WYG Planning & Design
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Date: 17 August 2009

Planning Services
Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
Council Offices
Argents Mead
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1BZ

19 AUG 2009
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
19 AUG 2009
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Dear Sir/Madam

PRIORY EDUCATION SERVICES LTD
SKETCHLEY HORIZON SCHOOL, MANOR WAY, SKETCHLEY, BURBAGE
PROPOSED SINGLE STOREY CLASSROOM BUILDING

On behalf of our client, Priory Education Services Ltd, we are pleased to enclose a full planning application for the erection of a single storey classroom building and associated works to a boundary wall at Sketchley Horizon School, Manor Way, Sketchley, Burbage.

To this effect, we enclose four copies of the following:

- Completed Planning Application Forms/Certificates;
- Design and Access Statement;
- Site Location Plan;
- Existing and Proposed Plans and Elevations (Drg. Nos. 08:280:01 & 02); and,
- Additional copies of this letter for consultees.

We also enclose a cheque to the value of £670 being the requisite planning application fee, based on the floorspace of the classroom building.

Background

Sketchley Horizon is a specialist school for young people aged 8 to 16 years with severe to mild autism and associated learning difficulties. Pupils may also have challenging behaviour as a result of their communication difficulties and a lack of social understanding.

The School opened in April 2007 and in September 2007 underwent a successful Ofsted inspection which recognised the child centred approach offered at the school. At Sketchley Horizon School the focus is on the needs of each individual pupil to create a framework that promotes self-confidence and self-esteem.

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The aim is to raise standards in the education of young people with autism and help them to lead meaningful, fulfilling and happy lives. A safe, structured and predictable environment for pupils is offered to develop the skills they need to live as independently as possible and make real life choices as they reach adulthood.

Application Proposals

Full planning permission is being sought for the erection of a single storey, brick classroom building within the school grounds. The application is accompanied by a Design & Access Statement.

As indicated above, Sketchley Horizon School is a specialist school which provides vitally important education facilities and there is a pressing need for the application proposals. It is essential that it has suitable spaces to teach and learn in.

Planning Merits

The application has been prepared to accord with development plan and other relevant planning policies.

The classroom building is small and will relate well to existing school buildings. Its siting adjacent to a 2.4m high boundary wall minimises any visual impact outside the site. Appropriate materials are proposed and no harm to visual amenity will result.

No change of use is involved as the site is currently in school use. In addition, the application proposals do not involve any significant increase in floorspace nor will any expansion of the school boundaries result.

In conclusion, it will be clear that the proposals are well considered and accord with development plan policy, with all other material considerations weighing in their favour.

In light of the above, we trust that you will be able to recommend that planning permission should be granted. In the meantime, we look forward to receiving confirmation of registration of the application.

Yours faithfully

Julian Bolitho
Director

Encs

c.c. Priory Education Services Ltd – Mark Jackson (letter and forms only)

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