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3rd October 2007

Dear Councillor,

I hereby give you Notice that a Special Meeting of the **DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, CROOK** on **THURSDAY 11th OCTOBER 2007** at **6.00 P.M**.

AGENDA

Page No.

- 1. Apologies for absence
- To consider development control application 3/2007/0595 1-6 Outline application for erection of dwelling (resubmission) at land at 1 West Road, Willington, for Mr. and Mrs. Andrews.
- To consider development control application 3/2007/0552 12 no. 7 16 dwellings at land at Jobson Terrace, Stanley, Crook for Mr. Walker.

Yours faithfully

Michael Laing

Chief Executive

Members of this Committee:

Councillors Anderson, Bowser, Buckham, Mrs Burn, Mrs Douthwaite, Gale, Grogan, Jopling, Kay, Kingston, Laurie, Mrs Lee, Lethbridge, Mairs, Mowbray, Mews, Murphy*, Perkins, Seabury*, Taylor, Des Wilson and Zair.

*ex-officio, non-voting capacity.

Chair: Councillor Grogan

Deputy Chair:

Councillor Mews

TO: All other Members of the Council for information Management Team



SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

11th OCTOBER 2007

Report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Regeneration

PART 1 – APPLICATION FOR DECISION

3/2007/0595 - OUTLINE APPLICATION FOR ERECTION OF DWELLING (RESUBMISSION) AT LAND AT 1 WEST ROAD, WILLINGTON, FOR MR. AND MRS. ANDREWS – 08.08.2007

description of site and proposals

- 1. This application has been reported to Committee as it has received five objections.
- 2. Outline planning permission is requested for the erection of one dwelling in the garden of 1 West View, Willington. The application site measures approximately 30 metres in length by 15 metres in width. The application site has some semi-mature trees to the north, and is bounded by a 1.8 metre high fence.
- 3. Details of layout, scale, appearance, access and landscaping are reserved for future consideration.
- 4. The application site consists of the rear garden of 1 West Road, Willington. The rear garden of the property measures approximately 40 metres in length by 15 metres in width. The host dwelling has a conservatory to the rear and a detached garage to the eastern boundary. To the east of the application site is Carville Terrace, which is located approximately 10 metres from the easternmost boundary of the application site. To the west of the site is open agricultural land.

planning history

- 5. The following planning history is considered relevant to the consideration of this application.
 - 3/2007/0378 Erection of One Dwelling (outline) Withdrawn 18.06.2007

planning policies

- 6. The following policies of the Wear Valley District Local Plan (WVDLP) are relevant in the consideration of this application:
 - GD1 General Development Criteria
 - H3 Distribution of Development
 - H24
 Residential Design Criteria

Also relevant are Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing, and North East Regional Spatial Strategy Policy 3.

consultations

7. CDE&TS (Highways): This application is in outline, with all matters reserved for future approval. For this reason I will not object to this proposal.

officer analysis

- 8. The main issues for consideration are:
 - Principle of Development
 - Residential Amenity

principle of development

- 9. Policy H3 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan and advice contained within Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing requires that new development be directed within the development limits of existing conurbations and preferably on brownfield sites.
- 10. Additionally, Policy 3 of the Regional Spatial Strategy sets out a sequential approach to the location of new housing, an approach which has been formally adopted by the Council on 2nd April 2007. This approach requires new housing to be located within the main urban areas of the district, of which Willington is one such area.
- 11. The proposed dwelling would be wholly located within the development limits for Willington. The site is not allocated for any particular use, and forms part of the garden area for no.1 West View and is therefore classed as brownfield land, as set out in PPS3: Housing.
- 12. As the site forms brownfield land within an identified area for housing, the application site is considered to be a priority 1 site in accordance with the sequential approach to site selection and satisfies the policy requirements. The principle of housing development as proposed is therefore acceptable and in accordance with policy H3 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan, the Council's sequential approach to housing location and RSS Policy 3, as well as national advice in PPS3: Housing.

residential amenity

- 13. While matters of layout, scale, appearance, access and landscaping have been reserved for a detailed application, the supporting information indicates that a dwelling could be located more than 18m away from the front of the terraced dwellings (Carville Terrace) to the east. This distance is under the 21 metres window to window distance set out in policy H24 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan. However the indicative layout shows that the proposed dwelling would be in line with the semi-detached dwellings to the north of the application site, and as such this window to window distance is in keeping with the character and layout of the surrounding area.
- 14. Therefore, although not a consideration at this outline stage, it is considered that a detailed application could be sensitively designed to satisfy Policy H24 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan in terms of impact on neighbours.
- 15. As the application site consists of garden land of 1 West Road, the division of the garden would leave a garden measuring approximately 12 metres in length to 1 West Road. Policy H24 states that dwellings should have a garden depth of 10 metres. Following the division of the garden, a garden depth of over 10 metres would be provided. This accords with policy H24 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.

objections/observations

- 16. Occupiers of the surrounding properties have been notified in writing and a site notice was also posted.
- 17. Four letters of objection/observation have been received, the details of which are set out below;
 - 1. I object to the obstruction of light and privacy that the development will cause.
 - 2. Depreciation to the value of our property.
 - 3. Restriction in parking in an already congested area.
 - 4. Dust and dirt from the site.
 - 5. Risks to residents' vehicles from builders merchants delivering to the site.
 - 6. Danger to smaller children living opposite the application site.
 - 7. Noise from the site disturbing regular night shift workers.

response to objections/observations

- 18. In response to the issues raised, the following comments are made:
 - 1. The application is in outline with all matters reserved for future consideration. However from the submitted indicative layout provided a dwelling could be located within the site without a detrimental effect on the privacy of the occupiers of neighbouring dwellings. Given the orientation of the site, it is considered that there would be no loss of light to the occupiers of neighbouring dwellings as a result of this proposal.

- 2. Not a material planning consideration.
- 3. The County Highways Engineer has not objected to the scheme. The indicative layout shows that sufficient space can be provided for off street parking within the site.
- 4. An element of disturbance is inevitable during construction works, it is hoped that this will be controlled to some extent by the imposition of an appropriate planning condition.
- 5. Any damage caused by the workers on the site to residents' vehicles would be civil matter.
- 6. It is assumed the objector is objecting to any potential danger caused by the construction of the dwelling. Any potential danger caused by the construction works in not a material planning consideration and would be a civil matter.
- 7. An element of disturbance is inevitable during construction works, it is hoped that this will be controlled to some extent by the imposition of an appropriate planning condition

conclusion and reasons for approval

1. The proposed site is a priority 1, brownfield site located within the settlement limits of development for Willington, as allocated by the Proposals Map of the Wear Valley District Local Plan, and in accordance with the Council's sequential approach to housing development. The principle of development is therefore considered to be acceptable and in accordance with policy H3 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan, as well as Policy 3 of the RSS and national planning guidance in PPS3: Housing.

RECOMMENDED

That outline planning permission be **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions and reasons;

conditions

- 1/2. Standard Outline Conditions (layout, scale, appearance, access and landscaping).
- 3. During the period of construction no machinery shall be operated on the site on Sundays or Bank Holidays or between the hours of 6 pm and 8 am on any other day.

reasons

1/2.Standard Reasons.

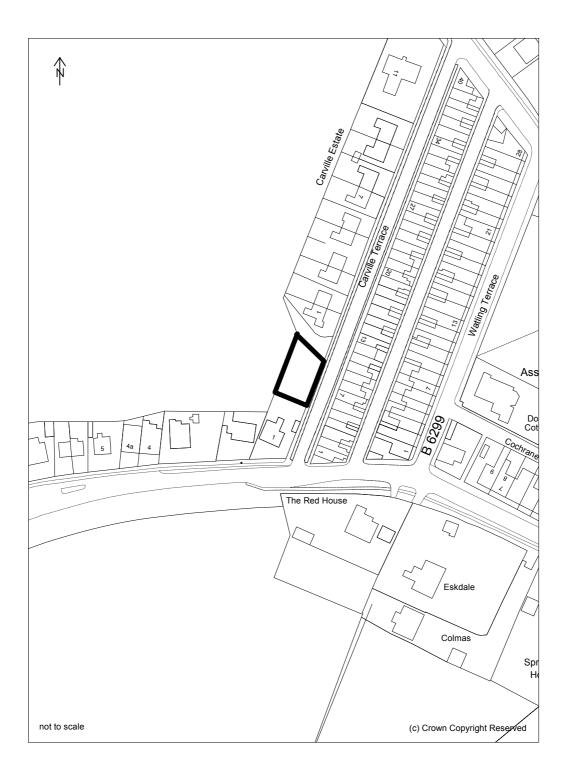
3. To safeguard the occupiers of adjacent premises from undue noise or other associated disturbance. In accordance with policy GD1 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.

background information Application files, WVDLP, Policy 3 of the RSS, PPS3 Housing.

PS code 6					
number of days to Committee	64 target achieved	No			
explanation Next available Committee after consultation deadline.					

Officer responsible for the report	Author of the report
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Strategic Director for Environment and Regeneration	Planning Officer
Ext 264	Ext 495

3/2007/0595- OUTLINE APPLICATION FOR ERECTION OF DWELLING (RESUBMISSION) AT LAND AT 1 WEST ROAD, WILLINGTON, CROOK FOR MR. AND MRS. ANDREWS – 08.08.2007





SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

11TH OCTOBER 2007

Report of the Strategic Director for Environment and Regeneration

PART 1 – APPLICATION FOR DECISION

3/2007/0552 - 12 NO. DWELLINGS AT LAND AT JOBSON TERRACE, STANLEY CROOK FOR MR. WALKER - 24.07.2007

introduction

- 1. In accordance with the Council's Protocol on Planning, this application is reported to Committee. The application is a departure from the Local Plan and the applicant is the father of a member of staff working in the Environment and Regeneration Department.
- 2. The application is a resubmission and revised scheme to application 3/2007/238 for 8 No. dwellings, which was withdrawn earlier this year.
- 3. Members will recall that they granted outline planning permission (3/2006/0099) for residential development on the site at Jobson Terrace, Stanley, Crook. The permission granted was for the principle of development only with all matters reserved.
- 4. This application is seeking reserved matters approval under the extant outline permission for the erection of 12no. dwellings with appearance, layout, scale, landscaping and access under consideration.

description of site and proposals

- 5. The site has an area of about 0.64 hectares and is an open grassed field that is enclosed with post and rail and metal fencing around its boundaries. The application site is generally situated in an open and exposed landscape. Historical records show that once there were terraced dwellings on the site, however these were demolished over 40 years ago and the site has grassed over since and now has the appearance of open countryside. Accordingly it is classed as a greenfield site under the definitions in PPS3.
- 6. The site is located about 35m to the east of High Road in Stanley, Crook. There are existing residential dwellings situated to the west of the site along High Road, the majority of which are small terraced dwellings, with some detached bungalows and some new detached dwellings towards the southern end of High Road. The immediate surroundings to the north, east and south are open land with only stables and paddocks to the north and east, and Jobson Terrace road to the south. Beyond Jobson Terrace road is a playground. Further south beyond the open playground is the new Persimmon development site of 40 dwellings on a 1ha site. This Persimmon

site is within the development limits and is one of two large housing sites that have recently been granted full permission for a total of 83 dwellings. Construction has already started on the 40 dwellings development.

7. The application site would be developed in single depth plots with the dwellings located at the southern end of the site and large rear gardens to the north. The proposed dwellings would comprise a mix of types and sizes ranging from 4-bed detached and semi-detached dwellings on plots 1-8, 5/6bed detached on plots 9 & 10, and 6-bed dormer bungalows on plots 11 & 12. The building line would be varied by locating the garaging to the front and rear. The larger dwellings on plots 9-12 would have detached garages to the rear (north). The semi-detached house types on plots 1, 2, 7 & 8 would have attached side garages, and the detached dwellings on plots 3, 4, 5 & 6 would have detached garages to the front. The design approach of the proposed dwellings has introduced a common theme throughout all house types with standardized detailing. The application indicates a desired commitment to achieving sustainable building standards in the form of energy saving construction methods, solar water heating and grey water recycling, although no details of this have been submitted. Each plot would have individual vehicle access on to Jobsons Terrace.

planning history

8. The following planning applications have been received in respect of this site:

•	3/2006/0099	Outline Application for Residential Development	Approved 28.04.06
•	3/2007/0238	Full Application for Erection of 8 No. Dwellings	Withdrawn 21.05.07

planning policies

- 9. The following policies of the Wear Valley District Local Plan are relevant in the consideration of this application:
 - GD1 General Development Criteria
 - H22 Community Benefit
 - H24 Residential Design Criteria
 - H3 Distribution of Development
 - T1 Highways General Policy

Also relevant are PPS1 and PPS3, as well as Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) Policies 39 and 40.

consultations

- 10. Environment Agency: No comments.
- 11. Northumbrian Water: No objections.

12. CDE&TS (Highways): New vehicular accesses, street lighting, footway and carriageway improvements will be required and should be designed in accordance with current adoption standards. Plans should be submitted to and approved by the local planning authority prior to the commencement of development. It will be necessary for the applicant to enter into an agreement under Section 278 of the Highways Act to allow works in the highway to be carried out.

officer analysis

- 13. The key issues for consideration are:
 - Principle of Development
 - Scale
 - Layout
 - Appearance
 - Landscaping
 - Highways and Access
 - Sustainability
 - Community Benefit (Commuted Sum Payment)

principle of development

14. Although the site is located outside the development limits of Stanley and has reverted back to a greenfield site, the principle of development cannot be reconsidered as this was accepted by Members under outline permission 3/2006/0099 and the permission is still valid. This is a reserved matters application.

scale

- 15. The general thrust of government housing policy guidance is to make the most efficient use of land to encourage sustainable development patterns. This includes building at densities of at least 30 dwellings per hectare to ensure the development potential of development land is maximized and not wasted.
- 16. To accord with this guidance, the application site would be expected to accommodate at least 19 dwellings to achieve a density of 30 dwellings per hectare. Following discussions with the Council, the number of proposed dwellings has been increased from 8 to 12 at a density of around 20 dwellings per hectare. Ideally more dwellings should be proposed to make the most efficient use of the land, as it is clear from the size of the proposed dwellings at the eastern end of the site, that the development potential has not been fully realised by the proposal. However, the nature of the width of the site, as well as the two new Persimmon developments in the village, which will meet the housing need for the area, carry some weight in relaxing the density requirements in this particular case. Therefore, despite not being entirely satisfactory, at 20 dwellings per hectare, there are perhaps not sufficient grounds for refusal on this point alone.

- 17. The scale of the proposed dwellings themselves are by no means small and it is hard to accept that the smaller dwellings would be entry level dwellings as stated, given that they would be 4-bed dwellings in large grounds. Accordingly, the development is most likely to be aimed at the higher end of the market only and therefore does not satisfy guidance in PPS3 and the government's wider sustainable communities objective to provide a mix of housing catering for all incomes. However, as there was unfortunately no stipulation for affordable housing attached to the outline approval, and there will be a suitable mix of housing in the larger developments in Stanley, this mix is considered acceptable.
- 18. Most of the dwellings (plots 1-10) would be two storeys with additional accommodation in the roof space and the two dwellings at the eastern end (plots 11 and 12) would be dormer bungalows. Generally, the height and depth of the dwellings would be greater than what would normally be expected and otherwise questionable, but in the context of the above average size of the plots, and when viewed together as a coherent whole, would be appropriate.

layout

- 19. The width of the site lends itself to single depth development, which is reflected in the linear layout of the proposed dwellings. This would also reflect the historic development pattern of terraced housing and long gardens that once occupied the site. Pre application discussions suggested a need to vary the building line to reduce the scale of development from the road and increase visual interest in the street scene. It is considered that this has been effectively achieved through the garage arrangement and the stepping back of some of the dwellings, which would create a courtyard-type arrangement for plots 3-6. The decrease in density and lowering of heights to the east, away from the village, would be an appropriate design approach to the site.
- 20. Each dwelling would have large gardens that would comfortably meet the amenity space requirements of WVDLP Policy H24. The spatial arrangement between dwellings would be adequate with all habitable rooms (plots 1-11) having their main outlook to the north and south; and east in the case of the end dwelling (plot 12). The layout is therefore considered to be acceptable and in accordance with policies GD1 and H24 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.
- 21. It would be appropriate to withdraw Class E Permitted Development Rights which allows the provision of buildings within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse (because of the size of the gardens it would normally be possible to erect large buildings in the rear gardens) to retain a buffer area around the sewer pipe to the north and in the interests of visual amenity because the site is bordered by open countryside.

appearance

22. Although the development would have a common theme in terms of materials and general design details, the variation in house types, while not being particularly innovative or inspiring, would nevertheless provide adequate interest in the new street scene. Individually, the design and appearance of the dwellings are not objectionable, and although not particularly in character with the majority of existing dwelling types in Stanley at present, this will eventually change in time with the completion of the other new developments in the area. Suitable materials can be conditioned for approval. Therefore, subject to the use of suitable external materials, the proposal accords with policies GD1 and H24 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.

landscaping

23. The application proposes little in the way of landscaping, being limited to low level planting along the frontages and turfed gardens. The general principle of this is acceptable, however further details to include types of shrubs, hard surfacing and fencing details should be conditioned for further approval. Subject to the submission of suitable details the proposal accords with policy GD1 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.

highways and access

- 24. Each dwelling would be served by an individual vehicle access onto Jobsons Terrace, which has sufficient visibility to both the east and west. This would require new verge crossings and improvements to the footway. Street lighting improvements would also be required. Further details to secure these improvements in the interests of road safety should be conditioned.
- 25. Sufficient off street car parking would be provided with each dwelling having at least 2 off street parking spaces per dwelling. Jobsons Terrace is not a main thoroughfare, and although vehicular traffic is likely to increase in the near future as a result of nearby developments, the proposed development is unlikely to adversely affect the capacity of the local road network.
- 26. Subject to the suitable footway and street lighting improvements, the proposal accords with policies GD1, T1 and H24 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.

sustainability

27. Both PPS1 and PPS3 place an emphasis on achieving sustainable development. Climate change is high on the agenda and the government's recent Energy White Paper has given a statutory requirement to reduce carbon emissions and promote renewable energy and energy efficiency measures in new development. This has been reflected in policies 39 and 40 of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) which requires major developments to achieve at least 10% of energy supply from renewable resources. This can be through a number of options appropriate to the site.

28. The density of the development and loss of a greenfield site would in no way represent a sustainable use of land, but the intent to address sustainability by minimising energy use through sustainable construction methods, and incorporation of systems for solar water heating and grey water recycling is welcomed, but no details have been submitted. The orientation of the site lends itself perfectly to solar heating panels and photo voltaics, and the open landscape would be suitable for wind energy. These measures together with sustainable construction methods should enable the 10% target to be met in this development and details to achieve this should therefore be conditioned.

community benefit (commuted sum payment)

29. On developments of 10 or more dwellings it would usually be appropriate to seek developer contributions towards open space and recreational facilities in the area as a result of the increase in demand on existing facilities and the community. However, this was not a stipulation of the outline permission and cannot now be sought at the reserved matters stage.

objections/observations

30. Occupiers of the surrounding properties have been notified in writing, site notices were posted and a notice posted in the local press advertising the application as a departure from the development plan. No objections have been received.

conclusion and reasons for approval

- 1. The proposal fails to accord with the sustainability requirements of PPS3 and the government's wider Sustainable Communities objective as it proposes development of a greenfield site at a density below the suggested 30 dwellings per hectare, as well as dwellings that would not cater for all incomes. However, mitigating circumstances, mainly because of the extant outline permission and other larger developments currently under construction in Stanley, which will include some provision for the lower end of the housing market, mean that this is possibly not sufficient in itself to warrant refusal.
- 2. The proposed layout and appearance of the dwellings are acceptable subject to suitable external materials, and the development would have sufficient visual interest in the street scene. The spatial relationship between dwellings would be acceptable and all plots would offer suitable levels of amenity. This is in accordance with policies GD1 and H24 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.
- 3. The proposed landscaping is acceptable in principle in accordance with policy GD1 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan, but is subject to the submission of satisfactory details.
- 4. The individual vehicle accesses to each plot would be acceptable and sufficient off street parking would be provided. The development would not impact unacceptably on the local road capacity. This is in accordance with policies GD1, H24 and T1 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.

5. The applicant has given a commitment to achieve sustainability by minimizing energy use through sustainable construction methods and incorporating onsite energy saving measures. In accordance with policies 39 and 40 of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), details to ensure that 10% of the total energy requirements of the new development come from renewable energy sources must be submitted for approval and implemented, and a condition is included in the recommendation.

RECOMMENDED

That reserved matters approval be **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions and reasons;

conditions

- 1. No development shall take place until a sample panel of the materials for the external walls has been made up on site for inspection and approved in writing by the local planning authority. Before the development hereby approved is commenced samples of the other proposed external materials shall be submitted to and approved by in writing by the local planning authority.
- 2. Before the development hereby approved is commenced, a scheme of hard and soft landscaping, to include details of location and species of planting, and types of surfacing, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.
- 3. All planting, seeding or turfing comprised in the approved details of landscaping shall be carried out in the first planting and seeding seasons following the occupation of the buildings or the completion of the development, whichever is the sooner, and any trees or plants which within a period of 5 years from the completion of the development die, are removed, are severely damaged or become seriously diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species, unless the local planning authority gives written consent to any variation.
- 4. Before the development hereby approved is commenced details of the height, siting, appearance and construction of all boundary treatment and means of enclosure to be erected upon the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority, and the works shall be carried out in accordance with such approved details before the dwellings hereby approved are first occupied.
- 5. The garages hereby approved shall be retained for the accommodation of private motor vehicles and shall not be converted to additional accommodation; no trade or business shall be carried out therein.
- 6. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3 and Class E of Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any Order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification), none of the categories of development described therein shall be carried out on the site without an application for planning permission having been first made to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

- 7. Before the development hereby approved is commenced wheel washing equipment shall be provided at all site egress points to ensure that mud, etc is not trailed onto the public carriageway. The wheelwashing equipment shall be used on all vehicles leaving the site during the period of construction works.
- 8. Prior to the commencement of development, plans showing improved footways, carriageway and street lighting, designed in accordance with current adoption standards shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. These works shall be constructed in accordance with the approved details prior to the occupation of any of the dwellings hereby approved.
- 9. Prior to the commencement of development, details of the construction methodology and measures for the generation of on-site renewable energy shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. These details shall demonstrate how energy efficiency is being addressed and show the on-site measures to be taken to produce a minimum of 10% of the total energy requirements of the development by means of renewable energy sources. Such details as may be approved shall be implemented prior to the first occupation of the dwellings hereby approved and retained in perpetuity.

reasons

- 1. To ensure the satisfactory appearance of the completed development. In accordance with policies GD1 and H24 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.
- 2. To ensure the satisfactory appearance of the completed development. In accordance with policy GD1 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.
- 3. To ensure the implementation of the approved landscape scheme within a reasonable time. In accordance with policy GD1 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.
- 4. To achieve a satisfactory form of development. In accordance with policy GD1 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.
- 5. To safeguard the occupiers of adjacent premises from undue noise, traffic generation or other loss of amenity arising from the use of the proposed garages for trade or business purposes, and to retain sufficient off street parking. In accordance with policy GD1 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.
- 6. The local planning wishes to control future development in order to prevent building over the public sewer and in the interests of visual amenity. In accordance with policy GD1 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.
- 7. In the interest of traffic safety and to safeguard the amenity of the surrounding area. In accordance with policy GD1 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.
- 8. In the interests of highway and pedestrian safety. In accordance with policies GD1 and T1 of the Wear Valley District Local Plan.
- 9. To reduce carbon emissions. In accordance with policies 39 and 40 of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).

background information Application files, WVDLP, PPS1, PPS3, RSS.



Officer responsible for the report	Author of the report
Robert Hope	Adrian Caines
Strategic Director for Environment and Regeneration	Planning Officer
Ext 264	Ext 369

3/2007/0552 - 12 NO. DWELLINGS AT LAND AT JOBSON TERRACE, STANLEY, CROOK FOR MR. WALKER – 24.07.2007

