

Heritage Statement

30 Barleycroft, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6JU

Installation of 12 Solar PV Panels on Ground Mounted Frame in rear Garden

Overview

No. 30 Barleycroft Road is similar to its neighbours. It is detached two-storey dwelling clad in red brick with green space to the front bordered by a hedge which runs along the pavement. There is an application underway to replace this hedge with low level privet hedging. There is a gap between dwelling and boundary to the west, and to the east, an attached garage built to the boundary, with a drive to the front with parking for two cars.

The application site is located approximately 550 metres to the southwest of central Welwyn Garden City town centre, with a primary retail core, services such as a library and theatre, and the railway and bus stations. Surrounding uses are predominantly residential and it lies within a Conservation Area and the Estate Management Area.

Application Proposals

This application proposal is for the installation of 12 ground mounted Solar PV panels, with associated storage batteries, at the end of the rear garden adjacent to the shed on the right hand side. The panels will sit on a purpose made steel frame that would stand 300mm off ground level at the lowest point and 1600mm at the highest point. It is proposed to plant a privet hedge or similar evergreen species to the height of approximately 1m to diminish and visual harm to the neighbours on either side and reduce any glare from the panels.

The panels will form part of an overall sustainable energy plan for the property, which will be incorporated in the renovation of the house itself. These panels will be supported by storage batteries with 14kWh capacity and they will also be connected to the national Grid with a feed in tariff and the installation will be MCS compliant, subject to planning approval.

Full details can be found in the PV Proposal included with this application.

Conclusion

We feel that this proposal meets with the Council's objectives laid out in Policy R3 and is well considered, modest in size and set within a part of the garden that minimises any impact on the surrounding neighbours and contains appropriate landscaping consideration. We respectfully request that consent is granted.