5.0 Design Process

5.3 Pre-Application - Follow Up 30th August 2022

The emerging layout work was "tested" against the wartime / post war character with the proposed built form distribution reasonably reflecting that of the barracks footprints. This approach was acknowledged as reflecting the wartime character.

The neighbourhood plan promotes that "the area has a low to medium density development character mainly made up of detached homes that should be preserved." Hence the proposals, particularly in the southern site are primarily detached dwellings in a courtyard arrangement around central trees.

This is interspersed with a terrace on to Victor Beamish Avenue, similar to those identified in the character appraisal.

Reflecting the linear nature of the barracks buildings the northern site is also a mix of terrace and smaller dwellings in a formal linear and 'quadrangle' layout with strong central axis framing the views to the airfield.



5.0 Design Process

5.4 Public Consultation - Spring 2023

A public consultation was convened at the school on 15th and 22nd March 2023, with a dedicated consultation on site website set up, and leaflet distribution to hundreds of local homes.

The presentation boards cover the lead in work as set out in this DAS. Cratus have produced a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)- the matters raised primarily related to:-

- Conservation, Heritage and Green Belt
- Parking and Transport
- Social Infrastructure
- Drainage and Trees















Next Steps...

Public Consultation Banners

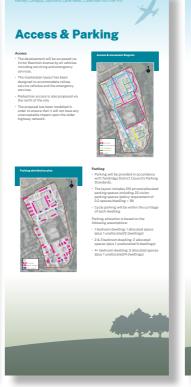














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5.0 Proposals

5.5 Emerging Figure Ground

The figure ground is used to continually "test" the emerging proposals.

The layout continued to evolve on the themes presented at pre-application and public consultation. The sense of arrival is an area which has been reconsidered on the basis of:

A: The curved figure ground replaced with more formal 'gate house' buildings in the same linear north / south orientation

B: The terrace is 'handed' with access to the east enabling the avenue of trees to be retained. In the final layout the terrace is centred on the courtyard.

C: The rectilinear orientation and the formality are homed as a balance with retaining trees within the structure of the layout.

D: The setting of the listed building and the terraces theme are reconsidered to the northern site.

E: The built forms along the avenue are more regularly positioned, respecting the existing tree line.





Emerging Figure Ground

5.0 Design Process

5.6 Emerging Proposals - Summer 2023

The southern courtyard is further formalised by centrally locating the terrace building to the southern site.

This layout is for 87 dwellings - Plot 21 is removed (Layout not renumbered - Plot 21 omitted) to further rationalise the configurations of this courtyard area.

The CAD base layout is honed to respect tree protection zones (TPZ) and to reinforce vistas of the layout. Victor Beamish Avenue retains its 'avenue' appearance with mature trees interspersed with detached dwellings in contrast to the courtyard and 'quadrangle' dispositions of the southern and northern sites.

This sense of arrival emphasises the linear north-south orientation of the layout as advocated by the neighbourhood plan with an "end stop" building and subtle deflection to access the northern residential.



Proposed Layout

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6.1 Site Layout Proposals

The proposals are supported by a suite of consultant reports, justifying the approach and general configuration of the layout. This is expanded in the parameter plans in Section 6.

The footprint "figure ground" has been considered and honed to reflect the "wartime character" which the Conservation Officer promotes as the driver of any development on this allocated site.

The linear avenue, courtyard and northern 'quadrangle' arrangements culminate at the central pedestrian axis and vista to the airfield. This 'backbone' to the site leads from the listed building northwards and is emphasised by the enclosure and scale of the buildings aligning the route. These linear terraces frame the views north and south and the "tightened" townscape provides a heart to the new community.

The proposals are for two, two and a half storey and three storey dwellings. This is based on the scale of the central listed building which, although two "commercial" storeys, equates to three domestic storeys in scale.

The taller buildings are concentrated on defining the northern vista as the central focus of the proposals. Public art and landscaping will emphasise this axis and view northwards. The linear vista is set within the wider northern 'quadrangle' of lower perimeter buildings with the eastern dwellings overlooking the parkland. This, with the avenue provide permeability around the listed building in its wider sylvian setting.

Victor Beamish Accessway is an uninterrupted avenue of trees with well spaced houses, reflecting the character of Caterham on the Hill. This connects the southern courtyard and northern quadrangle sites. The parkland to the east provides pedestrian connectivity south-north as an attractive meandering pathway.



Proposed Site Layout

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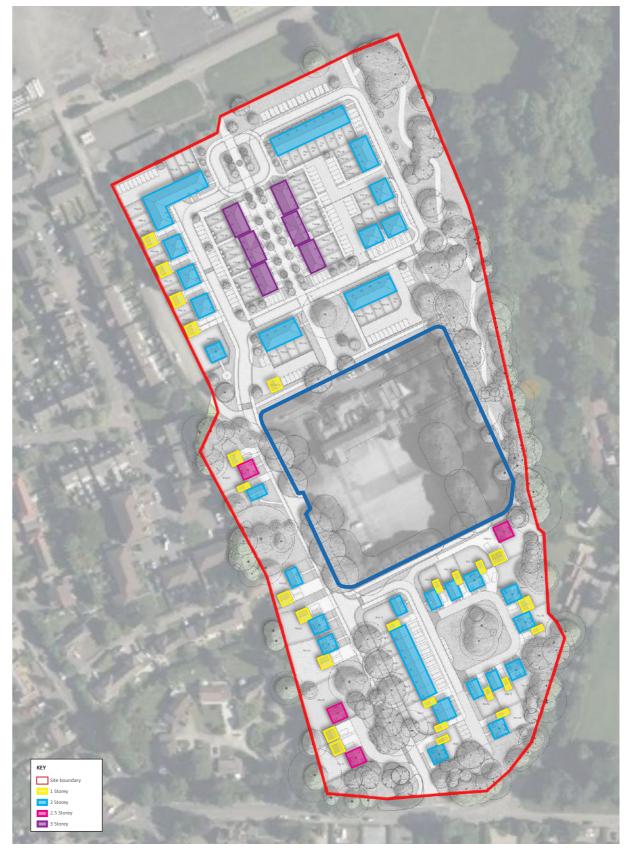
6.0 Proposals

6.2 Building Heights

The building heights diagram illustrates that the taller buildings are concentrated inboard to clearly define the central pedestrian axis and northern vista. The existing boundary residential is two and two half storeys and the majority of the proposed dwellings reflect this scale.

The two and half storey houses are primarily along the western avenue, with the dwellings at the entrance as "gatehouses", emphasising the sense of arrival. The avenue particularly illustrates the extent of tree retention within the proposals.

These mature existing trees exceed the heights of the listed building providing canopy and screening, particularly along the eastern parkland. The neighbourhood plan advocates that this view, from Whyteleafe to the east "be protected and where possible enhanced".



Building Heights Diagram