

20 August 2025

Mr Karl Medcalf
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NOTIFICATION OF DECISION OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY: Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Case Reference PA/2025/0855

Site Address Pilgrims Rest, Old Surrenden Manor Road, Bethersden, Ashford, TN26 3DJ

Proposal Change of use of land and siting of moveable home office cabin (Retrospective)

DECISION: PLANNING PERMISSION IS GRANTED in accordance with the application and plans subject to the following conditions:

Conditions:

- 1 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans and documents:

Description	Date
Proposed Elevations & Floor Plans - PRO_01_101 Rev A	7 May 2025
Proposed Site Location Plan - PRO_01_102 Rev A	7 May 2025

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

- 2 The cabin hereby approved shall only be used for home office purposes and shall not be used for primary residential accommodation at any time.

Reason: Such a use would conflict with policy which restricts separate residential use.

- 3 No external lighting shall be installed within the site unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interest of protected species.

Informatives:

Biodiversity Net Gain

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The effect of paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 is

that planning permission granted for the development of land in England is deemed to have been granted subject to the condition “(the biodiversity gain condition)” that development may not begin unless:

- a) a Biodiversity Gain Plan has been submitted to the planning authority, and
- b) the planning authority has approved the plan.

The planning authority, for the purposes of determining whether to approve a Biodiversity Gain Plan if one is required in respect of this permission, would be Ashford Borough Council.

There are statutory exemptions which mean that the biodiversity gain condition does not always apply and these are set out in The Biodiversity Gain Requirements Exemptions Regulations 2024.

This permission will not require the approval of a Biodiversity Gain Plan before development is begun because one or more of the statutory exemptions or transitional arrangements are considered to apply.

The effect of section 73D of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

If planning permission is granted on an application made under section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (application to develop land without compliance with conditions previously attached) and a Biodiversity Gain Plan was approved in relation to the previous planning permission (“the earlier Biodiversity Gain Plan”) there are circumstances when the earlier Biodiversity Gain Plan is regarded as approved for the purpose of discharging the biodiversity gain condition subject to which the section 73 planning permission is granted.

Those circumstances are that the conditions subject to which the section 73 permission is granted:

- i) do not affect the post-development value of the onsite habitat as specified in the earlier Biodiversity Gain Plan, and
- ii) in the case of planning permission for a development where all or any part of the onsite habitat is irreplaceable habitat the conditions do not change the effect of the development on the biodiversity of that onsite habitat (including any arrangements made to compensate for any such effect) as specified in the earlier Biodiversity Gain Plan.

- In accordance with paragraph 38 of the NPPF, Ashford Borough Council (ABC) takes a positive and proactive approach to development proposals focused on solutions.

ABC works with applicants/agents in a positive and proactive manner by;

- offering a pre-application advice service,
- as appropriate updating applicants/agents of any issues that may arise in the processing of their application,
- where possible suggesting solutions to secure a successful outcome,
- informing applicants/agents of any likely recommendation of refusal prior to a decision and,
- by adhering to the requirements of the Development Management Customer Charter.

In this instance, [ADD/DELETE AS APPROPRIATE] the applicant/agent was updated of any issues after the initial site visit, was provided with pre-application advice, the application was acceptable as submitted and no further assistance was required.

ADD A BRIEF STATEMENT as to how the applicant/ agent responded to our initial

contact, and if appropriate, how we dealt with the case thereafter? ie. "...the applicant/ agent responded by submitting amended plans, which were found to be acceptable and permission was granted/the applicant was provided the opportunity to submit amendments to the scheme/ address issues. The application was dealt with/approved without delay. The application was considered by the Planning Committee where the applicant/agent had the opportunity to speak to the committee and promote the application.

Signed



Simon Cole
Assistant Director - Planning and Development

Important Notes

1 Limitation of Permission

This decision is for planning purposes only and for no other purpose including Building Regulations. Separate approval may be required for these works.

Advice is available from the Building Control Section - 01233 330282 Email building.control@ashford.gov.uk

Where plans for the erection or extension of a building are submitted for Building Regulations approval, Section 53 of the County of Kent Act 1981 requires that the Plans are rejected unless they show;

- a. adequate means of access for the Fire Brigade to the building or buildings as extended and;
- b. that the building and extension will not render inadequate, existing means of access for the Fire Brigade to a neighbouring building.

The Fire Prevention Officer can be contacted at Ashford Fire Station Henwood, Ashford, Kent TN24 8YF

This grant of planning permission does not give any legal right to carry out the development on, over or under the land of another person or contrary to the rights of any such person. If there is any doubt the applicant should seek his/her own independent legal advice before implementing the planning permission. Your attention is also drawn to the Party Walls Act

2 Appeals to the Secretary of State

If you are unhappy with the disclosed Decision to grant permission subject to conditions, you may appeal to the Secretary of State under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Details of how to appeal can be obtained from the Planning Inspectorate, Customer Support Unit, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN or via their website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-appeals-procedural-guide>

3 Beneficial Use

If permission to develop land is granted subject to conditions, whether by the Borough Council or by the Secretary of State and you, as owner of the land, claim that it has become incapable of reasonable beneficial use, you may serve on the Borough Council a

Purchase Notice requiring the Borough Council to purchase your interest in the land in accordance with the provision of Part IV of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Before following this course of action it is suggested that you seek the advice of a Planning Consultant or a Solicitor.

4 **Discharging of Conditions**

Some conditions attached to the grant of permission may require you to submit details and/or information before you start work. The necessary forms can be found on the Council's website. Please note that we aim to deal with these requests within 8 weeks.

There is a fee for 'Approval of details reserved by a condition'. These fees are set by Government and the current level can be found at <https://1app.planningportal.co.uk/FeeCalculator/Standalone?region=1>