



FAO: Planning Department,
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Ref: 6/2017/2962/FULL
Date: 27/03/2018

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION ADVICE

Dear Sir / Madam,

RE: Rhodes Wood Hospital, Shepherds Way, Brookmans Park, Hatfield, AL9 6NN

The application is for the erection of a single storey building and an additional ancillary storage outbuilding on land at Rhodes Woods Hospital, Hatfield.

This advice follows-on from a previous consultation dated 6th March 2018, following the submission of amendments to the proposals.

The application site is located in proximity to the Grade II listed Mymwood School and the Grade II listed Mymwood Lodge, which form part of the Rhodes Wood Hospital site.

As outlined previously, the erection of a single storey building on vacant land to the north west of the listed Mymwood School would result in the loss of part of the remaining undeveloped land associated with the listed building and it is considered that this would cause less than substantial harm to the significance of the listed building. However, given the extent of existing later development in proximity to the listed building and the siting of the proposed building in relation to the heritage asset, it is considered that this harm would be minimal and towards the lower end of the scale of less than substantial. This harm would have to be weighed in the balance against the public benefits of the scheme.

The initial consultation identified that the design and materiality of the proposed single storey building would detract from the significance of the listed building. The materials for the proposed building have now been amended to be brick to match those of the existing adjacent brick extension. It is considered that the amended materiality would be sympathetic to the listed building and I therefore have no further concerns regarding the proposed single storey building.

The scale and design of the proposed ancillary storage building, located to the north east of the listed Mymwood Lodge, have also been amended. The height and footprint of the proposed building have been reduced and the timber cladding would be stained to match the existing timber boundary fence. It is considered that the amended building would be in keeping with its surrounding context



and the nearby listed building and would not have a significant impact on its special interest. I therefore have no further concerns regarding the proposed ancillary storage building.

Overall, it is considered that the proposed single storey building would cause harm to the significance of Mymwood School due to change within its setting. This harm is however considered to be minimal and towards the lower end of the scale of less than substantial and would have to be weighed against the public benefits of the scheme.

Were permission to be granted, I would suggest that the local planning authority impose standard conditions relating to materials and detailing.

Yours sincerely,

Hannah Rae
Historic Buildings Consultant
Place Services

Note: This letter is advisory and should only be considered as the opinion formed by specialist staff in relation to this particular matter