

Daniel Griffiths,
Cheshire East Council
Crewe Municipal Buildings
Earle Street
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CW1 2BJ

Development Management
PO Box 606
Municipal Buildings
Earle Street
Crewe
CW1 9HP

email: planning@cheshireeast.gov.uk

DECISION NOTICE

Application No: **21/4490N**

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED)

Particulars of Development

Erection of an up to 5 MW Solar PV Array and circa 25MW battery storage, comprising ground mounted solar PV panels, battery storage compound, vehicular access from the existing site entrance with internal access tracks, landscaping and associated infrastructure including security fencing and CCTV cameras.

Location

Leighton Grange Farm, MIDDLEWICH ROAD, LEIGHTON, CW1 4QQ

for **Daniel Griffiths, Cheshire East Council**

In pursuance of its powers under the above Act, the Council hereby GRANTS planning permission for the above development in accordance with the application and accompanying plans submitted by you subject to compliance with the conditions specified hereunder, for the reasons indicated:

1. The development hereby approved shall commence within three years of the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by s51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. The development hereby approved shall be carried out in total accordance with the following approved plans except where varied by other conditions of this permission:
 - 051338-ADAS-XX-XX-DR-P-8001 (Location)
 - 100.004 Rev 004 (Block)
 - 100.002.001 Rev 001 (Fence)
 - 100.002.001 Rev 001 (Solar Sub)
 - 100.002.001 Rev 001 (DNO Substation)
 - 100.002.001 Rev 001 (Battery Storage)
 - 100.002.001 Rev 001 (Module Frame)
 - 1016ASM001 Rev 1

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and to specify the plans to which the permission/consent relates.

3. Prior to the commencement of development, a habitat creation method statement and a 30 year habitat management plan for the retained and newly created habitats on site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The habitat creation method statement to detail habitat creation and enhancement measures to ensure the delivery of those habitats specified in the biodiversity metric calculations submitted with the application (ADAS 10th February 2022).

The 30 year habitat management plan shall detail how the newly created, enhanced and retained habitats will be managed achieve the target condition specified in the Biodiversity Metric Calculations submitted with the application. The habitat management plan to include a schedule of ecological monitoring and reporting and a mechanism to secure the agreement and implementation of contingency measures in the event that monitoring reveals that habitats on site are failing to achieve their target distinctiveness and/or condition.

The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To safeguard biodiversity in accordance with the NPPF.

4. The development hereby approved shall be entered into Natural England's District Licencing Scheme for Great Crested Newts.

Reason: In the interests of nature conservation.

5. Prior to any works taking place that involve the loss of any hedgerow (or part thereof), tree or shrub between 1st March and 31st August in any year, a detailed survey shall be undertaken to check for the existence of nesting birds. Where nests are found, a 4m exclusion zone shall be created around the nest until nesting is complete. Completion of nesting shall be confirmed by a suitably qualified person and a report submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before any works involving the removal of the hedgerow, tree or shrub take place.

Reason: In the interests of nature conservation.

6. No trees, shrubs or hedges within the site which are shown as being retained on the approved plans shall be felled, uprooted, wilfully damaged or destroyed, cut back in any way or removed without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority. Any trees, shrubs or hedges removed without such consent, or which die or become severely damaged or seriously diseased within five years from the occupation of any building or the development hereby permitted being brought into use shall be replaced with trees, shrubs or hedge plants of similar size and species until the Local Planning Authority gives written consent to any variation.

Reason: To ensure the continued well being of the trees in the interests of the amenity of the locality.

7. (a) Prior to the commencement of development or other operations being undertaken on site a scheme for the protection of the retained trees produced in accordance with BS5837 :2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction (Recommendations), which provides for the retention and protection of trees, shrubs and hedges growing on or adjacent to the site, including trees which are the subject of a Tree Preservation Order currently in force, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. No development or other operations shall take place except in complete accordance with the approved protection scheme.
 - (b) No operations shall be undertaken on site in connection with the development hereby approved (including demolition works, soil moving, temporary access construction and / or widening or any operations involving the use of motorised vehicles or construction machinery) until the protection works required by the approved protection scheme are in place.
 - (c) No excavations for services, storage of materials or machinery, parking of vehicles, deposit or excavation of soil or rubble, lighting of fires or disposal of

liquids shall take place within any area designated as being fenced off or otherwise protected in the approved protection scheme.

(d) Protective fencing shall be retained intact for the full duration of the development hereby approved and shall not be removed or repositioned without the prior written approval of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure the continued well being of the trees in the interests of the amenity of the locality.

8. The development hereby approved shall be carried out in accordance with the submitted Flood Risk Assessment (680121-R1(00)-FRA).

Reason: To ensure adequate drainage of the site.

9. No development shall take place within the area accommodating the battery storage and substation are to be sited until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The work shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved scheme.

Reason: To preserve the historic environment.

10. Within 40 years following the development being brought into use or within 12 months of cessation of electricity generation, whichever is sooner, all equipment and structures shall be dismantled and removed from the site and the land restored to agricultural use.

Reason: To protect the character of the open countryside.

Informative

The Local Planning Authority (LPA), in reaching this decision, has followed the guidance in paragraph 38 of the National Planning Policy Framework. The Framework advises that the LPA should work proactively with applicants to secure developments that improve the economic, social and environmental conditions of the area.

Please Note: This decision notice does not convey any approval or consent which

may be required under any enactment, bye-laws, order or regulation other than Section 57 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

This consent is granted subject to conditions and it is the owner(s) and the person(s) responsible for the implementation of the development who will be fully responsible for their compliance throughout the development and beyond. **A fee is payable to us for the discharge of conditions. Please see our Website for details.** If there is a condition that requires work to be carried out or details to be approved prior to the commencement of the development this is called a "condition precedent". The following should be noted with regards to conditions precedent:

- (a) If a condition precedent is not complied with, the whole of the development will be unauthorised and you may be liable to enforcement action.
- (b) Where a condition precedent is breached and the development is unauthorised, the only way to rectify the development is the submission of a new application.

Other conditions on this permission must also be complied with. Failure to comply with any condition may render the owner(s) and the person(s) responsible for the implementation of the development liable to enforcement action.

This permission is granted in strict accordance with the approved plans. It should be noted however that:

- (a) Any variation from the approved plans following commencement of the development, irrespective of the degree of variation, will constitute unauthorised development and may be liable to enforcement action.
- (b) Variation to the approved plans will require the submission of a new planning application.

Dated: 11/03/2022



Signed
Authorised Officer for
Cheshire East Borough Council

We enclose our decision notice in respect of the application you recently submitted to us.

You should read the notice carefully. It is your responsibility to ensure that you comply with the terms of any conditions which are attached to it. Where conditions require you to submit further information to us you will need to pay a fee and submit a separate application. The notice doesn't convey or grant consent for anything other than the application you made under the terms of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

If you are aggrieved by our decision to refuse planning permission for the proposed development or to grant it subject to conditions, then you can appeal to the Secretary of State under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. You must submit your appeal within:

- 12 weeks of the date of this notice in the case of householder applications
- 8 weeks of the date of this notice for advertisement applications or
- 6 months of the date of this notice in all other cases

If you intend to submit an appeal that you would like examined by inquiry then you must notify the Local Planning Authority and Planning Inspectorate (inquiryappeals@planninginspectorate.gov.uk) at least 10 days before submitting the appeal. [Further details are on GOV.UK.](#)

Appeals can be made online at <https://www.gov.uk/planning-inspectorate>. If you are unable to access the online appeal form, please contact the Planning Inspectorate to obtain a paper copy of the appeal form on 03034445000. The Secretary of State can allow a longer period for giving notice of an appeal but will not normally be prepared to use this power unless there are special circumstances which excuse the delay in giving notice of appeal.

The Secretary of State need not consider an appeal if it seems to the Secretary of State that the local planning authority could not have granted planning permission for the proposed development or could not have granted it without the conditions they imposed, having regard to the statutory requirements, to the provisions of any development order and to any directions given under a development order.

Purchase Notices

If either the local planning authority or the Secretary of State refuses permission to develop land or grants it subject to conditions, the owner may claim that they can neither put the land to a reasonably beneficial use in its existing state nor render the land capable of a reasonably beneficial use by the carrying out of any development which has been or would be permitted.

In these circumstances, the owner may serve a purchase notice on the Council in whose area the land is situated. This notice will require the Council to purchase his interest in the land in accordance with the provisions of Part VI of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.