

Watford Borough Council

Farm Terrace Application (18 December 2014)

Update and addendums (5 February 2015)

Please find below an update and relevant addendums relating to Watford Borough Council's application for Secretary of State Consent to Dispose of Statutory Allotment Land - Allotment Act 1925.

Update	Details
Watford Health Campus CPO inquiry	<p>The CPO inquiry took place in January (7 – 13 January 2013).</p> <p>There were initially 15 objections to the proposed CPO. This reduced to 9 at the end of the Inquiry.</p> <p>The inspector indicated at the close of the Inquiry that he would submit his report to the Secretary of State mid- February.</p>
S106 agreement signed	<p>Following the agreement of the S106 planning obligation's Heads of Terms on 16 December 2014 by Watford Borough Council's Development Control Committee, the S106 agreement was signed on the 6 January 2015. The planning decision notice for the hybrid application for the Health Campus was issued the same day.</p> <p>See page 9 of the submission (outline application for the Watford Health Campus masterplan and detailed application for business zone south).</p> <p>[A copy of the decision notice is attached: Appendix 44]</p>
Paddock Road extension planning application submitted	<p>Plans for initial phase of allotment provision at Paddock Road have now been submitted for planning approval to Hertsmere District Council (submitted 23 January 2015). The land, although owned by Watford BC, falls just outside Watford's administrative boundaries. Details of the application are available at: http://goo.gl/0dJWEJ</p>
Business area south	<p>A revised planning application is being considered for Business Area South in response to changes in business requirements. This will ensure more scope and flexibility for the range of businesses who might locate the Health Campus. Design work has been worked up but not finalised or approved by the LABV board.</p>

Update	Details
Cost update	<p>The LABV board at its meeting of 15 January 2015 noted that the final cost plan is awaited from the Infrastructure contractor to review how it relates to the approved infrastructure budget of £18.6m as submitted to the Secretary of State as part of Watford BC's application in December 2014 (Appendix 8). The indications are that the contractors costplan will be in excess of this and action will be needed to deal with cashflow issues and viability.</p> <p>Subject to the final cost plan the LABV board noted the conditions for signing the infrastructure contract this spring to enable road construction start.</p>
Hertfordshire County Council: schools update	<p>Following a request from Hertfordshire County Council to visit Farm Terrace allotment site to assess the suitability of the land for a new 2 FE primary school, the council wrote to current allotment holders advising them of this. The visit is scheduled for the w/c 16 February 2015.</p> <p>[The letter is attached – Appendix 45]</p>
West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust: change at Chief Executive level	<p>On 16 January the Chief Executive of West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust left the Trust to take up a post at NHS England.</p> <p>An interim Chief Executive has been appointed: Jacqueline (Jac) Kelly MBE.</p> <p>The change of Chief Executive does not affect the Trust's commitment to the Watford Health Campus. This was reiterated at the Partnership Board on 15 January 2015 by the Director of Facilities and Estates:</p> <p><i>Kevin Howell] gave assurance that the WHC Campus related decisions have all been Board led and there will be no change in direction following the change in CEO.</i></p> <p>Watford Health Campus Partnership Board Meeting: 15 Jan 2015</p>

Addendums

Number of poles available on Brightwell and Holywell allotments	The application refers to the number of plots available on the two sites (52). In terms of the number of poles available, this is 299.5, which will accommodate the allotment holders remaining on Farm Terrace who have either indicated that they would want to continue as allotment holders or who have not engaged with the council on their preference.
Number of Farm Terrace tenants and plots cultivated (pages 2 and 23)	As of 5 February 2015: now 30 tenants and 36 plots cultivated.
Amendment to the figure for the number of allotment holders who have relocated in West Watford (page 39).	Veolia was requested to review this figure and it should be two out of ten (the additional relocation was done directly with Veolia to an additional allotment plot in west Watford: Chester Road). Chester Road is an additional allotment site within walking distance of Farm Terrace but it is small and vacancies seldom arise (see Appendix 26).
Area allocated for extension at Paddock Road: update and clarification	<p>The area allocated at Paddock Road to accommodate re-provision of allotment land has been confirmed and updated from the original plan submitted in December 2014 (this was Appendix Bii. dated February 2013).</p> <p>An updated map is attached as Appendix Biii. Please note Appendix Biii supersedes Appendix Bii.</p> <p>The area identified in the updated plan (Appendix Biii) amounts to 2.7 hectares – in excess of the 2.63 hectares of allotment land at Farm Terrace.</p>