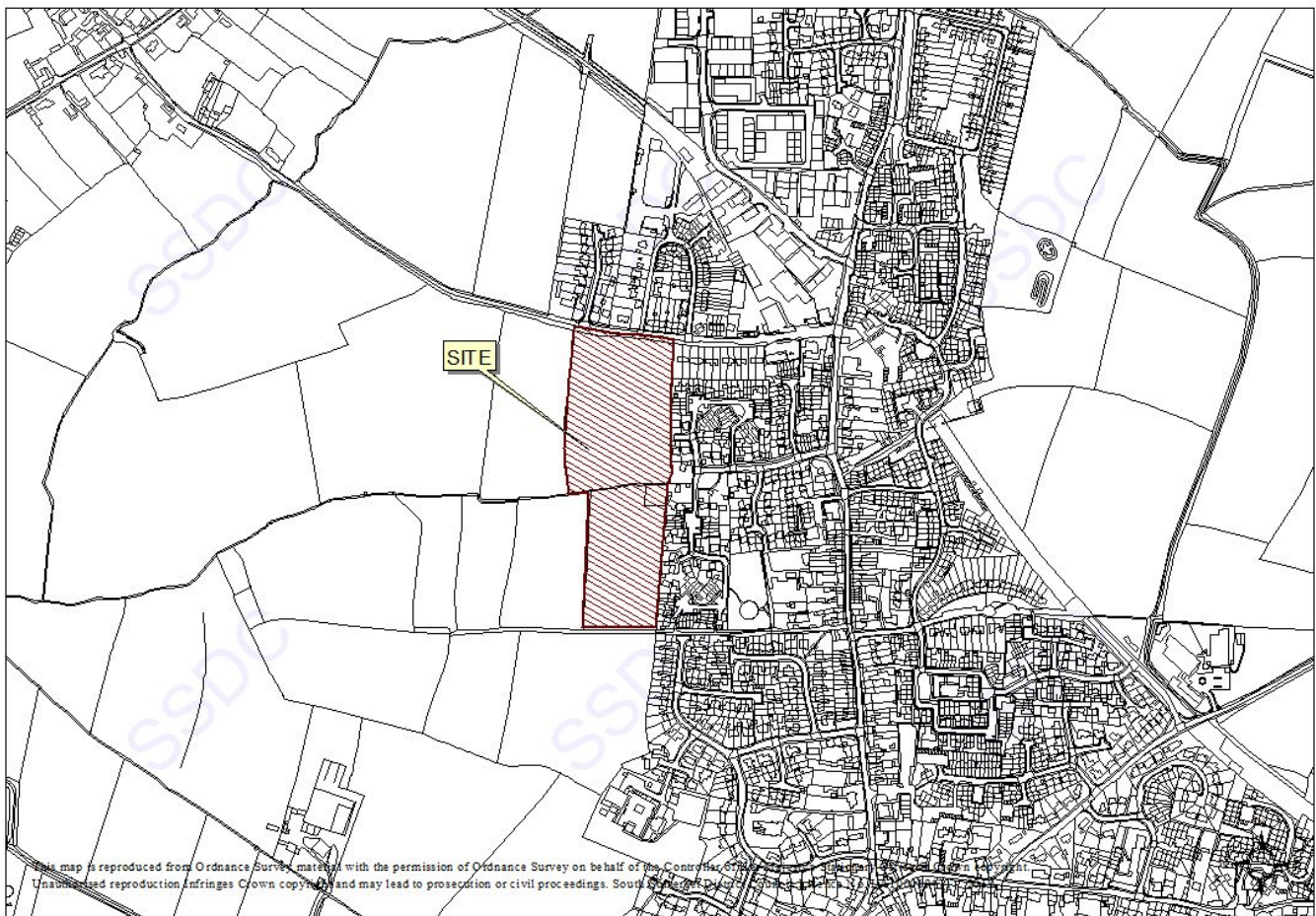


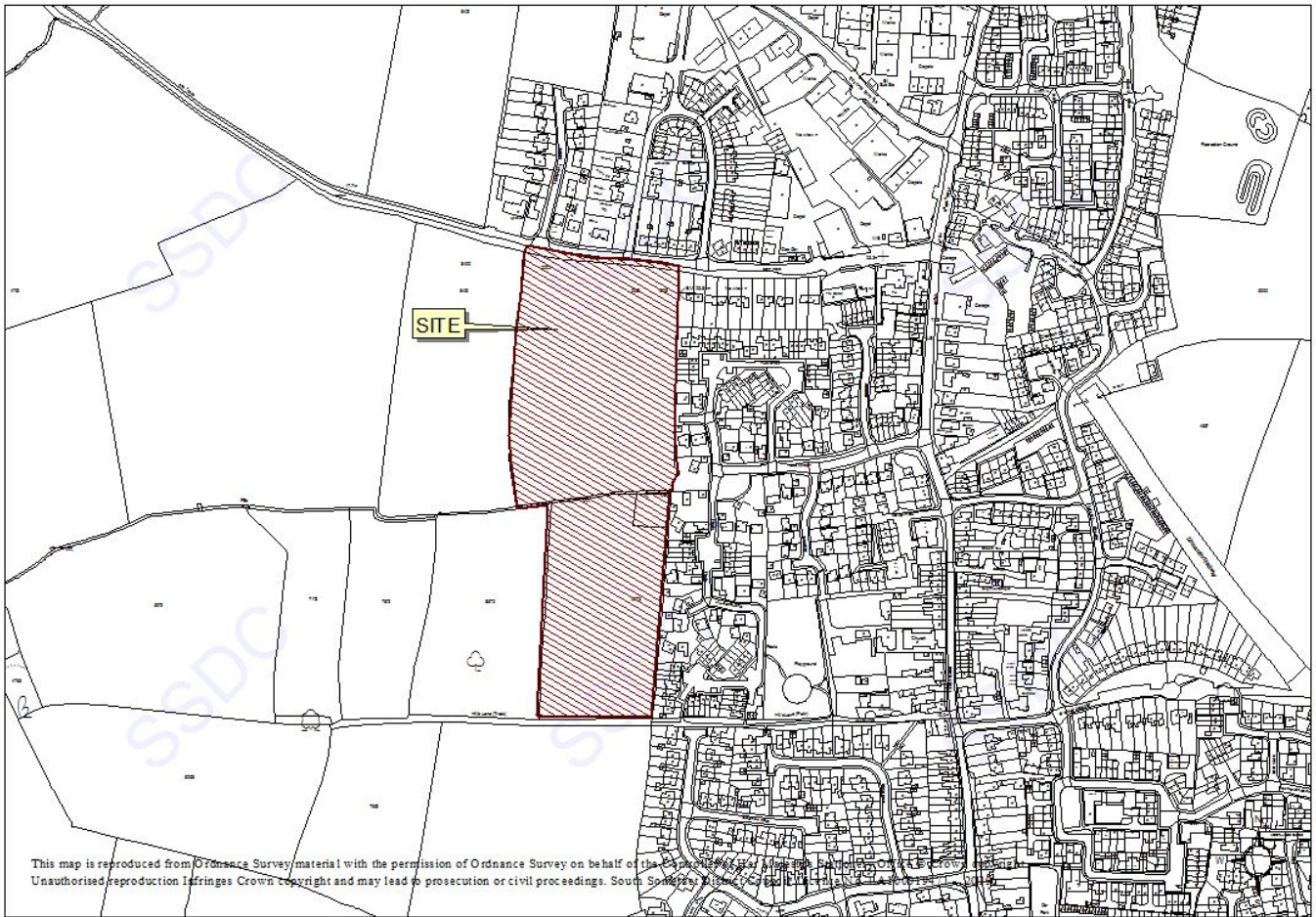
Officer Report On Planning Application: 19/00064/FUL**

Proposal :	The erection of 120 homes together with associated infrastructure including access/highway improvements, drainage and attenuation, play area, open space and landscaping
Site Address:	Land OS 0002 South Of Coat Road, Martock.
Parish:	Martock
MARTOCK Ward (SSDC Members)	Cllr N Bloomfield and Cllr L Clarke
Recommending Case Officer:	John Millar Tel: (01935) 462465 Email: john.millar@southsomerset.gov.uk
Target date :	22nd March 2019
Applicant :	Barratt Homes
Agent: (no agent if blank)	Elise Power, Origin 3, Tyndall House, 17 Whiteladies Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 1P
Application Type :	Major Dwlgs 10 or more or site 0.5ha+

REASON FOR REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE

This application is referred to committee at request of the Ward Members with the agreement of the Area Chair to enable the issues raised to be fully debated by Members.





This application has also been 2-starred under the Scheme of Delegation - referral of applications to the Regulation Committee for determination. In collective agreement with the Leader, Portfolio Holder, Area Chairs, Director (Service Delivery), Monitoring Officer, and Lead Specialist (Planning) all major applications will be 2-starred for the immediate future to safeguard the Council's performance, pending a more substantive review.

The Area Committees will still be able to approve and condition major applications. However, if a committee is minded to refuse a major application, whilst it will be able to debate the issues and indicate grounds for refusal, the final determination will be made by the Regulation Committee.

SITE DESCRIPTION AND PROPOSAL

The site consists of two agricultural fields currently in arable use. The two fields slope gently towards a central dividing ditch and are bounded on all sides by hedges of various quality and type. The site is bounded by a variety of residential properties to the north and east of the site, with open countryside to the south and west.

This application seeks full planning permission for the residential development of land, comprising 120 houses. The scheme includes the provision of vehicular access to the north, onto Coat Road, the provision of an on-site play area (LEAP), as well as surface water attenuation features, and landscaped area/informal open space. A range of dwellings are proposed from 1 bedroom apartments to 4 bedroom homes. 42 affordable dwellings are proposed and are spread through the site. A total of 268 parking spaces are proposed, with some provided within garages.

The dwellings incorporate a simple range of materials, comprising different brick types and reconstructed stone for external walls, and a mix of red and grey roof tiles. The layout includes a pedestrian link to the Public Right of Way to the south.

Consent has previously been granted on this site for 95 houses (13/02474/OUT and 15/01021/REM), however these consents have time expired without commencement of the scheme.

This application is supported by:

- Design and Access Statement
- Planning Statement
- Statement of Community Involvement
- Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Method Statement
- Landscape Risk Assessment and Soft Landscape Proposals
- Transport Assessment incorporating Travel Plan
- Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy
- Ecological Impact Assessment
- Outdoor Lighting Report and Drawings
- Construction Environmental Management Plan
- Site Waste Management Plan

The houses would all be two storey dwellings. There would be:-

- 22 four bedroom houses
- 50 three bedroom houses
- 40 two bedroom houses
- 8 one bedroom units

HISTORY

15/01021/REM: Residential development of land for 95 dwellings (reserved matters following outline approval 13/02474/OUT) (Details of the appearance, landscaping, layout and scale are the reserved matters) Discharge of the remaining conditions on the outline permission will be subject to a separate application, and supplementary information relating to these conditions is included with this application - Permitted with conditions.

14/04206/REM: Residential development of land for 95 dwellings (reserved matters following outline approval 13/02474/OUT) (Details of the appearance, landscaping, layout and scale are the reserved matters) and discharge of conditions 04 (Drainage), 05 (Maintenance of surface water drainage), 06 (Design and specification of access), 07 (Programme of archaeological work), 09 (Scheme for provision and management of 4m wide buffer zone), 10 (Detailed landscape strategy) and 12 (updated report for badgers sett) - Application refused for the following reason:

"The proposed design of the houses and the inclusion of 2 1/2 storey elements is out of character and incongruous with the established development pattern and character of Martock. As such the proposal is contrary to saved policies ST5 and ST6 of the South Somerset Local Plan 2006 and the provisions of chapter 7 of the National Planning Policy Framework."

13/02474/OUT: Outline permission granted for residential development of up to 95 dwellings at land south of Coat Road, Martock (access determined with all other detailed matters reserved). An associated Section 106 Agreement covers:

- Provision of Affordable Housing
- Contributions for the provision of Public Recreation and Leisure Facilities
- Education Contributions

POLICY

The South Somerset Local Plan (2006 - 2028) was adopted on the 5th March 2015. In accordance with Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and Section 70(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), the adopted local plan now forms part of the development plan. As such, decisions on the award of planning permission should be made in accordance with this development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Legislation and national policy are clear that the starting point for decision-making is the development plan, where development that accords with an up-to-date local plan should be approved, and proposed development that conflicts should be refused, unless other material considerations indicate otherwise.

Policies of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028)

SD1 - Sustainable Development

SS1 - Settlement Strategy

SS4 - District Wide Housing Provision

SS5 - Delivering New Housing Growth

SS6 - Infrastructure Delivery

HG3 - Provision of Affordable Housing

HG5 - Achieving a Mix of Market Housing

TA1 - Low Carbon Travel

TA4 - Travel Plans

TA5 - Transport Impact of New Development

TA6 - Parking Standards

HW1 - Provision of Open Space, Outdoor Playing Space, Sports, Cultural and Community Facilities in New Development

EQ1 - Addressing Climate Change in South Somerset

EQ2 - General Development

EQ4 - Biodiversity

EQ5 - Green Infrastructure

EQ7 - Pollution Control

National Planning Policy Framework

Chapter 2 - Achieving Sustainable Development

Chapter 4 - Decision Making

Chapter 5 - Delivering a Sufficient Supply of Homes

Chapter 8 - Promoting Healthy and Safe Communities

Chapter 11 - Making Effective Use of Land

Chapter 12 - Achieving Well-designed Places

Chapter 14 - Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Change

Chapter 15 - Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment

Chapter 15 - Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment

National Planning Practice Guidance

Policy-related Material Considerations

Somerset County Council Parking Strategy (September 2013)

Somerset County Council Highways Development Control - Standing Advice (June 2017)

CONSULTATIONS

The responses from the following consultees are provided below in summary form only, for the most part. Where not included below, the full responses are available on the public planning file.

Martock Parish Council: Recommends refusal for the following reasons:

1. That if approved, this application would bring the total number of new dwellings committed or approved in Martock since the start of the current planning period to approximately 326, a figure that is 42% above the indicative target of 230 as set out in the adopted Local Plan 2006-2028, which was described in the Laver's Oak and Ringwell Hill appeal decisions as being a reasonable development over the Local Plan period despite the absence of a 5 year housing land supply. This development would skew the settlement strategy as laid out in the Local Plan.
2. The Martock out-commute is approximately net 60%, a figure significantly higher than comparable settlements and which is detrimental to the economic sustainability of Martock. There is no evidence that this development would lead to significant job creation in the village and would therefore increase commuting numbers even further.
3. The inevitable increase in traffic onto North Street will cause significant peak time difficulties on this already congested road, the village of Ash and through to Stoke Road and Bower Hinton.
4. The detrimental impact on Martock's already oversubscribed Primary School, as stated in the last weeks by the LEA, and the detrimental impact on Martock Surgery which is already under considerable pressure.
5. The Coat Road site is well known for its natural springs and has a drainage ditch, Cobden's Ryhne running through the site. Evidence has shown that the proposed underground storage will be subjected to silting. The proposed use of hydrobrakes will lead to silting and will release excess water compounding downstream flood risk, exacerbated by exceeded SuDs capacity.
6. That the proposed parking space provision has 39 fewer spaces than the SCC Parking Strategy Document guidelines, as adopted by SSDC, require for residential development to provide a parking neutral development.

If the scheme is approved, it is requested that consideration is given to the following:

1. Provision of off-road all-weather footpath/cycle/mobility scooter links to the village.
2. Provision of porous parking and minor road surfaces.
3. Safety improvements to Coat Road and the North Street junction.
4. Cobden's Ryhne should not be culverted other than at the bridge.
5. Indigenous species only in the landscaping design.
6. Reduction in housing number density.
7. Houses that are prominent and visible from Coat Road should have a design and finish that ensures integration with the design of the area.
8. Building orientation should maximise potential of solar power.

County Highway Authority: It is advised that the proposal has been fully assessed by the Highway Authority, and as a result no objections are raised in principle, subject to the imposition of relevant highway related conditions. It is noted that some minor amendments were required, however they can be dealt with during the detailed design process. Two issues were identified, the first being that the autotrack details showed a refuse freighter overhanging the footway at one point. The second related to the proximity of the initial junction within the site to the main access onto Coat Road. In the case of the first concern, there was a potential risk of vehicle pedestrian collision, however the risk was considered to be limited and not a regular occurrence, as such no objection was raised. Following identification of the second concern, the developer and the Highway Authority undertook Road Safety Audits to understand the full implications of the layout. Neither safety audits made note of this as a concern, as such the layout is considered to be safe. It is also advised that a 600mm wide verge should be provided at the back of the footway prior to the top of the ditch or any earthwork slopes, otherwise that part of the ditch should be culverted. This is a

matter that can be confirmed at technical stage however.

SSDC Highway Consultant: Refer to SCC advice.

SCC Rights of Way: No objections. It is noted that a public right of way (PROW) abuts the site to the south (restricted byway Y16/31). It is requested that should the roads be adopted, the links between the site and path Y16/31) should be a bridleway link, which would be capable of allowing access for horse riders and cyclists, as well as pedestrians. This would be secured as part of any S38 adoption agreement.

SCC Minerals and Waste Team: No comment.

SCC Education: The proposed development of 120 homes will generate an educational need for 6 early years places, 39 primary school places and 17 secondary school places. It is advised that nursery providers are short of places, and there is significant pressure on places at Martock C of E Primary. As such contributions of £102,444 were initially requested to provide for the early years provision (£17,074 per pupil), and £665,886 for primary places (also £17,074 per pupil). Following a request for further clarification, it has been confirmed that there is space available for the provision of an additional classroom, with limited work required. The County Education Authority have therefore confirmed that the requested contribution for primary places is expected to be reduced. This figure has not been reported back yet, so a verbal update will be given. It is advised that Stanchester Secondary has capacity so no contributions are requested in respect to secondary education.

SSDC Housing: Would expect 42 affordable units with 34 as social rented and 8 for other intermediate affordable housing solutions. The following property mix is suggested:

Social Rent: 10 x 1 bed, 20 x 2 bed, 3 x 3 bed, 1 x 4 bed (bespoke disabled unit for a family in need)
Other intermediate affordable; 6 x 2 bed, 2 x 3 bed

SSDC Open Spaces Officer: The proposal generates a requirement of 0.46 hectares of Public Open Space (POS), although the site plans identify a slightly lesser amount of 0.41 hectares of useable POS. Notwithstanding this, there are no objections to the layout. To address the slight shortfall on site, Open Space agree to the provision of an off-site contribution towards enhancements at Hills Lane recreation ground and the provision of a mitigation fund, which SSDC will use to enhance the Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDs), so they will become a community asset. These enhancements would include suitable landscaping/planting to provide biodiversity and ecological improvements. £3,204.51 is requested towards the off-site contributions and £18,000 towards improving the attenuation features, although this could be reduced by approximately £7,000 if the developer sows the original mix, with the Council's guidance and specification).

SSDC Community, Health and Leisure: Seeks contributions of £ 244,696 towards local facilities, comprising £95,066 towards the provision of on-site equipped play space (LEAP), unless provided by the applicant, £188,066 towards off-site Youth Facilities to be provided at either Bracey Road or Hills Lane, £46,310 towards off-site playing pitches and £84,653 towards off-site provision of changing rooms. £96,732 is requested in commuted sums, and £3,414 as an administration fee.

NHS England: No comments.

Police Designing Out Crime Officer: No objection in principle, however it is suggested that the proposed visitor parking near to the LEAP be reconsidered as this could give anonymity to observe children at play.

Somerset Waste Partnership: No objections. It is noted that bin collection points are included for properties down longer private drives, which addresses any initial concerns.

Natural England: No objections raised - The proposal is not likely to result in significant impacts on

statutory designated nature conservation sites or landscapes. The Local Planning Authority are reminded that they are expected to assess and consider the possible impacts on biodiversity, local character and protected species. The need for environmental net gain is also identified.

SSDC Ecologist: Satisfied with and generally agrees with the conclusions of the various ecological reports and makes the following comments and recommendations:

BATS: The Ecological Appraisal report states that a possible bat roost is present within an oak tree at the north west of the site. A follow up tree roost survey was carried out by Green Ecology on the 28 March 2019, the results confirmed that the tree is not currently suitable for roosting bats and no specific avoidance, mitigation or compensation measures are required. Otherwise, the Ecologist that light-spill could cause avoidance behaviours for bats commuting and foraging through the site, particularly if light-averse bats use the site. A condition is suggested in respect to the proposed lighting scheme.

GREATER CRESTED NEWTS: The Ecological Appraisal recommended that, as a precautionary measure, eDNA surveys should be carried out prior to any works commencing on site to confirm absence/presence of great crested newts. Green Ecology carried out a further Great Crested Newt Assessment, including a Habitat Suitability Index, a proposed eDNA sampling on the 15th April 2019. Following assessment of the results, it was concluded that the site's water bodies are considered highly unlikely to support great crested newts and therefore no specific avoidance, mitigation or compensation measures for great crested newts are required. A preventative condition is suggested in respect to reptiles and amphibians.

DORMICE: The Ecological Appraisal suggests the removal of any suitable habitat for Dormice, which is limited to a 10m section of hedgerow, under the supervision of a licenced dormouse ecologist carried out under a mitigation strategy, with enhancements proposed. As the section of hedgerow is limited to 10m, with hedgerow present being improved and new areas planted suggested mitigation will be sufficient to mitigate for the worst case scenario. Therefore in accordance with Cheshire East v Rowland Homes case law further surveys will not be required in this case. A condition is suggested in respect to the works proposed that will remove this 10m of hedgerow.

BADGERS: The construction of the road across the ditch will directly impact on badgers by damaging a sett. The ecology report advises that an artificial sett will be undertaken close to the existing sett, with the closure of the existing sett carried out in accordance with a Natural England Licence. A condition is requested in respect to seeking the necessary licence.

BIRDS: The hedgerows and woodland, identified as being of most value to breeding birds, will be mostly retained as part of the development. Where removal of hedgerow or scrub is proposed (northern and central hedgerows), a vegetation removal conditions is requested.

HEDGEROWS AND WOODLAND: The submitted arboricultural information provides details of protection for existing hedgerows and trees, which is acceptable.

BIODIVERSITY AND PROTECTED SPECIES NET GAIN: The loss and disturbance to the habitats on site will be compensated for by the provision of retained and managed wildlife areas and infrastructure thus ensuring the proposal provides mitigation and compensation habitat and adheres to enhancement requirements outlined within the National Planning Policy Framework 2017 (NPPF). An appropriate condition is requested to secure these enhancements.

SSDC Tree Officer: No objection in principle. The submitted tree and hedge protection measures are acceptable and should be conditioned. There are reservations in respect to the suggested landscaping scheme, with changes suggested.

SSDC Environmental Protection Officer: No comments.

South West Heritage Trust Archaeologist: No objection in principle, however it is advised that no reference has been made to a geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation carried out in 2013. The trial trench evaluation demonstrated that two significant concentrations of archaeological features were present at the northern and southern ends of the application area. These included a series of enclosure and boundary ditches containing concentrations of pottery. This evidence was indicative of Iron Age and Roman settlement activity. For this reason it is recommended that the developer be required to archaeologically excavate the heritage asset and provide a report on any discoveries made as indicated in the National Planning Policy Framework (Paragraph 199). Conditions are requested to this effect.

Environment Agency: No objection subject to the imposition of certain conditions and informatives being imposed on any permission issued.

Lead Local Flood Authority (County Drainage): No objections - The LLFA are satisfied that the submitted Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and calculations satisfactorily demonstrate that the overall discharge rate can be maintained in line with existing greenfield rates (8.3l/s). It was also noted that the rate, connections and any easements would need to be agreed with the Somerset Internal Drainage Board. There were some initial concerns raised in respect to the use of attenuation crates in addition to the use of a basin, rather than the site being fully attenuated by basins. This related to concerns over the ease of maintenance of these systems. Further information was requested to address these concerns. The applicant confirmed that following discussions with Wessex Water, the proposed attenuation crates would not be adoptable, however details of similar products were provided, which Wessex Water would be happy to adopt. In response to this and accompanying supporting information, the LLFA are content that the proposed drainage strategy is achievable, while limiting discharge to existing greenfield rates. As such, no objections are raised, although the details of the final scheme should be conditioned.

Somerset Drainage Board Engineer: No objections have been raised in principle, although it is requested that trees shown on the plans are removed from the Board's maintenance strip. A condition is requested to agree the details of management and maintenance arrangements.

REPRESENTATIONS

55 letters have been received from local residents of Martock, of which 52 raise objections, and the remaining 3 make general observations. The main points raised include:

- 125 houses is too many for Martock. The village infrastructure is not equipped to deal with the increased number of houses. Local facilities/services (shops, chemist, GP surgery, dentist, school, recreation ground, etc.) are already overloaded. This development will exacerbate the situation. The village infrastructure is not equipped to deal with the increased number of houses. There are also insufficient jobs within the village, leading to increased levels of out-commuting.
- The proposal would lead to a significant increase in housing numbers beyond the Local Plan target of approximately 230 (approx 42% over). There have been other applications refused where the Planning Inspector has dismissed the subsequent appeals, considering that the housing levels proposed were such that they would unacceptably conflict with Local Plan Settlement Strategy. These were Laver Oak, which would have seen the Local Plan figure exceeded by 50%, and Ringwell Hill, where the figure would have been exceeded by between 32-40%. The Local Plan target of 230 homes equates to 11 houses per year. The scheme therefore represents 11 years supply of housing. In fact it is understood that the number of houses built or with active permission so far in the current Local Plan period is 206, in which case the proposed extra 120 houses would take the number to 326, equivalent of 42% over the target with 9 years remaining.
- The proposal conflicts with elements of the emerging Martock Neighbourhood Plan, particularly in respect to housing numbers and views towards the tower of Martock Parish Church.
- Concerns in relation to the impact of construction traffic, in respect to both highway safety and neighbouring amenity.

- Increased traffic flow using Coat Road and the junction with North Street, is of concern, as congestion is currently an issue in Martock. Concerns in respect to the safety of local cyclists, pedestrians, joggers and dog walkers is raised too.
- The proposed parking provision is below the levels required by the Somerset County Council Parking Strategy.
- Consideration should be given to why the previously approved scheme for 95 homes was not carried out, and whether the development of this site is viable.
- The proposed layout is too high density, and the design of the properties is worse than the previously approved scheme.
- The proposal unacceptably encroaches into greenfield land.
- Concerns raised in respect to historic flooding in the locality, and as to where excess surface water will go. Will existing drains and sewage infrastructure will be able to cope? Concerns are also raised about the ability to maintain the proposed SuDS.
- The site is of great benefit to local wildlife and ecology, which will be adversely impacted.

Applicant's Case

"The application site was previously granted Outline planning permission in 2014 by the Area North committee. The site is also identified in the Local Plan Review Report (February 2019) as a preferred option for residential development.

The consultation process has demonstrated that there are no technical reasons as to why this application should not be supported. Issues such as traffic, drainage and ecology have all been fully addressed as part of the submission.

The proposal will also deliver significant economic and social benefits including 35% (42 homes) affordable housing and financial contributions through the Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 agreement.

South Somerset does not currently benefit from the required 5 year supply of housing and therefore policies that seek to guide the location of housing developments are considered to be out of date. This site has previously been granted permission for residential development and has been identified by the Council as being a suitable location for new homes. Supporting new development in this location would contribute towards the Council's supply and would assist in resisting proposals in locations that are not considered to be appropriate."

CONSIDERATIONS

Principle of Development

This application for planning permission seeks approval for a 120 house residential development. The principle of residential development has previously been established on this site, following the earlier grant of outline planning permission 13/02474/OUT, and subsequent approval of reserved matters application 15/01021/REM. These schemes approved the erection of 95 homes, although these consents have since time expired. Notwithstanding this, the principle of development remains. The South Somerset Local Plan identifies Martock as a Rural Centre and as such has been identified as a sustainable location for growth, particularly where this meets local housing need, extends local services and supports economic activity appropriate to the scale of the settlement.

A strategic housing target of 230 dwellings has been proposed over the plan period (2006-2028), of which according to the latest collated figures, 122 were complete (as of March 2018) and a total of 93 committed (as of January 2019), giving a total of 215 homes, subject to updated figures. The number of commitments was previously higher as this included the now expired consent for 95 units. Should the proposed

development be approved, the housing numbers would be in the region of 335, exceeding the housing target by 115 units (approximately 46%).

The Parish Council, and many contributors, have objected to the proposal for several reasons, including that there is an over-provision of housing proposed for Martock. With the local plan strategic housing target of 230 dwellings close to being met without taking into account this proposal, and recent appeal decisions (Ringwell Hill and Lavers Oak) telling against large scale increases in the level of housing in Martock so early in the Local Plan period, this is a matter for serious consideration. In these aforementioned appeals, the schemes proposed 49 dwellings and 91 dwellings respectively, equating to a 32% and a 50% increase in housing provision over the strategic housing target. In both cases it was considered that this level of development would comprise an overprovision of housing well beyond the broad levels envisaged for this settlement, thereby constituting a substantial failure to accord with the settlement strategy set out in Local Plan policies SS1, SS4 and SS5. It is notable however that in both cases, other reasons for refusal were also given substantial weight in the final planning balance. In the case of Ringwell Hill, the Inspector adjudged the site to be unsustainably located due to its distance from Martock's key services, while there were significant landscape and local character objections that weighed against the Lavers Oak Scheme.

It is noted that the Local Planning Authority are still currently unable to demonstrate a five year supply of housing sites, a position that has worsened since the Ringwell Hill and Lavers Oak scheme were considered. In the context of the National Planning Policy Framework Local Plan policies SS1, SS4 and SS5 are still considered out of date, as they are relevant to the supply of housing. In such circumstances, it is advised that planning permission should be granted unless *1) the application of policies in the NPPF that protect areas or assets of particular importance provides a clear reason for refusing the development proposed or 2) any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the NPPF taken as a whole.*

Clearly, the housing numbers proposed are significant and do lead to a substantial increase over the housing strategy figure. Notwithstanding this however, it remains the case that the housing figure of 230 dwellings is a minimum, not a maximum, and under Policy SS5, a permissive approach will be taken for housing proposals, in advance of a Site Allocations Development Plan Document. The ongoing inability of the LPA to demonstrate adequate provision of housing land, and its worsening position, does need to be given appropriate weight. It is also noted that despite the increase, the resulting housing numbers would still be under the target stated for the smaller Market Towns within the next tier of the settlement strategy. The settlements of Somerton, Langport/Huish Episcopi, and Castle Cary/Ansford, which are designated as Local Market Towns, all have an identified housing target of 374 homes each. The total of completed and committed housing for Martock would remain below this figure. Furthermore, a recent appeal in Henstridge (Land West of Stalbridge) was allowed, approving up to 130 dwellings in a Rural Settlement. This was not viewed as conflicting with the overall distribution strategy, despite the fact that an increase of this scale would exceed the figures identified in the smallest of the Rural Centres (Stoke Sub Hamdon), where a housing target of 51 houses is allocated.

On the basis of the above, serious consideration has to be given to whether the increase over and above the strategic housing target should be considered so harmful to be unacceptable or considered to comprise unsustainable development, particularly noting the District-wide shortage in market and affordable housing. Despite there being an adverse impact identified, it is not considered to be so unacceptable as to warrant being a sole refusal reason, noting the benefits associated with the development. As such, it is considered that the development of this site for residential purposes, of the scale identified, could be acceptable in principle, subject of course to the assessment of other appropriate local and national policy considerations, to determine whether there are any relevant policies within the NPPF that provides a clear reason for refusing the development proposed, or any adverse impacts that would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits of the development.

Character and Appearance

Notwithstanding the objections to the number of houses proposed, concerns also have been raised by local residents and the parish council regarding the impact of the proposal on the character of the area, the setting of the nearby heritage assets, specifically views towards the tower of Martock Parish Church, and the wider landscape character. Overall, the principle of developing this site has been considered previously, with permission granted. The site is considered to be one of the few sites beyond the developed edge of Martock that can comfortably accommodate a larger development scheme without having major adverse impacts on local character. In considering the previous approvals, it was noted that the application site was evaluated as having capacity for development in the peripheral landscape study of Martock carried out in 2008, and as a result concluded that there were no landscape issue with the principle of developing the site for housing. The site is visually well contained by existing hedgerows and any development would not be unduly prominent on the wider landscape. In specifically considering the proposed layout and scale of development, it is considered that the proposed scheme is acceptable with residential development laid out either side of a central access road. Despite there being an increase in 25 houses from the previously approved scheme, the development offers a housing mix that is considered more appropriate to meet local housing need, particularly noting local demand for smaller houses. This latest proposal omits any 5 bedroom houses, and significantly reduces the proportion of 4 bedroom homes, in favour of an increase in the number of 2 and 3 bedroom units. As a result, it is felt that the layout and associated mix of housing offers improvements over the previous schemes, despite the greater numbers proposed.

The proposed houses are of a relatively standard design and appearance, however careful consideration has been given to the type, which contain some of the key characteristics found within properties in the local area. The material mix, comprising some reconstructed stone, and red, yellow and buff brick also correspond to materials prevalent within the area, and similar to those approved in more recent schemes within Martock. Overall, it is considered that the design of the dwellings, provides for an appropriate development that is of a scale, proportion and design that adequately respects and relates to established local character.

The proposed layout of the site follows the main principles of the previously approved schemes, with a central spine road from the proposed access to the north to the south of the site. The built development is mainly concentrated on the north and south of the two fields, which are separated by an existing ditch. It is proposed to provide a central area of open space, which will contain the formal play area, informal open space and also two new surface water attenuation ponds. Further public open space will be provided to the north and south extremities of the site. As a result, the proposed scheme is considered to provide a quality residential development with a good mix of public open space, which offers opportunities to create a green buffer with Coat Road and also to provide a green focal point at the centre of the site.

The proposed layout allows for an overall level of parking to the satisfaction of the County Council Highway Authority. The relationship between the dwellings along the east boundary of the southern part of the site and those in the adjoining Hills Orchard development has also been considered and the relationship is deemed to be acceptable. The Police Designing Out Crime Officer is generally satisfied with the scheme, although they have recommended the removal of parking spaces adjoining the LEAP to avoid the risk of anonymous persons being able to view children playing. At this point, no amendments have been made to the parking layout, however this could be done by adding a condition requiring a final parking layout to be agreed.

The proposal is supported by a comprehensive hard and soft landscaping scheme. The hard landscaping includes the use of brick walls and railings for boundaries onto the public domain, along with open grass frontages, which will soften the overall appearance of the site and maintain a high quality finish in the long-term.

The proposed landscaping scheme retains the existing mature boundary hedging, and also proposed to fill in gaps, such as those on the boundary between the existing and proposed dwellings in the southern

part of the site. The Council's Tree Officer has commented on the new planting scheme throughout the site, and suggested some changes, although this can be addressed by condition Otherwise, suitable tree and hedge protection measures are included to the satisfaction of the Tree Officer.

Flooding and Drainage

There is a history of surface water flooding within Martock, both within and around the site, and further afield. Concerns have again been raised in respect to surface water runoff, the effectiveness of the proposed drainage strategy, and future management and maintenance arrangements and responsibilities. As a starting point, the proposed strategy includes the provision of two new attenuation ponds within the site but also includes underground attenuation measures too. The Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), who are now the Statutory Consultee on these matters, are satisfied that the strategy would restrict surface water runoff into the adjoining ditch to greenfield rates of 8.3l/s. There were some questions marks over the use of underground attenuation crates, and the ability to effectively maintain them, however the applicant has provided further information to the LLFA, following discussions with Wessex Water, in which details of alternative underground attenuation products have been provided, which Wessex Water would be able to adopt. As such, the LLFA are satisfied in principle, however have noted that there is a further need to agree rates of discharge, etc with the Parrett Internal Drainage Board. The Drainage Board have also provided comments, also raising no objections in principle. A condition was requested in relation to maintenance and management arrangements, details of which will be requested alongside the final drainage scheme.

Overall, the drainage strategy gives sufficient reassurance that the site can be effectively drained, with conditions proposed for the agreement of the final detailed drainage scheme, along with details of future ownership and maintenance. In this respect, it is anticipated that Wessex Water would adopt the elements of the surface water system that they can, with the remaining elements, such as the attenuation features to be handed over to a management company.

Highways

As with the previous schemes, a large number of concerns have been raised by neighbouring occupiers, and the Parish Council, regarding the potential impact of the proposed development on the surrounding highway network. In particular concern has been raised about the volume of traffic the scheme will generate and the various impacts this extra traffic will have. The County Highway Authority was consulted as to these impacts and all highway aspects relating to the development. They have assessed the impact of the proposal and have raised no objection in respect to impact on the local highway network. In considering the layout, there are some minor matters that may require amendment, however it is advised that these may be dealt with at technical approval stage. A few minor safety concerns were also identified, however following the undertaking of Road Safety Audits by both the applicant and Highway Authority, these were not considered to raise significant concerns to warrant refusal of the scheme.

It is noted that there are some concerns raised by local residents in respect to the levels of parking, as these are short of the County Council Parking Strategy optimum standards, however the Highway Authority have not raised this as a matter of concern. Each property is served by 2 or 3 parking spaces, which is considered to be acceptable, particularly noting the relatively close proximity, and accessibility of the local services.

Subject to the imposition of suggested conditions, and consideration of the final detailed design post-approval, the Highway Authority are satisfied with the proposed development.

There is also a public right of way, running to the south of the site, with a link proposed from the development site. The County Rights of Way Officer has raised no objections but advised that the link should be made a bridleway, which would allow its use by horse riders and cyclists. These matters would be dealt with alongside any Section 38 adoption agreement with the County Highway Authority.

Residential Amenity

Consideration has been given to the impact on adjoining residents, particularly those occupying properties along Coat Road, and on the western edge of Hills Orchard, however the proposal is appropriately laid out to avoid unacceptable harm through any direct overlooking or other impact. As such, it is considered that the proposed development will not cause demonstrable harm to the residential amenity of adjoining occupiers.

Ecology

Some concerns have been submitted by neighbouring occupiers and supported by the comments of the parish council in relation to the impact of the proposal on local ecology. Notwithstanding this however, other than the removal of a section of 10m of hedgerow, the existing structural landscaping, comprising large hedgerows and trees around the site will remain, preserving much of the existing habitat. In support of the application, a comprehensive assessment has been made of the ecological constraints, with the findings of the submitted ecological reports, and their recommendations supported. There will be some damage to an existing badger sett, however any works to relocate badgers to a new sett will need to be carried out fully in accordance with Natural England regulations and guidance. Similarly other protective measures, mitigation and biodiversity enhancements will be carried out in accordance with submitted details. On this basis, neither the Council's Ecological Consultant, nor Natural England raise any objections.

Natural England have also given consideration to the impact on the Somerset Levels and Moors Special Protection Area, with the conclusion being that the proposed development will not have likely significant effects, and therefore they have no objection to the proposed development. To meet the requirements of the Habitats Regulations, it is however advised that the decision on whether a likely significant effect can be ruled out is recorded. The following justification is suggested:

"The Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) considers the Somerset Levels & Moors designated site and concludes that impacts are not likely to occur; the rationale for this is set out in paragraph 4.1:- The Somerset Levels and Moors SPA/Ramsar is designated for birds and therefore sensitive to disturbance such as dog walkers or other recreational activities. The Site is well linked to a network of footpaths in the surrounding area and it is therefore considered unlikely that residents would travel specifically to areas of the SPA for recreation. No significant impacts are therefore predicted. Given the distance between the Site and the SPA/Ramsar no impacts during construction are predicted."

Overall, the proposal, which includes details of appropriate avoidance, mitigation and compensation measures, is not considered to have an adverse impact on the local ecology or protected species so as to warrant refusal of the scheme.

Archaeology

The South West Heritage Trust were consulted as to the impacts of the development on any archaeology in the area. No objections were raised to the proposal, however it was noted that a geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation had been carried out in 2013, of which no reference had been made in this application. It was advised that the trial trench evaluation demonstrated that two significant concentrations of archaeological features were present at the northern and southern ends of the application area. These included a series of enclosure and boundary ditches containing concentrations of pottery. This evidence was indicative of Iron Age and Roman settlement activity. This is not considered to be a constraint to development, however it is recommended that the developer be required to archaeologically excavate the heritage asset and provide a report on any discoveries made. Conditions are requested to this effect.

Planning Obligations

SSDC Community, Health and Leisure, and County Education

The SSDC Community, Health and Leisure department have sought contributions towards local outdoor playing space, sport and recreation facilities of £344,842 (£2,874 per dwelling). This includes contributions towards the provision of on-site equipped play, off site youth facilities, playing fields and changing rooms, as well as commuted sums for ongoing maintenance of the facilities. This can be reduced however, as the applicant intends to provide and maintain the LEAP (on-site equipped play). The reduced amount would equate to £193,365 (£1611 per dwelling).

Open Space

£3,204.51 is requested to make an off-site contribution to address a slight shortfall in on-site public open space. This would go towards enhancements at Hills Lane recreation ground. The provision of a mitigation fund is also requested, to enhance the Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDs). A contribution of £18,000 is sought in this respect, although this could be reduced by approximately £7,000 if the developer carries out some of the work, with the Council's guidance and specification)

Education

County Education initially sought contributions of £102,444 for the early years provision (£17,074 per pupil), and £665,886 for primary places (also £17,074 per pupil). They have since confirmed that the request for primary places can be reduced as there is space available for the provision of an additional classroom, with limited work required. The final figure has not been reported back yet, so a verbal update will be given to members.

Affordable Housing

SSDC Strategic Housing have requested, on the basis of their policy requirement of 35% affordable housing, split 80:20 social rent: intermediate, the provision of 42 affordable units, of which 34 should be for social rent, and 8 for other intermediate affordable housing solutions. The following property mix is proposed:

Social Rent;

10 x 1 bed

20 x 2 bed

3 x 3 bed

1 x 4 bed - (bespoke disabled unit for a family in need)

Other intermediate affordable;

6 x 2 bed

2 x 3 bed

In submitting the application, the applicant proposed a mix of 8 x 1 bed, 26 x 2 bed and 8 x 3 bed, the proposed split being 67% social rent to 33% intermediate products. It is noted however that this differs from the current request of 80:20 social rent: intermediate, which it is stated is evidenced by the Mendip, Sedgemoor, South Somerset and Taunton Deane Strategic Housing Market Assessment (October 2016). The applicant has agreed to change the tenure split to 80:20, however the property mix remains as submitted, which does differ from the mix proposed by the Strategic Housing Officer. Despite this, in terms of the numbers proposed, the proposal does provide a suitable level of affordable housing, and while the sizes differ from that requested, it is questionable whether this would warrant a recommendation of refusal, particularly noting the 5 year land supply issues. An update on the Strategic Housing view will be sought prior to committee.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The proposed development will also be liable for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payments, which cover some of the strategic facilities requested earlier.

Planning Balance and Conclusion

The principle of developing this site has previously been established, and there have been no significant changes in Local or National planning policy to alter this view. The scheme has been assessed and is considered to be generally acceptable, with most of the key considerations satisfied. The main issue outstanding relates to the increase in numbers proposed on site, in respect to the impact that this will have on the settlement strategy. Weight has been given to the previously dismissed appeals in Martock (Ringwell Hill and Lavers Oak), however significant weight also has been apportioned to the Council's worsening 5 year housing land position, and the most recent appeal at Henstridge. In assessing this against the NPPF requirement that where the most important policies for determining the application are out of date, planning permission should be granted unless *any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the NPPF taken as a whole*, it is considered that the harm identified by exceeding the housing target for Martock to the degree proposed is not such to outweigh the benefits. It is also noted that the applicant seeks to demonstrate their commitment to delivering the housing benefits promptly by requesting that any consent be restricted to commencement within one year. Should consent be granted, this condition will be imposed.

In all other aspects, the development is considered to be acceptable and thereby comprises an appropriately designed scheme that will form an acceptable addition to Martock, without adversely impacting on local flood risk, ecology, archaeology, surrounding landscape character, residential amenity and highway safety.

RECOMMENDATION

The application be approved subject to:-

- (i) The prior completion of a Section 106 planning obligation (in a form acceptable to the Council's solicitor(s)) before the decision notice granting planning permission is issued, to secure the following:
 - a) Secure a contribution of £193,365 towards the provision of sport, play and strategic facilities (to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority);
 - b) Ensure the provision, including future ownership and management of an outdoor equipped play area, to accord with SSDC LEAP specifications, (to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority);
 - c) Secure a contribution of £3,204.51 towards the provision of off-site public open space enhancements and £18,000 (or reduced amount, if the developer carries out some of the work, with the Council's guidance and specification) towards a mitigation fund to enhance the Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDs) (to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority);
 - d) Secure a contribution of £102,444 towards early years places to the satisfaction of Somerset County Council. A contribution towards primary places will also be required with final figure to be updated;
 - e) Ensure at least 35% of the dwellings are affordable with an appropriate tenure split (to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority); and

(ii) conditions, as set out below:

01. Notwithstanding the local concerns, the proposed development proposed in this sustainable location is considered to be acceptable by reason that it respects the character and appearance of the area and would not be harmful to general visual amenity, residential amenity, ecology, archaeology or highway safety, without compromising the provision of services and facilities in the settlement, and provides for appropriate drainage mitigation. As such the proposal complies with the policies of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the aims and objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework.

SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING:

01. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of one year from the date of this permission.

Reason: To accord with the provisions of section 91(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and to demonstrate the applicant's commitment to delivering the proposed housing in a timely manner.

02. Unless where superseded by any of the following conditions, or by the obligations contained within the accompanying Section 106 Agreement, the development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the approved plans listed within the 'Drawing Register' listed within email correspondence dated 7th June 2019 (from Elise Power to John Millar).

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt as to the development authorised and in the interests of proper planning.

03. Details of the following shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of each element of the proposal respectively;
 - a) details of materials (including the provision of samples where appropriate) to be used for the external walls and roofs, including details of roof verge finishes;
 - b) details of the recessing, materials and finish (including the provision of samples where appropriate) to be used for all new windows (including any roof lights) and doors;
 - c) details of position and colour finish of meter cupboards, gas boxes, rainwater goods, soil and waste pipes (soil and waste pipes are expected to be run internally).

Once approved such details shall be fully implemented and thereafter shall not be altered without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity, in accordance with policy EQ2 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

04. No development shall be commenced until details of the surface water drainage scheme based on sustainable drainage principles together with a programme of implementation, management and maintenance for the lifetime of the development have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The drainage strategy shall ensure that surface water runoff post development is attenuated on site and discharged at a rate and volume no greater than greenfield runoff rates and volumes. The submitted details shall also include a management and maintenance plan, which shall include, details of land ownership, maintenance responsibilities, a description of the system, the identification of individual assets, services and access requirements, and details of

routine and periodic maintenance activities. The scheme shall subsequently be implemented in accordance with the approved details before any of the dwellings hereby permitted are first occupied. Following its installation such approved scheme shall be permanently retained, managed and maintained thereafter, in accordance with the details agreed.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety and to ensure that the development is served by a satisfactory system of drainage, in accordance with policies TA5, EQ1, EQ2 and EQ7 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

05. The works, including groundworks and vegetative clearance, shall not in any circumstances commence unless the Local Planning Authority has been provided with either:

- a) a copy of the licence issued by Natural England pursuant to The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 authorising the development to go ahead; or
- b) a statement in writing from the ecologist to the effect that he/she does not consider that the development will require a licence.

Reason: In the interests of a UK protected species and its resting places, and in accordance with policy EQ4 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

06. All external lighting shall be installed strictly in accordance with the specifications and locations set out in the design (Designs For Lighting LTD, Document Ref. 0906-DLF-LC-001-A, Dec 2018) as submitted and shall be maintained thereafter in accordance with the design. Under no circumstances should any other external lighting be installed without prior consent in writing from the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interests of the 'Favourable Conservation Status' of populations of European protected species and in accordance with policy EQ4 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

07. No vegetation removal works around the site shall take place between 1st March and 31st August inclusive, unless a competent ecologist has undertaken a careful, detailed check of the 10m hedgerow section to be removed and any trees, shrubs and scrub and tall ruderal vegetation to be cleared for active birds' nests immediately before works proceed and provided written confirmation that no birds will be harmed and/or that there are appropriate measures in place to protect nesting bird interest on site. Any such written confirmation should be submitted to the local planning authority.

Reason: Nesting birds are afforded protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Although this is a legal obligation the law does not specify a time period - some species can breed outside the time frame given.

08. Prior to clearance (same day) the 10m section of hedgerow to be cleared will first be inspected by a suitably qualified ecologist for presence of any nests or any other evidence of dormice. If hedgerow removal is undertaken between **May and October**, then following the hedge being found clear of any evidence of dormice it will be removed by hand and by mechanical excavator under the supervision of a suitably qualified ecologist. If hedgerow removal is to begin outside of these months, then it must be undertaken in two stages. Firstly any trees and shrubs within the section of hedgerow to be cleared will be cut down to 1m high above ground level, leaving trunks and root systems intact, between **November and March** inclusive, to avoid the period when dormice might be found in nests above ground and when the foliage on the vegetation is minimal. The clearance will be undertaken sensitively by hand using hedge cutters and saws. All cut material will be removed from the site. The second phase of the hedge removal will involve the removal of the root bases of the cleared trees and shrubs. This will be undertaken between **May and October**, when the animals are active and

able to respond immediately. Clearance of the hedge will be undertaken by hand and by mechanical excavator under the supervision of a licensed ecologist. If any evidence of dormice is found all work will immediately cease and Natural England contacted. A letter confirming the successful undertaking of the hedgerow section will be sent to the LPA.

Reason: In the interests of a UK and European protected species. To ensure the development contributes to the Government's target of no net biodiversity loss and to provide gain where possible as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework; policy EQ4 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028); and the council's obligations for biodiversity under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

09. Any works in the existing attenuation basin should be undertaken with care to avoid unnecessary harm to amphibians and reptiles encountered. Any animals found should be carefully moved to a nearby place of safety. In the unlikely event that a great crested newt is encountered, works must stop and Natural Consulted. If habitat management to the attenuation basin is required, e.g. strimming, this should be undertaken in winter, or at other times of year to a height of at least 50mm.

Reason: Reptiles and amphibians species are afforded protection from intentional and reckless killing or injury under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Outside the period from April to October these species are likely to in torpor or hibernation when disturbance is likely to pose a risk to survival.

10. The scheme hereby approved shall be carried out in accordance with the details and recommendations identified with the submitted Landscape Management Plan (Golby and Luck - Ref. GL1040, dated 20th December 2018) and the submitted Ecological Impact Assessment (Green Ecology - Ref. 0748-EcIA-FM, dated December 2018).

Reason: To ensure the development contributes to the Government's target of no net biodiversity loss as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework; policy EQ4 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028); and the council's obligations for biodiversity under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

11. Prior to commencement of the development, site vegetative clearance, demolition of existing structures, ground-works, heavy machinery entering site or the on-site storage of materials, the submitted scheme of tree and hedgerow protection measures prepared by Green Ecology (Ref: 0748-AMS -AE & 0748/TPP pp1-3) shall be installed in their entirety and made ready for inspection. Prior to commencement of the development, the suitability of the tree and hedgerow protection measures shall be confirmed in-writing by a representative of the Council (to arrange, please contact us at planning@southsomerset.gov.uk or call 01935 462670). The approved tree and hedgerow protection measures shall remain implemented in their entirety for the duration of the construction of the development and may only be moved, removed or dismantled with the prior consent of the Council in-writing.

Reason: To preserve the health, structure and amenity value of existing landscape features (trees) in accordance with the policies EQ2, EQ4 and EQ5 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

12. A scheme of landscaping shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, which shall include indications of all existing trees and hedgerows on the land, and details of any to be retained. All planting, seeding, turfing or earth moulding comprised in the approved details of landscaping shall be carried out in the first planting and seeding season following completion of the development hereby permitted or after the development hereby permitted is first brought into use, whichever is sooner; and any trees or plants which within a period of five years from the completion of the development die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased

shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species, unless the Local Planning Authority gives written consent to any variation.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity, in accordance with policy EQ2 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

13. Before the commencement of the development hereby permitted the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, shall have secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which has been submitted and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. The WSI shall include details of phasing of the investigations, the archaeological excavation, the recording of the heritage asset, the analysis of evidence recovered from the site and publication of the results. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the approved scheme."

Reason: In the interests of safeguarding any archaeological remains on the site and in accordance with Policy EQ3 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

14. No building shall be occupied within a phase as set out within the WSI until the site archaeological investigation for that phase has been completed and post-excavation analysis has been initiated in accordance with Written Scheme of Investigation approved under the POW condition and the financial provision made for analysis, dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.

Reason: In the interests of safeguarding any archaeological remains on the site and in accordance with Policy EQ3 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

15. The scheme hereby approved shall be carried out in accordance with the details contained within the submitted Construction Environmental Management Plan (BDW Exeter, dated December 2018), unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To safeguard residential amenity and highway safety, in accordance with policies TA5 and EQ7 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

16. The proposed estate roads, footways, footpaths, tactile paving, cycleways, verges, junctions, sewers, drains, retaining walls, service routes, surface water outfall, vehicle overhang margins, embankments, visibility splays, accesses, carriageway gradients, drive gradients, car, motorcycle and cycle parking, and street furniture shall be constructed and laid out in accordance with details to be approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing before their construction begins. For this purpose, plans and sections, indicating as appropriate, the design, layout, levels, gradients, materials and method of construction shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety, in accordance with policy TA5 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

17. The proposed roads, including footpaths and turning spaces where applicable, shall be constructed in such a manner as to ensure that each dwelling before it is occupied shall be served by a properly consolidated and surfaced footpath and carriageway to at least base course level between the dwelling and existing highway.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety, in accordance with policy TA5 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

18. The area allocated for parking and turning on the submitted plans unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority, and shall thereafter be kept clear of obstruction used only for parking and turning of vehicles in connection with the development hereby permitted. The approved parking spaces shall be provided before each dwelling to which they relate are first occupied.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety, in accordance with policies TA5 and TA6 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

19. Prior to the occupation of any part of the development hereby permitted, a Travel Plan is to be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Such Travel Plan should include soft and hard measures to promote sustainable travel as well as targets and safeguards by which to measure the success of the plan. There should be a timetable for implementation of the measures and for the monitoring of travel habits. The development shall not be occupied unless the agreed measures are being implemented in accordance with the agreed timetable. The measures should continue to be implemented as long as any part of the development is occupied.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety, in accordance with policy TA5 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

20. At the proposed access onto Coat Road, there shall be no obstruction to visibility greater than 300mm above adjoining road level in advance of lines drawn 2.4m back from the carriageway edge on the centre line of the access and extending to points on the nearside carriageway edge 48m to the west and 54m to the east of the access. Such visibility shall be fully provided before the development hereby permitted is occupied and shall thereafter be maintained at all times.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety, in accordance with policy TA5 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

21. The proposed new residential development shall include 16amp electric charging points for electric vehicles, accessible to all residences, details of which shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to any part of the development hereby permitted being first occupied, as required by Policy TA1 (ii) (low carbon travel) of the adopted South Somerset Local Plan and paras 35, 93 and 94 of the NPPF. Once approved, such details shall be completed and maintained in accordance with the details and timetable agreed.

Reason: To ensure that the development is resilient and sustainable in accordance with policy TA1 of the South Somerset Local Plan (2006-2028) and the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Informatives:

01. Please be advised that approval of this application by South Somerset District Council will attract a liability payment under the Community Infrastructure Levy. CIL is a mandatory financial charge on development and you will be notified of the amount of CIL being charged on this development in a CIL Liability Notice.

You are required to complete and return Form 1 Assumption of Liability as soon as possible and to avoid additional financial penalties it is important that you notify us of the date you plan to commence development before any work takes place. Please complete and return Form 6 Commencement Notice.

You are advised to visit our website for further details <https://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/cil> or email cil@southsomerset.gov.uk.

02. The applicant will be required to secure an appropriate legal agreement/ licence for any works within or adjacent to the public highway required as part of this development, and they are advised to contact Somerset County Council to make the necessary arrangements well in advance of such works starting.
 03. During construction, excavations or large pipes (>200mm diameter) must be covered at night. Any trenches will need a means of escape, for example a plank or sloped end, to allow any animals to escape.
 04. The applicant is advised that prior to works commencing onsite Land Drainage Consent is required under section 23 and 66 of the Land Drainage Act 1991, from the Parrett Internal Drainage Board for any construction in or within 9m of a watercourse and for the introduction of additional flow into a watercourse in the Board's District.
 05. Water efficiency measures should be incorporated into this scheme. This conserves water for the natural environment and allows cost savings for future occupants. The development should include water efficient systems and fittings such as: dual-flush toilets; water-saving taps; water butts; showers and baths. Greywater recycling and rainwater harvesting should also be considered.
 06. Safeguards should be implemented during the construction phase to minimise the risks of pollution and detrimental effects to the water interests in and around the site. Such safeguards should cover the use of plant and machinery, oils/chemicals and materials; the use and routing of heavy plant and vehicles; the location and form of work and storage areas and compounds and the control and removal of spoil and wastes. We recommend the applicant refer to our Pollution Prevention Guidelines, which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pollution-prevention-for-businesses>.
 07. If any controlled waste is to be removed off site, then site operator must ensure a registered waste carrier is used to convey the waste material off site to a suitably authorised facility. If the applicant require more specific guidance it is available on our website <https://www.gov.uk/how-to-classify-different-types-of-waste>.
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