

PLANNING COMMITTEE NORTH – 10 September 2019

APPLICATION NO DC/19/1366/FUL

EXPIRY DATE: 03 July 2019 (extension of time agreed until 13 September 2019)

APPLICATION TYPE: Full

APPLICANT: Bungay Town Council

LOCATION: 2A Trinity Street, Bungay, Suffolk, NR35 1EH

PARISH: Bungay

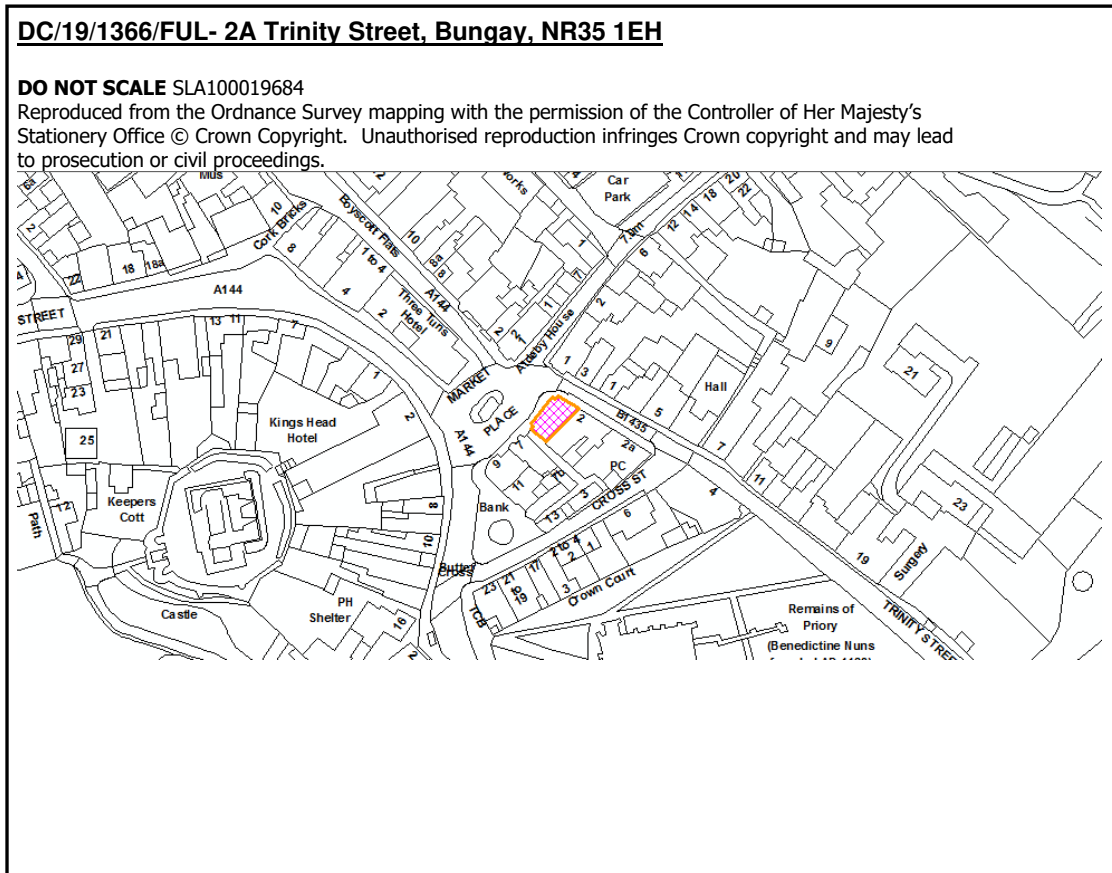
PROPOSAL: As part of Town Centre CCTV System the following items to be placed on building - 3 cameras (332mm) from base to lens x 14 x 8 4 transmitters/receivers on mounting pole & 1 waterproof box 400 x 400 x 200. Also associated cabling; pictures of building & equipment attached together with crime statics. Unable to use lampposts for camera's due to camera shake.

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MAP



1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This application is one of a series of applications within the Town Centre of Bungay in order to establish a CCTV system which covers key areas of the Town Centre in a bid to reduce crime figures which are reported to be on the increase since the loss of the presence of PCSO's within Bungay.
- 1.2 The application seeks Planning Permission to install CCTV cameras and associated equipment on the front and side elevations of the building which is a Grade II listed building which is situated in a prominent position within the Bungay Conservation Area.
- 1.3 Negotiations have taken place with the applicant in order that the harm caused by this proposal is minimised. The proposal would still be considered to harm the significance of the designated heritage assets of the Grade II listed building and the Bungay Conservation Area due to the prominence and appearance of the modern equipment proposed; this harm is considered to be less than substantial in terms of the NPPF.
- 1.4 However, it is considered that the harm to the significance of the Listed Building would be outweighed by the public benefit of the proposal and the application can therefore be recommended for approval.
- 1.5 This application is before the Planning Committee at the request of the Referral Panel.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 Listed as No 5 Market Place, the application property is Grade II Listed; listed in 1972 the List description states; *"Early 19th century facing to earlier work connecting to No. 2 Trinity Street, qv 3 storeys. Stucco. Pilasters from 1st to 2nd floors flanking center. 1st floor center window has pedimented case with consoles. French windows at 1st floor. Small center balcony with ornamental railings. Eared architraves to side 1st floor windows. Moulded 2nd floor band. Pantiles. Slightly projecting wood shop front with flank pilasters and central entrance. Nos. 1 to 11 (odd), Nos. 11A, 13 and 17 to 21 (odd) form a group together with the Butter Cross"*.
- 2.2 The building has a very symmetrical façade which makes a strong classical statement, which is in a very prominent position within the Conservation Area on the Market Place and in full view when approaching from Broad Street.

3 PROPOSAL

- 3.1 This application seeks full planning permission for three CCTV cameras, two on the front elevation and one on the side. Four receiving/transmission dishes situated on a supporting pole 800mm in length situated at high level behind the parapet. A waterproof electrical box is required and is proposed to be positioned behind the parapet out of sight.
- 3.2 The application is supported by a Design and Access Statement and photos showing the approximate locations of the equipment.

4 CONSULTATIONS/COMMENTS

- 4.1 Bungay Town Council : It was proposed by ST, seconded by ML, and unanimously RESOLVED that these plans are recommended for APPROVAL with no comments.
- 4.2 Suffolk Police: The scheme has been well thought out and that CCTV could have a positive effect on reducing crime. The location of the cameras has been well thought out to ensure that they link to each other and cover the most strategic areas.
- 4.3 Third Party Representations : None received

5 PUBLICITY:

- 5.1 The application has been the subject of the following press advertisement:

Category	Published	Expiry	Publication
Conservation Area, Listed Building	17.05.2019	10.06.2019	Beccles and Bungay Journal
Conservation Area, Listed Building	17.05.2019	10.06.2019	Lowestoft Journal

6 SITE NOTICES

- 6.1 The following site notices have been displayed:

General Site Notice Reason for site notice: Conservation Area, listed Building.
Date posted 15.05.2019 Expiry date 06.06.2019
Date posted 16.08.2019 Expiry date 09.09.2019

7 PLANNING POLICY

- 7.1 Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 states that “where in making any determination under the planning Acts, regard is to be had to the development plan, the determination shall be made in accordance with the plan unless material consideration indicates otherwise”.
- 7.2 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Section 66 states that in exercise of planning functions as respects listed buildings the local planning authority shall have “*special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses*” Section 72 states that with regard to Conservation Areas “*special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area*”.
- 7.3 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2019)
- 7.4 The East Suffolk Council - Waveney Local Plan was adopted on 20 March 2019 and the following policies are considered relevant:

- WLP8.29 – Design
- WLP8.37 – Historic Environment
- WLP8.39 – Conservation Areas

8 PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The NPPF and the Local Plan give significant weight to conserving and enhancing the historic environment. Paragraph 193 of The NPPF states *“when considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance”*.
- 8.2 Paragraph 194 of the NPPF states that *“Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting), should require clear and convincing justification”*.
- 8.3 Paragraph 196 of the NPPF states that *“Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal”*.

Heritage Considerations:

- 8.4 The importance of minimising the harm to the Heritage Assets of the Conservation Area and the Listed Building has been highlighted to the applicant. No 2a Trinity Street has a very symmetrical façade which makes a strong classical statement and is situated in a very prominent position within the Conservation Area on the Market Place. The building can be seen in full view when approaching from Broad Street, currently there are no additions to this elevation, in the way of modern elements.
- 8.5 The Council has been involved in providing advice with regard to the CCTV system in Beccles. In Beccles the majority of the installations have been able to be attached to non-listed buildings and areas of lesser prominence within the Conservation Area. A different approach has been taken there where a high point (Bell Tower) is used to receive signals from each installation. The images are then transmitted to the Town Hall by cable removing the need for a receiving dish at street level on the Town Hall which is Grade II listed. This removes the requirement for multiple dishes and requires just one dish which can be mounted directly to the building. Also electric boxes are only provided externally in the locations of lesser sensitivity. The one instance in Beccles which required equipment to be situated on a listed building used all of the above measures to minimise the harm to the historic environment.
- 8.6 In this instance the use of the Church Tower is not a possibility which would minimise the amount of equipment required. The system requires a signal to be received and transmitted from the building before this within the system (9 Market Place) and then on to the main receiving point at 1A Broad Street; two receivers and two transmitters are required to provide sufficient bandwidth. As the system needs an electricity supply from the host building an external meter box is proposed, together with associated cabling runs.

The harm arises, not so much from the cameras as these can be relatively unobtrusive but the associated equipment highlighted above which can be particularly harmful to the significance of the heritage assets of the Conservation Area and Listed Building.

- 8.7 The applicant has provided amended details which group the cameras in one location and uses one supporting pole for the four dishes, which is now proposed to be situated behind the face of the parapet. The electricity box has been moved from the side elevation of the building to be situated behind the parapet at roof level, cabling would be hidden by the water down pipes. The changes made minimise the harm to the significance of the listed building.

Justification and Public Benefit:

- 8.11 As required by Paragraph 194 of the NPPF any harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset requires clear and convincing justification.
- 8.9 Within the supporting information to this application the Town Council have highlighted that since the loss of the presence of PCSO's within Bungay Town Centre figures indicate that crime is on the rise. The images from these cameras could be downloaded by the Police for use in criminal proceedings.
- 8.10 On the basis of the amended information we have now received there would still be harm to the significance of the Listed building and Bungay Conservation Area. In terms of the NPPF the harm would be less than substantial and of a low degree of harm. It is considered that in accordance with Policy WLP8.37 of the Local Plan the proposal has sought to preserve the heritage assets and any features of special architectural interest.
- 8.11 The harm to the significance of the heritage asset should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal as required by paragraph 196 of the NPPF. The public benefit of introducing a CCTV system within the town centre is considered to outweigh the harm that would be caused and would meet the requirements of the NPPF. Due regard has been given to the requirements of section 66 and 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

9 CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The importance of providing a CCTV system to cover Bungay Town Centre has been highlighted by the applicant and it is considered that adequate consideration has been given to other less harmful methods of installation. Negotiations have taken place with the applicant to minimise the harm of the proposal as much as possible.
- 9.2 Although there would still be harm to the significance of the Listed building, the harm has been minimised. In terms of the NPPF the harm would be less than substantial and in this instance it is considered that the harm would be outweighed by the public benefit.
- 9.3 Accordingly, it is recommended that the application is approved.

10 RECOMMENDATION

That planning permission be **APPROVED** subject to the following conditions:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun within a period of three years beginning with the date of this permission.

Reason: In accordance with Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended.

2. The development hereby permitted shall be completed in all respects strictly in accordance with photo montages received on 13 August 2019 and datasheets received on 29 March 2019, for which permission is hereby granted or which are subsequently submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority and in compliance with any conditions imposed by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt as to what has been considered and approved.

3. Within six months of the cessation of the use of the equipment it shall be removed from the building.

Reason: In order to safeguard the special architectural or historic interest of the building.

4. Notwithstanding the transmission and receiving dishes, which are proposed to be white, the equipment shall be colour coded to match that of the surface that it is attached to and thereafter maintained in that condition.

Reason: In order to safeguard the special architectural or historic interest of the building.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: See application ref: DC/19/1366/FUL at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/public-access