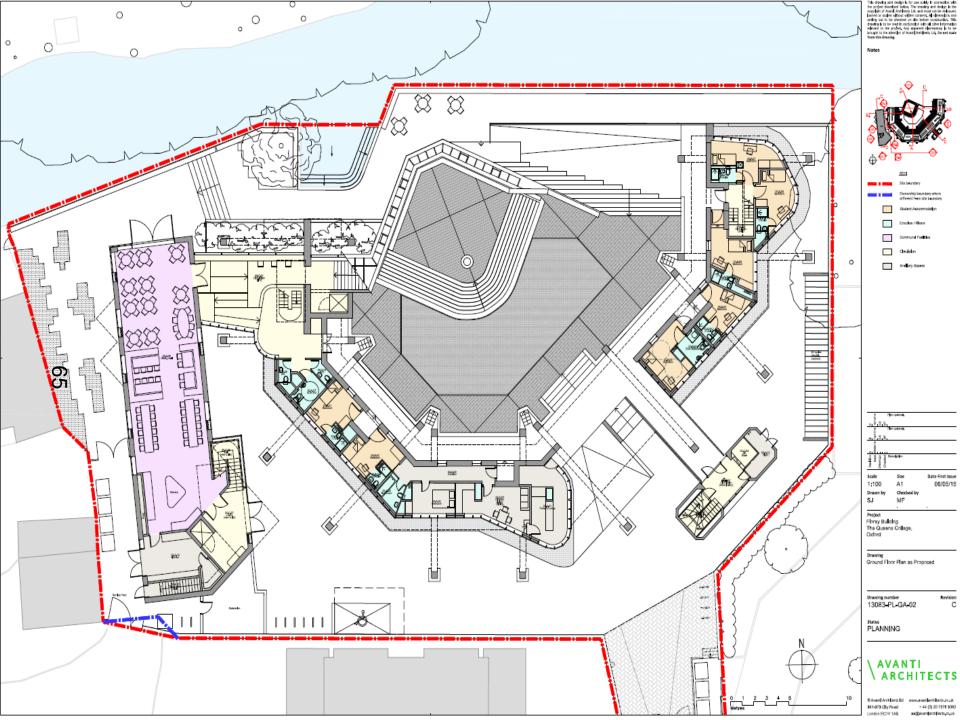


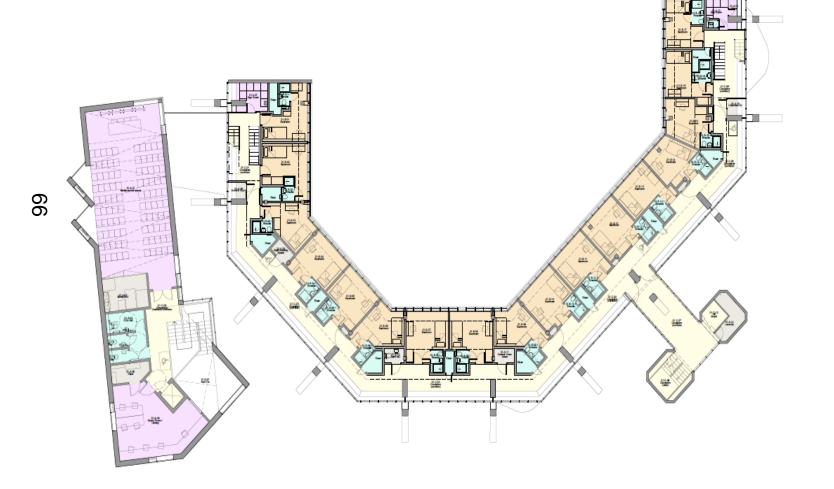












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Drawing First Floor Plan as Proposed

Drawing number 13083-PL-GA-03

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Drawing Third Floor Plan as Proposed

Drawing number 13083-PL-GA-05

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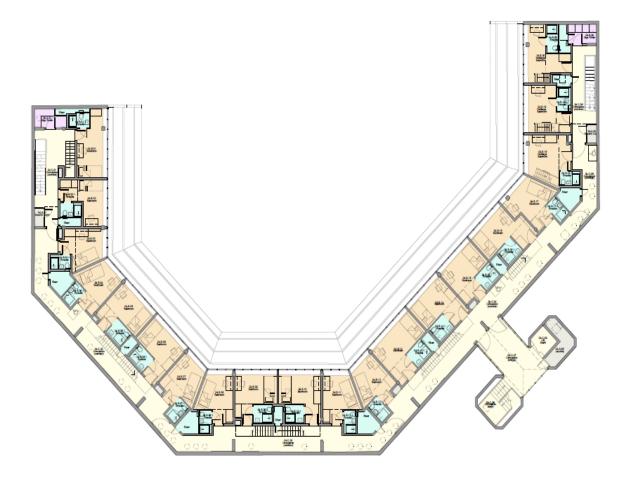
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Notes

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Drawing Fourth Floor Plan as Proposed

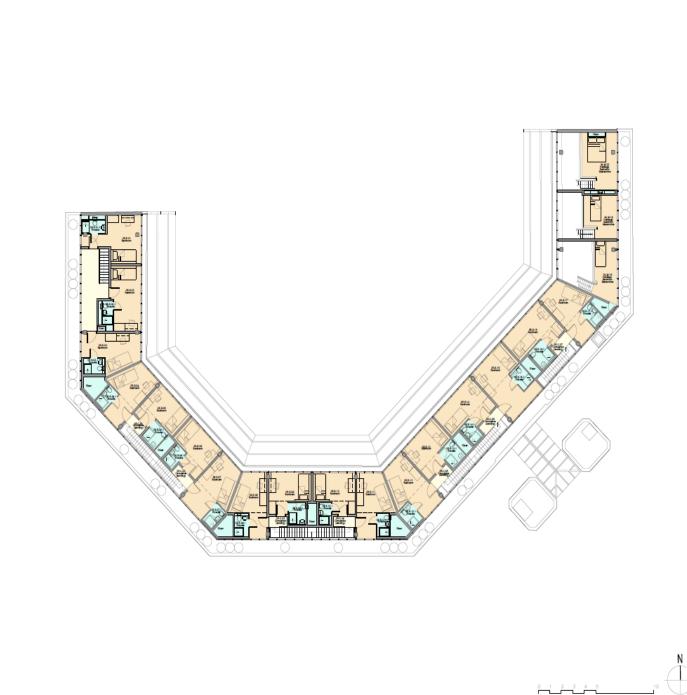
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Drawing Fifth Floor Plan as Proposed

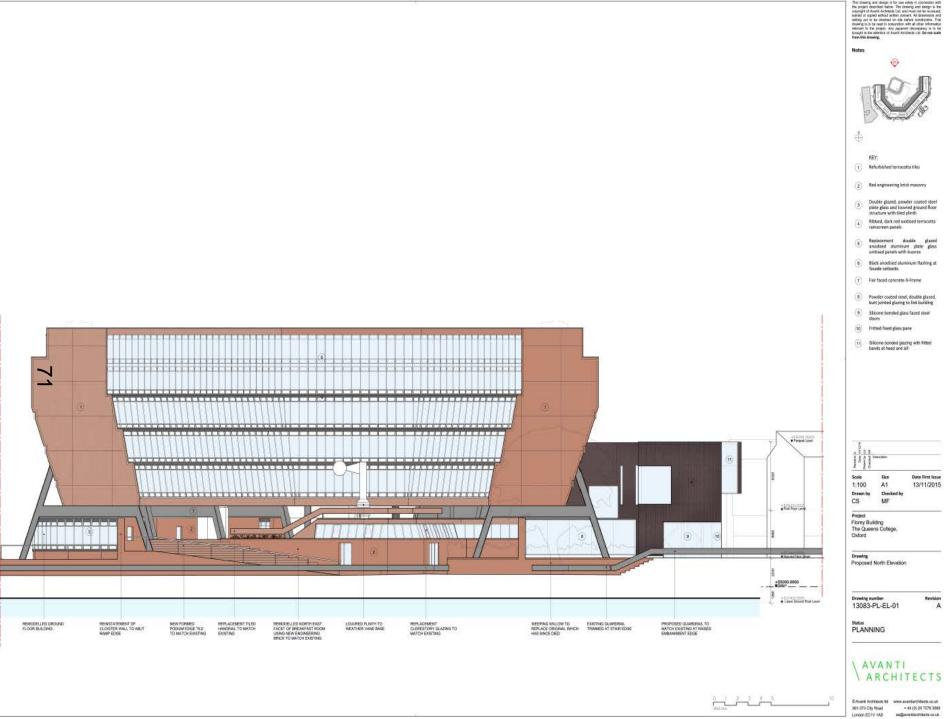
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5 Replacement double glazed anodised oluminum plate glass unitised panels with louvres

Black anodised aluminum flashing at facade setbacks

7 Fair faced concrete A-Frame

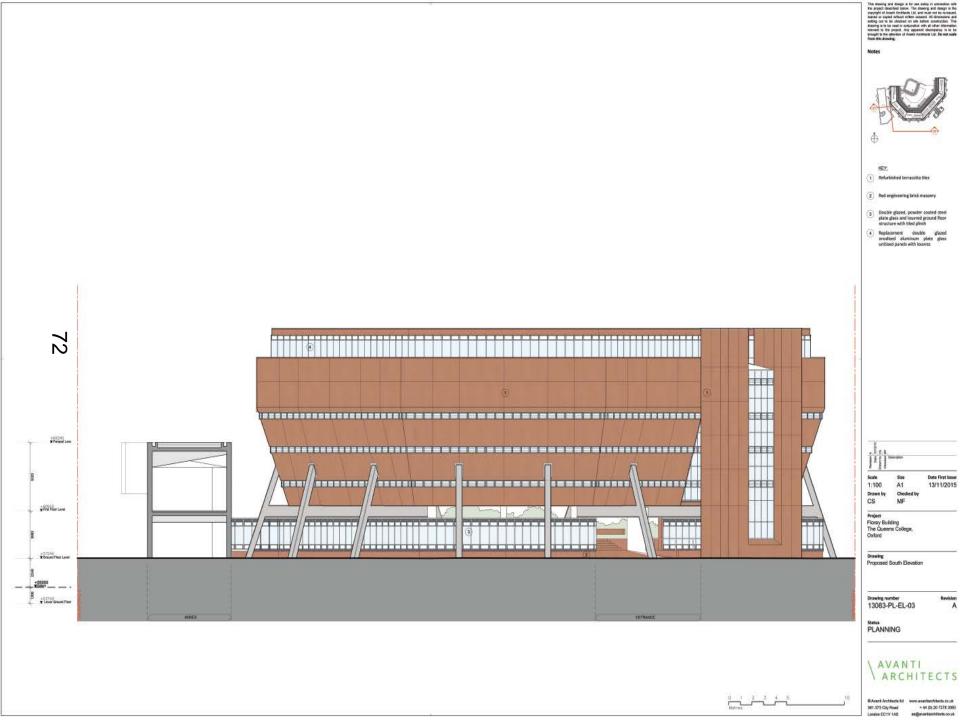
Powder coated steel, double glazed, but! jointed glazing to link building

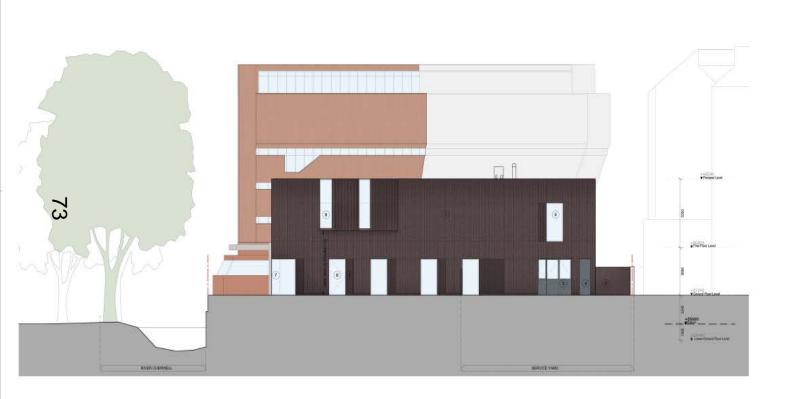
B Silicone bonded glass faced steel

(10) Fritted fixed glass pane

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KEY

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2 Dark red oxidized terracotta baguette panels

(3) Partially glazed black powder coated glaced steel doors to kitchen

Black powder coated steel doors to plant room

5 Substation entrance

6 8G door

7) Firsted food glass pane concealing structure

Silicone bonded glazing with fritted bands at head and sill.

9 Sticone bonded glazing

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Project Florey Building The Queens College, Oxford

Oxford

Drawing Proposed West Elevation

Drawing number 13083-PL-EL-02

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Notes



KEY 1 Refurbished terracotta tiles

2 Red engineering brick masonry

Double glazed, powder coated steel plate glaze and lowered ground floor structure with tiled plinth

4 Tile faced access panel

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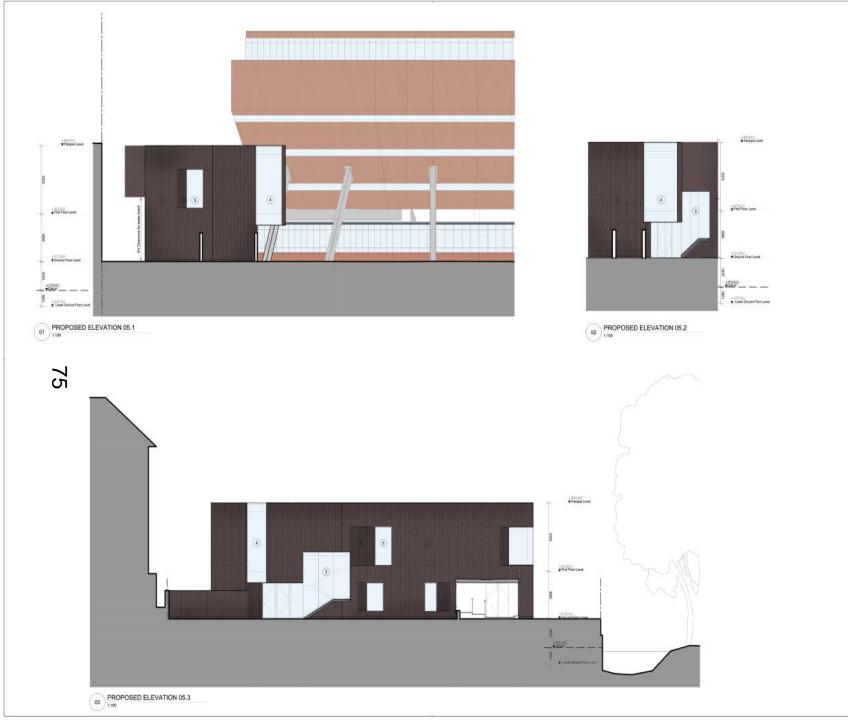
Drawing Proposed East Elevation

Drawing number 13083-PL-EL-04

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Ribbed, dark red oxidised terracotta rainscreen penels

2 Dark red oxidised terracotta baguette panels

(3) Glazed projecting steel stair structure

Silicone bonded glazing with fitted bands at head and sill.

3 Silicone bonded glazing

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Project Florey Building The Queens College, Oxford

Drawing Proposed Annex South and East Elevations

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Drawing number 13083-PL-EL-05

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View of new annexe



View of entrance

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Drawing Visuals and Views

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Cutaway perspective view

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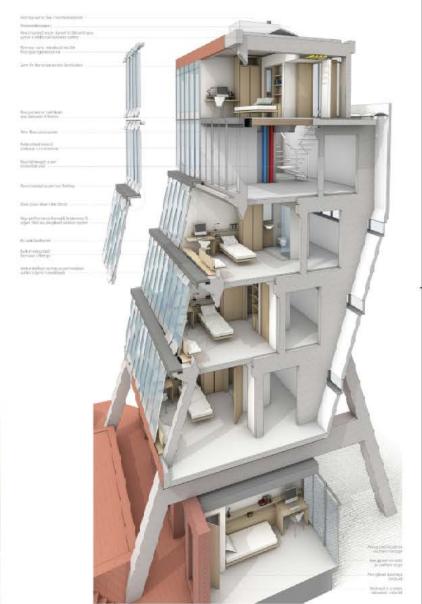
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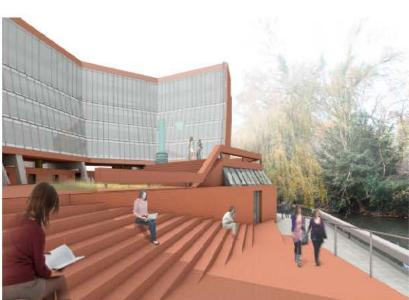
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Exploded axonometric showing services and furniture



View of podlum edge at river front

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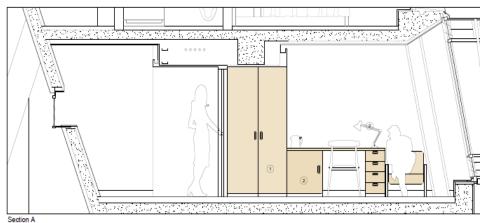
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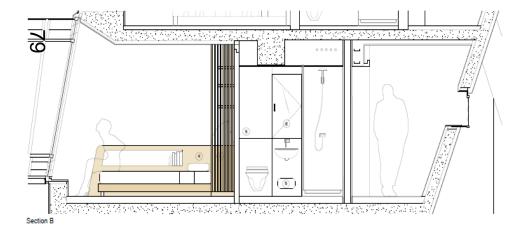
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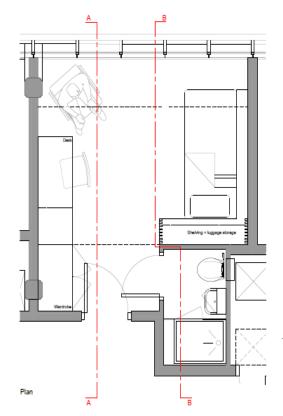
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KEY:

Wardrobe

2 Desk

Bedhead with Storage

Bed unit

Demountable wall lining IPS panel

Medicine cabinet with

Fixed wall lining panel

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Project Florey Building The Queens College, Oxford

Drawing Rooms Internal Layout

Drawing number 13083-PL-DE-01

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EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE WEST AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE

Tuesday 12 April 2016



COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Councillors Upton (Chair), Benjamin, Cook, Gant, Gotch (Vice-Chair), Hollingsworth, Paule, Price and Tanner.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Gill Butter (Conservation and Urban Design Officer), Murray Hancock (Principal Planning Officer), Michael Morgan (Lawyer), Andrew Murdoch (Development Control Team Leader), Katharine Owen (Principal Conservation Officer) and Jennifer Thompson (Committee and Members Services Officer)

123. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

None.

124. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Minute 126: Florey Building

Councillor Cook declared that he was associated with Queens College so to avoid any perception of bias he would not take part in the debate or decision on these applications. He would remain at the table as he had neither a disclosable interest nor any other reason to withdraw.

126. FLOREY BUILDING, 23-24 ST CLEMENT'S STREET:15/03643/FUL & 15/03644/LBC

Councillor Cook, having declared he would not take part in the debate or decision on these applications, remained at the table but took no part in the proceedings.

The Committee considered applications for planning permission and listed building consent for the refurbishment and extension of existing student accommodation building to provide 25 additional study bedrooms, conference and support facilities at Florey Building, 23-24 St Clement's Street, Oxford.

The planning officer reported receipt of a late representation from East Oxford Residents' Association which did not raise new relevant matters.

Peter Collins, representing York Place Residents' Association, spoke objecting to the application.

Andrew Timms, Bursar of Queen's College, spoke in support of the application. Representatives of the architects came to the table and answered questions from the committee.

The Committee decided to include a condition for a scheme to reduce noise breakout from the new building to mitigate any impact on residents. They also agreed to include in condition 13 restrictions on delivery times to prevent disturbance to York Place from deliveries at anti-social hours.

Decision

- (1) The Committee resolved to grant planning permission for application 15/03643/FUL subject to the following conditions including those agreed at the meeting:
- 1. Development begun within time limit.
- 2. Develop in accordance with approved plans.
- Material Samples in Conservation Area.
- 4. Landscape Plan.
- 5. Landscape Implementation.
- 6. Hard Surface Design Tree Roots.
- Underground Services Tree Roots.
- 8. Tree Protection Plan Implementation.
- 9. Arboricultural Method Statement Implementation.
- Student Accommodation Full Time Courses.
- 11. Student Accommodation No cars.
- 12. Student Accommodation Out of Term Use.
- Management Plan including Service Management and Traffic Management Strategy and for the York Place entrance a restriction on delivery hours
- 14. Archaeology WSI.
- 15. Travel Plan.
- 16. Student Travel Information Packs.
- 17. Cycle and Refuse Areas Provided.
- 18. Construction Traffic Management Plan.
- 19. Noise Levels as stated in Noise Assessment Report.
- 20. Air conditioning plant.
- 21. Scheme of extraction / treating cooking odours from kitchen.
- 22. Sustainability Statement Implementation
- 23. Flood Risk Assessment Recommendation Implementation.
- 24. Drainage Strategy.
- 25. Biodiversity Measures / Enhancements.
- 26. Development of a Servicing Plan for all uses.
- 27. Contaminated Land Risk Assessment.
- 28. Scheme to provide noise insulation to reduce noise breakout.

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING REVIEW COMMITTEE

Wednesday 30 March 2016



COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Councillors Fry (Chair), Fooks (Vice-Chair), Kennedy, Lygo, Munkonge, Sinclair, Turner, Wolff and Gotch.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Andrew Murdoch (Development Control Team Leader), Michael Morgan (Lawyer), Ian Marshall (Team Leader Design, Heritage and Specialist Services), Alan Wylde (Housing Development & Enabling Manager) and Catherine Phythian (Committee Services Officer)

7. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Hollick (substitute Cllr Wolff) and Cllr Goddard (substitute Cllr Gotch).

8. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

The Committee noted that Cllr Lygo was the member for Churchill Ward, which included the site of the application.

The Chair welcomed the public and speakers to the meeting and explained the procedure that would be followed. He said that in view of the number of requests to speak he would extend the time allowed for public speaking to 20 minutes in total (10 minutes for the objectors and 10 minutes for the supporters). He confirmed that the meeting would be audio recorded by a member of the public.

The Chair reported that the Committee had received two requests for deferral of the application and one request for the application site to be designated a local green space. He asked the legal adviser to clarify the position regarding those requests.

The legal adviser explained that there were no grounds to defer the decision and made the following points:

1. Request to defer the decision on the planning application until after the meeting convened by Natural England in May 2016 - Natural England have not objected to the planning application being determined by the grant of permission. Natural England has stated that there should not be a significant impact on the hydrology of the Site of Special Scientific Interest 83

(SSSI) and no other potential impact has been identified. As such there is no credible belief that the Natural England meeting in May would give rise to outcomes material to the determination of this application.

- Request to defer the decision on the planning application until further information on the hydrology is available – there were no grounds for the Committee to defer the decision on this basis as it would be contrary to the recommendations of the planning officers and Natural England who considered that there was adequate hydrology information to inform the decision.
- 3. Local Green Space designation request this is not within the powers of the Planning Review Committee. A local green space can only be created through a formally adopted development plan or neighbourhood plan. The Headington Neighbourhood Plan is at an early stage and in any event is required to plan positively and not promote less development than set out in the Local Plan. The Local Plan designates the application site for housing.

9. LAND EAST OF WARREN CRESCENT: 13/01555/CT3

The Committee considered an application for planning permission for the erection of 10×3 -bed dwellings (use class C3) together with associated car parking, cycle and bin storage and the diversion of the public footpath on land east of Warren Crescent.

The Committee noted that this application was approved at the East Area Planning Committee on 3 February 2016. It had subsequently been called in on grounds that the approval of the application puts at risk a highly unique Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) reserve.

The Planning Officer presented the report and briefed the Committee on the main developments since the previous consideration of the application:

- amended proposals for access to the allotments had been submitted and these had been "road tested" to confirm that there was adequate turning space for agricultural and delivery vehicles.
- the Council had agreed to fund £8kp.a for a management and maintenance plan for the SUDs. This would be provided in perpetuity. The costs would be offset from rental income and in the event that any of the properties were sold the Council would seek to impose a service charge.

Dr Judy Webb, Dr Helen Gavin and Heather Armitage, representing Friends of Lye Valley, spoke against the application.

Richard Puttock (Developer: Peter Brett Associates) and Anthony Harding (Agent: Turley Associates) spoke in support of the application. Alan Wylde, representing the applicant, came to the table to answer questions.

The Committee asked questions of the officers and speakers to clarify a number of matters including but not limited to the following:

Sustainable Urban Drainage Scheme

The Committee noted the views expressed by the Friends of Lye Valley regarding the hydrology of the site and the potential risks to the SSSI due to the close proximity of the swale, flash flooding and changes to the composition and quality of the surface water run-off.

In discussion the Committee explored alternative measures, such as tree planting or diversion to the brook, to manage the surface water run-off. They were advised that Natural England had made it clear that they wanted a Sustainable Urban Drainage scheme and did not countenance other direct drainage options.

Stability of the "made ground"

The Committee expressed concerns about the stability of the housing development site as it was known to be on "made ground". The developer gave assurances that this had been addressed in the technical proposals and that the houses were located where the "made ground" was most shallow and the loading of the houses would be through to the natural ground. The planning officer confirmed that this would be a matter for Building Control and that the properties would not receive completion certificates if they did not comply with building regulations.

Impact on the SSSI

On balance the majority of the Committee felt that the concerns about the potential impact on the SSI from accidental pollution by residents, flash flooding or other scenarios were outweighed by the need to provide social housing in the city and recognition of the fact that the statutory consultee had been closely involved in the development of the application, which included a number of measures to mitigate those potential problems.

A motion to approve the application on the terms recommended and with the amendments to the conditions detailed below was carried on being put to the vote.

amend Condition 11 as follows:

Sustainable Urban Drainage Scheme including detailed design, construction, *monitoring* and maintenance plan

• insert Condition 26:

Prior to the commencement of construction, design of foundations to be submitted for approval to the Local Planning Authority demonstrating that the foundations are anchored below "made ground".

insert Condition 27:

That the applicant be required to undertake a study into the feasibility of introducing a scheme for rainwater harvesting for domestic purposes and to present the evidence to the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of construction.

include Informative relating to Condition 26:

The Local Planning Authority should consult with Building Control regarding the design of the foundations when submitted for approval.

The Committee resolved to GRANT application 13/01555/CT3 subject to the following conditions and informative:

Conditions

- 1. Development begun within time limit
- 2. Develop in accordance with approved plans
- 3. Samples
- 4. Details of all means of enclosure for the site including the erection of palisade fencing along the boundary with the SSSI to prevent fly tipping
- 5. Details of refuse and cycle storage
- 6. Landscape plan required
- 7. Landscape carried out by completion
- 8. No felling lopping cutting
- 9. Tree Protection Plan (TPP) 1
- 10. Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) 1
- 11. Sustainable Urban Drainage Scheme including detailed design, construction, monitoring and maintenance plan
- 12. Biodiversity enhancements
- 13. Method statement for preserving ecology
- 14. Arch Implementation of programme
- 15. Details of the proposed parking areas
- 16. Details of the allotment access
- 17. Amendments to the Traffic Regulation Ord
- 18. Construction Environmental Management Plan including a method statement for preserving ecology during construction
- 19. A Travel Plan Statement
- 20. Details of affordable housing
- 21. Secure by Design Principles
- 22. Sustainability Measures / NRIA
- 23. Removal of permitted development rights
- 24. Scheme of external lighting
- 25. Phase II Contaminated Land Assessment
- 26. Prior to the commencement of construction, design of foundations to be submitted for approval to the Local Planning Authority demonstrating that the foundations are anchored below "made ground".
- 27. Applicant required to undertake a study into the feasibility of introducing a scheme for rainwater harvesting for domestic purposes and to present the evidence to the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of construction.

Informative

The Local Planning Authority should consult with Building Control regarding the design of the foundations when submitted for approval.

10. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2016

The Committee resolved to APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2016 as a true and accurate record.

11. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Committee noted the dates of future meetings (if required):

2016	2017
27 April 2016	18 January 2017
22 June 2016	15 February 2017
13 July 2016	15 March 2017
10 August 2016	12 April 2017
14 September 2016	24 May 2017
12 October 2016	
9 November 2016	
20 December 2016	

The meeting started at 6.05 pm and ended at 7.40 pm

