

Delegated Decision

Sign off Sheet

Ref. No:	DM/25/0739	Case Officer:	Peter Davies
Application Type:	Householder Application		
Proposal:	Renovation to existing side extension by raising the roof height by 0.20 metres and raising window height.		
Site:	66 Crescent Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 8EG, , , ,		
Validation Date	31 Mar 2025	Overall Expiry Date:	20 Oct 2025
Pre-Commencement Conditions Required:		Pre-Com Conditions Date Agreed:	
Recommendation:	Permission	Recommendation Date:	24 Oct 2025
Target Date:	26 May 2025	Recommending Officer Signature:	Peter Davies

Date Legal Agreement Completed: (if applicable)		No of Representations:	0
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Signed and Agreed By:	Steven King	Date:	24 Oct 2025
Comments:			

MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL

DM/25/0739

**66 Crescent Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 8EG, , ,
Renovation to existing side extension by raising the roof height by 0.20 metres and raising
window height.
Mr Darling**

REPRESENTATION RECEIVED

None received.

SUMMARY OF CONSULTEES

None received.

TOWN COUNCIL OBSERVATIONS

The Committee of 6th October would Recommend Approval.

INTRODUCTION

The application seeks planning permission for a replacement side extension.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY

No relevant history.

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

The application property is a detached two storey dwelling located on the south side of Crescent Road on the corner plot with Mill Road to the east.

The application property is constructed from cream pebbledash with black timber, hanging tile, clay roof tiles and white uPVC fenestration. The dwelling is set back from the highway with close board fencing and mature hedging behind along the front and side boundary with the highway. The application property is within a line of 3 properties of a matching form, scale and design with the wider locality characterised by detached dwellings of varying form scale, and design as well as a three storey block of flats opposite to the north.

With regard to policy constraints, the site is located within the Burgess Hill built up area and is set within the St Johns Conservation Area.

APPLICATION DETAILS

The application seeks planning permission for a replacement single storey side extension located on the east side of the dwelling. The extension will have a width of 2.65 metres and wrap around the front elevation by 0.65 metres and protrude 0.45 metres past the front elevation. The extension will have a depth of 5.25 metres and have a flat roof with a height of 2.80 metres. The extension will be constructed from brick and pebbledash to match the existing dwelling with a white uPVC window to the front and rear.

The existing large first floor window serving the stairway on the east side above the proposed extension is to be enlarged in height by approximately 0.10 metres.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND LIST OF POLICIES

Planning legislation holds that the determination of a planning application shall be made in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Using this as the starting point the development plan for this part of Mid Sussex consists of the District Plan, Site Allocation Development Plan Document (DPD) and Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan

National policy (which is contained in the National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Policy Guidance) does not form part of the development plan, but is an important material consideration.

Mid Sussex District Plan

The District Plan was adopted at Full Council on 28th March 2018.

Relevant policies:

DP26 - Character and Design
DP35 - Conservation Areas

Site Allocations DPD

The SADPD was adopted on 29th June 2022. It allocates sufficient housing and employment land to meet identified needs to 2031.

There are no relevant policies.

Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan (made January 2016)

Relevant policies:

Policy H1- Protecting and Enhancing Heritage Assets and Conservation Areas.

Other Legislation

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

Other Material Considerations

Mid Sussex District Plan 2021-2039 Consultation Draft

The District Council is reviewing and updating the District Plan. Upon adoption, the new District Plan 2021 - 2039 will replace the current District Plan 2014-2031 and its policies will have full weight. In accordance with the NPPF, Local Planning Authorities may give weight to relevant policies of the emerging plan according to the stage of preparation; the extent to which there are unresolved objections to the relevant policies; and the degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to the NPPF. The draft District Plan 2021-2039 (Regulation 19) is currently at Examination and stage 1 hearings were concluded on the 31st October 2024. There are unresolved objections to the some of Policies in the draft District Plan and as such, only minimal weight can be given to the Plan and this planning application has been assessed against the polices of the adopted District Plan.

Relevant Policies:

DPS1 - Climate Change
DPS2 - Sustainable Design and Construction
DPB1 - Character and Design
DPB3 - Conservation Areas

Mid Sussex Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

The Council has adopted a 'Mid Sussex Design Guide' SPD that aims to help deliver high quality development across the district that responds appropriately to its context and is inclusive and sustainable. The Design Guide was adopted by Council on 4th November 2020 as an SPD for use in the consideration and determination of planning applications. The SPD is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (December 2024)

Paragraphs 8, 11, 131 and 135 are considered to be relevant.

National Planning Policy Guidance

Ministerial Statement and Design Guide

ASSESSMENT

It is considered that the main issues that need to be considered in the determination of this application are as follows;

- Impact on the Conservation Area
- Design and Character
- Impact on neighbouring properties
- Biodiversity Net Gain

Design and Character

Policy DP26 of the Mid Sussex District Plan states:

'All development and surrounding spaces, including alterations and extensions to existing buildings and replacement dwellings, will be well designed and reflect the distinctive character of the towns and villages while being sensitive to the countryside. All applicants will be required to demonstrate that development:

- *is of high quality design and layout and includes appropriate landscaping and greenspace;*
 - *contributes positively to, and clearly defines, public and private realms and should normally be designed with active building frontages facing streets and public open spaces to animate and provide natural surveillance;*
 - *creates a sense of place while addressing the character and scale of the surrounding buildings and landscape;*
 - *protects open spaces, trees and gardens that contribute to the character of the area;*
 - *protects valued townscapes and the separate identity and character of towns and villages;*
 - *does not cause significant harm to the amenities of existing nearby residents and future occupants of new dwellings, including taking account of the impact on privacy, outlook, daylight and sunlight, and noise, air and light pollution (see Policy DP27);*
 - *creates a pedestrian-friendly layout that is safe, well connected, legible and accessible;*
 - *incorporates well integrated parking that does not dominate the street environment, particularly where high density housing is proposed;*
 - *positively addresses sustainability considerations in the layout and the building design;*
 - *take the opportunity to encourage community interaction by creating layouts with a strong neighbourhood focus/centre; larger (300+ unit) schemes will also normally be expected to incorporate a mixed use element;*
- optimises the potential of the site to accommodate development.'*

Principle DG49 of the Mid Sussex Design Guide states: *'Extensions should typically use simple, uncomplicated building forms to compliment and coordinate with the scale, form and massing of the original dwelling. The design approach may benefit from coordinating with the existing pattern of window and door openings as well as employing facing materials to match those of the existing dwelling. Otherwise it should demonstrate the appropriateness of the alternative approach.'*

Principle DG50 relates to front and side extensions and in part states: *'Side extensions should normally be subservient to the original dwelling and typically be set-back from the front of the house to help define the original building.'*

The gaps between dwellings can sometimes positively contribute to articulating (for example, through the consistent rhythm of repeated houses) and adding interest in a street frontage or by providing views / visible connections to the surrounding countryside. Side extensions will therefore need to appropriately respond to the character of the street form and will not normally be accepted where they close an important gap and view.'

The proposed extension is replacing an existing extension of a similar design and form with an increase in width. The proposed extension will use materials similar to the existing extension. The extension will be single storey with limited views from the street scene of Crescent Road and Mill Road and would therefore not have an adverse impact on the street scene.

The proposal therefore considered to comply with policy DP26 of the District Plan and the relevant principles of the Mid Sussex Design Guide SPD.

Impact on the Conservation Area

Section 72 (1) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 states 'In the exercise, with respect to any buildings or other land in a conservation area, of any powers under any of the provisions mentioned in subsection (2), special attention shall be paid to the desirability of conservation preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area.'

In terms of the impact on the St Johns, Conservation Area, policy DP35 of the Mid Sussex District Plan states:

'Development in a conservation area will be required to conserve or enhance its special character, appearance and the range of activities which contribute to it. This will be achieved by ensuring that:

- o New buildings and extensions are sensitively designed to reflect the special characteristics of the area in terms of their scale, density, design and through the use of complementary materials;*
- o Open spaces, gardens, landscaping and boundary features that contribute to the special character of the area are protected. Any new landscaping or boundary features are designed to reflect that character;*
- o Traditional shop fronts that are a key feature of the conservation area are protected. Any alterations to shopfronts in a conservation area will only be permitted where they do not result in the loss of a traditional shopfront and the new design is sympathetic to the character of the existing building and street scene in which it is located;*
- o Existing buildings that contribute to the character of the conservation area are protected. Where demolition is permitted, the replacement buildings are of a design that reflects the special characteristics of the area;*
- o Activities such as markets, crafts or other activities which contribute to the special character and appearance of the conservation area are supported;*
- o New pavements, roads and other surfaces reflect the materials and scale of the existing streets and surfaces in the conservation area.*

Development will also protect the setting of the conservation area and in particular views into and out of the area.

New buildings of outstanding or innovative design may be acceptable in conservation areas provided that their impact would not cause material harm to the area.'

Policy H1 of the Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan notes that: *'Proposals within the Burgess Hill Conservation Areas will be required to preserve and enhance their special character or appearance. Support will be given to undertaking/updating appraisals and management plans for each Conservation Area.'*

Paras 210, 212-215 of the NPPF state:

'210. In determining applications, local planning authorities should take account of:

- a) the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;*
- b) the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and*
- c) the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.*

212. 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.

213. 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. Substantial harm to or loss of:

- a) grade II listed buildings, or grade II registered parks or gardens, should be exceptional;*
- b) assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.*

214. Where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to (or total loss of significance of) a designated heritage asset, local planning authorities should refuse consent, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or total loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or all of the following apply:

- a) the nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and*
- b) no viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and*
- c) conservation by grant-funding or some form of not for profit, charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and*
- d) the harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use.*

215. 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 including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use.'

The application relates to an unlisted, detached dwelling located within the St Johns Conservation Area. The dwelling is mid 20th century, but has been altered and extended to the side and rear.

The proposed extension is a replacement of an existing single storey extension of a similar design with a slight enlargement to the footprint. Due to close board fencing and mature hedging along the property boundary there is limited views from the public realm. The extension is of an appropriate scale and form, and therefore is considered to have a neutral impact on the Conservation Area.

As such it is considered that the proposed extension accords with policy DP35 of the Mid Sussex District Plan, Policy H1 of the Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan and the NPPF.

Impact on neighbouring properties

DP26 of the Mid Sussex District Plan seeks to ensure that development *'does not cause significant harm to the amenities of existing nearby residents and future occupants of new dwellings, including taking account of the impact on privacy, outlook, daylight and sunlight, and noise, air and light pollution (see Policy DP29);'*

The proposed extension will replace an existing extension with facing into the application properties garden to the side with the highway beyond. The extension is single storey and will only create additional overlooking into the application property garden.

The east facing window to be enlarged is at first floor serving a stairway. The existing window is large and already overlooks towards the highway and the front driveways and gardens of no. 91 and 93 Mill Road approximately 32 metres away. Due to the window only being enlarged slightly it is not considered to cause significant harm to neighbouring amenities.

The proposal is therefore, considered to comply with the above-mentioned part of Policy DP26 of the Mid Sussex District Plan.

Biodiversity Net Gain

Biodiversity net gain is required under a statutory framework introduced by Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. This is a householder application within the meaning of article 2(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015. As a householder application this development is exempt from the requirement to provide biodiversity net gain.

PLANNING BALANCE AND CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the proposal is considered to be acceptable in terms of design, scale and form, would preserve the character of the Conservation Area and would not cause significant harm to the amenities of neighbouring properties. Therefore, the proposal complies with Mid Sussex District Plan policies DP26 and DP35, and policy H1 of the Burgess Hill Neighbourhood Plan, with the relevant provisions of the NPPF. The application therefore accords with the Development Plan and is considered acceptable.

Decision: Permission

Case Officer: Peter Davies