

Delegated Decision

Sign off Sheet

Ref. No:	DM/25/0378	Case Officer:	Andrew Horrell
Application Type:	Householder Application		
Proposal:	Retrospective Planning is sought for a single storey rear extension, summerhouse and replacement boundary treatments.		
Site:	2 Lambourn Close, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 2DP		
Validation Date	20 Aug 2025	Overall Expiry Date:	21 Apr 2025
Pre-Commencement Conditions Required:		Pre-Com Conditions Date Agreed:	
Recommendation:	Permission	Recommendation Date:	6 Oct 2025
Target Date:	15 Oct 2025	Recommending Officer Signature:	Andrew Horrell

Date Legal Agreement Completed: (if applicable)		No of Representations:	0
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Signed and Agreed By:	Stephen Ashdown	Date:	6 Oct 2025
Comments:			

MID SUSSEX DISTRICT COUNCIL

DM/25/0378

2 Lambourn Close, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 2DP, , ,
Retrospective Planning is sought for a single storey rear extension, summerhouse and replacement boundary treatments.
Ms Thi Huong Pham

SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS

None received

SUMMARY OF CONSULTEE COMMENTS

None received

TOWN COUNCIL OBSERVATIONS

No comment

INTRODUCTION

Retrospective planning permission is sought for the erection of a single storey rear extension, summerhouse and replacement boundary treatment.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY

GR/132/90 - Single storey front extension (approved)
GR/146/98 - Conservatory (approved)
DM/23/1428 - Proposed single storey side extension (approved)

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

2 Lambourn Close is two storey detached pitched roofed dwelling. The dwelling is characterised by face brickwork and hanging tiles, upvc doors and windows and an existing front lean-to and rear extension

To the north of the site is the adjacent No.4, to the south of the site is close boarded fencing and brick wall to highway (Alders View Drive) beyond, to the east of the site is the rear garden with woodland to neighbour (1 Alders View Drive) beyond and to the west of the site is the driveway to the highway.

The site is within the built-up area of East Grinstead.

APPLICATION DETAILS

Retrospective planning permission is sought for the following works:

The flat roofed single storey rear extension serving an enlarged kitchen measures 2.65m in depth, 6.52m in width with a flat roofed height of 2.85m and the roof lantern creating an approximate overall height of 3.25m. It is characterised by white render and aluminium doors and windows.

The attached rear summerhouse measures 3.74m in depth, 5.2m in width with a height to eaves of 2.5m and an overall height of 3.2m.

The previous timber fencing and brick wall boundary treatments to the front, rear and side boundaries have been replaced by white render painted brick walls with posts. The walls and gate are 1.8m in height and the posts are 2.16m in height.

The wall to the front approximately measures 7.5m in width, the wall to the rear approximately measures 17.5m in width and the side wall with a side gate which approximately measures 27m in width.

Internally the guestroom on the ground floor has been changed to a private office and bedroom 5.

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, the Sites Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) and the East Grinstead 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)

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

East Grinstead Neighbourhood Plan (made November 2016)

Relevant policies:

EG3 (Promoting Good Design)

Mid Sussex District Plan 2021-2039 Submission Draft (Regulation 19)

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 majority 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 policies of the adopted District Plan.

Relevant policies:

DPB1 - Character and Design

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)

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2024 is a material consideration. Paragraphs 8, 11, 131 and 135 are considered to be relevant to this application.

ASSESSMENT

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."*

East Grinstead Neighbourhood Plan policy EG3 states:

'Planning permission will normally be granted where development proposals meet the following criteria:

- o The form of the proposed development is proportionate and in keeping with the scale, height, materials and site coverage of the surrounding area;*
- o The layout of the proposed development respects the topography and character of the site, protects important landscape features and does not harm adjoining amenity;*
- o The proposal does not result in the loss of buildings or spaces that would have an unacceptable impact on the character of the area;*
- o The proposal ensures satisfactory means of access for vehicles and pedestrians and provides adequate parking, cycle storage and refuse facilities on site;*
- o The design of new buildings and the layout of spaces, including footways, car and cycle parking areas, should be permeable and provide connectivity with neighbouring areas;*
- o New development must be inclusive and where appropriate make satisfactory provision for the safe and easy access for those with mobility impairment; and*

- o *The design of new developments must result in the creation of a safe and secure environment and incorporate adequate security measures and features to deter crime, fear of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour; and*
- o *Proposals make provision for green infrastructure and biodiversity enhancement.'*

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 DG51 of the Mid Sussex Design Guide SPD relates specifically to rear extensions states the following:

'Rear extensions which are not visible from the street and do not negatively impact on neighbouring properties can be expressed in many forms, including by adopting a contemporary architectural approach. With reference to DG49, they should nevertheless have consideration for the character of the existing building and the relationship of the extension with the side boundaries and adjacent buildings and gardens'.

The rear extensions are modest enlargements to the existing dwelling, whilst the use of render is new to the dwelling, it is not out of character with the mixed nature of the streetscene.

In terms of the change of boundary treatment; the rendered walls and posts are not out of character with the mixed nature of the streetscene in terms of boundary treatments.

Therefore, these alterations are deemed to comply with DP26 of the Mid Sussex District Plan, EG3 of the East Grinstead Neighbourhood Plan.

Neighbouring Amenities

In terms of impact on neighbouring amenities, Policy DP26 of the District Plan states that it must be demonstrated that any 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.

The threshold for the related policy within the East Grinstead neighbourhood Plan EG3 states:

'The layout of the proposed development respects the topography and character of the site, protects important landscape features and does not harm adjoining amenity'.

Under section 38(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 if a policy contained in a development plan for an area conflicts with another policy in the development plan, the conflict must be resolved in favour of the policy which is contained in the last document to be adopted, approved or published. Consequently, policy DP26 of the Mid Sussex District Plan is considered to take precedence and therefore the test in this instance is whether the development causes significant harm to neighbouring amenities as outlined above.

Given the single storey nature of the works, there is no harm in terms of loss of privacy and overlooking given the level expected within the built-up area and exists from the host dwelling.

Given the location of the extension and outbuilding, the impact on light and outlook is not deemed significant. The change of boundary treatment is not deemed to harm neighbouring amenities.

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.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the works are considered to be appropriate in terms of design, size, and scale to the dwellinghouse and locality and do not cause significant harm to the amenities of neighbouring properties. The application is also exempt from the requirement to provide biodiversity net gain.

Therefore, the works comply with Mid Sussex District Plan policy DP26 and policy EG3 of the East Grinstead Neighbourhood Plan, the relevant principles of the Mid Sussex Design Guide SPD as well as the relevant provisions of the NPPF. The application therefore accords with the Development Plan and is considered acceptable.

Decision: Permission

Case Officer: Andrew Horrell