Committee: 3 July 2018 **Ward**: Charlemont with Grove Vale

DC/19/62696

Windyridge Property Investments Ltd.	Proposed 5 no. 3 bed houses and 4 no. 2 bed flats with associated landscaping and infrastructure.
	Land to The Rear Vicarage Road/Ebrington Road/Arlington Road West Bromwich

Date Valid Application Received 19 February 2019

1. Recommendations

Approval is recommended subject to the following conditions: -

- i) Levels;
- ii) Submission of a desk based archaeological assessment;
- iii) Installation of sprinkler systems in all dwellings;
- iv) Provision and retention of parking spaces including parking for 129a Vicarage Road;
- v) Approval of bin storage and bin management;
- vi) Submission of details relating to additional evergreen conifer planting along the boundaries of the site and implementation of all landscaping;
- vii) Drainage including SuDs;
- viii) Approval of boundary treatment;
- ix) Approval of external lighting;
- x) Satisfactory surfacing of all hard surfaces;
- xi) Secure cycle parking provision;
- xii) Restrictions on construction work and delivery times to avoid school drop off and pick up times;
- xiii) Removal of permitted development rights for extensions, roof alterations/enlargements and outbuildings;
- xiv) Details of secure gated access;
- xv) Installation of vehicle charging points; and
- xvi) Installation of removable bollards as shown on the submitted plan for emergency purposes, prior to occupation.

2. Observations

Site Surrounding

The application refers to vacant land (0.17 hectares approx) that is bounded by the rear gardens of houses fronting Arlington Road, Ebrington Road and Vicarage Road. The application site is irregular in shape and has a gentle slope running approximately from north to south. Natural vegetation has established itself in recent years, although the site was cleared in October 2018. For many years there was a tennis court on the site. The site has suffered from unauthorised dumping of green and household waste. Access to the site is gained via two narrow access ways leading off Ebrington Road and Arlington Road. I am advised that neighbouring residents have a legal right to use the drive ways for access to the rear gardens.

Planning History

This is the ninth application submitted since July 2011 for the residential redevelopment of the application site. The most recent approval was for 3 dwellings in a flatted arrangement on the half of the site (DC/18/61609). The planning history is as follows: -

DC/18/61609	Proposed 3 No. dwellings (outline application for access).	Approved 12/6/18
DC/17/61238:	Outline application for 5 no. Dwelling (access only) (half of the site)	Approved 25/1/18
DC/16/60101:	Outline application for 4 no. Houses (access only)	Approved 15/3/17
DC/16/60100:	Outline application for 5 no. Houses (access only)	Approved 15/3/17
DC/16/59164:	Reserved Matters for 4 no. Bungalows (appearance, Layout, scale & landscaping	Approved 16/4/16)

DC/12/55465: Outline application for 4 no. Approved

Bungalows (revision to 27/3/13

DC/12/54875)

DC/12/54875: Outline application for 3 no. Approved

Bungalows 31/10/12

DC/11/53351: Outline application for 2 no. Refused 22/07/11

Bungalow Allowed on appeal

27/06/12

I can advise your Committee that when DC/11/53351 was refused by Planning Committee, contrary to officer recommendation, it was allowed on appeal and the applicant was awarded substantial costs.

Current Proposals

This is a full planning application for nine dwellings comprising of five, three-bed houses and four, two-bed flats. The main differences between this application and previously approved submissions is that the originally divided site has now been submitted as one larger proposal site and that there would be a new vehicular access drive off Vicarage Road, added to the access drives off Arlington Road and Ebrington Road that were previously approved.

The five, two-storey houses would be located on the east side of the site and each dwelling would have private garden space with two parking spaces per dwelling. The four, two-storey flats would be located on the west side of the site in one block. One parking space would be provided per dwelling with an additional visitor space. Construction would be in brick and the design would be traditional.

The proposed access drive, off Vicarage Road would be formed between 129a and 131 Vicarage Road, utilising part of the front and rear gardens of 129a Vicarage Road. At its widest point (entrance to Vicarage Road) it would be 4.8m wide narrowing to 3.1m as it extends into the site. There would be sufficient room at the front of the drive for two vehicles to pass. Two parking spaces would be provided within the remaining front garden of 129a Vicarage Road to serve this dwelling.

A design and access statement, planning statement, coal mining risk assessment, and transport statement have been submitted with the application.

A landscaping scheme has also been submitted with the application identifying hedging as well as heavy standard Leylandii trees positioned along part of the boundaries.

In support of the application the applicant advises that this is an improvement over the previously consented schemes in terms of proposed access arrangements. In summary, the access would comprise a shared private driveway 4.8m wide at the junction with Vicarage Road then reducing to 3.1m in accordance with Sandwell Highway design standards. No separate pedestrian footpath is proposed along the accessway. The design has been prepared and agreed at pre-application stage.

Publicity

The application has been publicised by neighbour notification. I have received 11 objections summarised as follows: -

- (i) Loss of light and privacy.
- (ii) Vicarage Road is already too busy to accommodate another access point and that the transport statement does not reflect the hazards and issues present already on Vicarage Road.
- (iii) Likelihood of cars blocking drive ways.
- (iv) Access problems.
- (v) Problems for emergency access vehicles and that sprinkler systems may not be sufficient.
- (vi) One resident considers that the new drive width has been inaccurately measured suggesting that the 3.1m width is between 2.78m and 2.85m, narrower than shown on the plan and that the drive was never intended to serve anything other than 129 and 129A Vicarage Road.
- (vii) Devaluation of house prices.
- (viii) Impact on wildlife and loss of trees.
- (ix) The houses are out of character with the area and overdevelopment of the site.
- (x) The development would increase traffic movements on roads already congested with on-street parking and close to a school, with concerns about the safety of children;
- (xi) Concern about refuse collections.
- (xii) Concern about construction traffic/disruption.

A supporting letter has also been received advising that the site has been untidy for a long time, attracting anti-social behaviour and rubbish and that the proposed housing would ensure significant environmental improvement.

Consultation Responses

West Midlands Fire Service raised no objections to all previous applications subject to the installation of sprinkler systems in each dwelling because the access drives are too narrow for a fire engine to pass through.

West Midlands Ambulance Service did not respond to the previous application and were therefore not consulted on this application. However, upon determination of earlier applications the Ambulance Service confirmed that they had no objections regarding accessibility to the site.

The Head of Highways has no objections.

From a policy perspective the principle of residential development on this site has been accepted with previous approvals and therefore the site accords to Policy SAD H2 (Windfalls). Policy ENV5 (Sustainable drainage) is relevant and the site also falls within an area of potential archaeological importance. These issues can be controlled by condition. The proposal is liable to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

Responses to Objections

In response to the individual points raised I comment as follows: -

- (i) Spatially the proposed development would not compromise nearby residential amenity because the separation distances between the proposed dwellings and existing properties exceed the minimum standards set out in the Residential Design Guide of 14m between primary and secondary elevations and 21m between primary elevations. In this case the minimum distance between all elevations is 21m. Furthermore, it is suggested that additional evergreen trees are planted along the boundaries.
- (ii) Head of Highways has no objections following the introduction of a third access point off Vicarage Road.
- (iii) Refer to point (ii) above.

- (iv) Refer to point (ii) above.
- (v) West Midlands Fire Service and West Midlands Ambulance Service have no objections.
- (vi) The measurements identified by the objector have been put forward to the applicant for comments. However, if your Committee are minded to approve the application, the development including the access drive, would need to be built in accordance with the approved plans and measurements shown.
- (vii) Devaluation of house prices is not a material planning consideration.
- (viii) There is no doubt that while the site has been unused, vegetation has naturally grown along with an increase in wildlife, but the loss of this can be compensated for by new landscape planting. Furthermore, the existing trees on the site are unprotected.
- (ix) The proposals accord to the Council's adopted residential design guide in terms of living standards, spatial separation, amenity space and parking standards. Also, it is considered that the two-storey development would be inkeeping with surrounding property. The design of the development is of a traditional design that will be seen in isolation rather than in context to the adjoining street scene.
- (x) Refer to point (ii) above.
- (xi) Refuse storage arrangements can be controlled by planning condition. However, the applicant has advised that refuse collection would be undertaken by a private contractor.
- (xii) Construction hours/deliveries can be controlled by planning condition. Deliveries can be restricted to avoid school drop off/pick up times.

Determining Issues, Planning Policy and Other Material Considerations

The issues to be considered with this application are whether the proposal for 9 dwellings is acceptable and whether the additional access drive is acceptable.

With reference to the latter point, it has already been established that the site could accommodate 9 dwellings, agreed in previous planning application submissions. The suitability of the site for residential development has also been accepted by an appointed Planning Inspector, originally for 2 dwellings but where the Inspector concluded that the site could accommodate more than

the originally approved two dwellings without harm. I am satisfied that the design of the dwellings is acceptable, and that the development would not cause undue hard to neighbouring residential property from loss of light, privacy or outlook.

With reference to access, under previous consents access arrangements were unsatisfactory from a Highway Safety view point but significant weight had to be attached to the views of the appointed Planning Inspector who deemed the two narrow access arrangements to be acceptable. However, with this fresh planning application pre-application discussions with Highways have taken place to provide a third, and in part wider, access drive which, used alongside the access points off Ebrington Road and Arlington Road, render the proposed access arrangements acceptable. Upon consideration of the appeal in 2011 The Inspector states "Even if the scheme did result in more than four properties using either drive, personal safety would not be put at undue risk".

Conclusion

The principle of residential development has already been accepted for nine dwellings on this site through a long and complicated planning history of an appeal decision and subsequent planning applications. The new access arrangements overcome earlier highway concerns. The redevelopment of the site is therefore supported.

3. <u>Central Government Guidance</u>

National Planning Policy Framework promotes sustainable development.

4. <u>Development Plan Policy</u>

BCCS:-

CSP4 - Place-Making

ENV1 - Nature Conservation

ENV3 - Design Quality

SADD:-

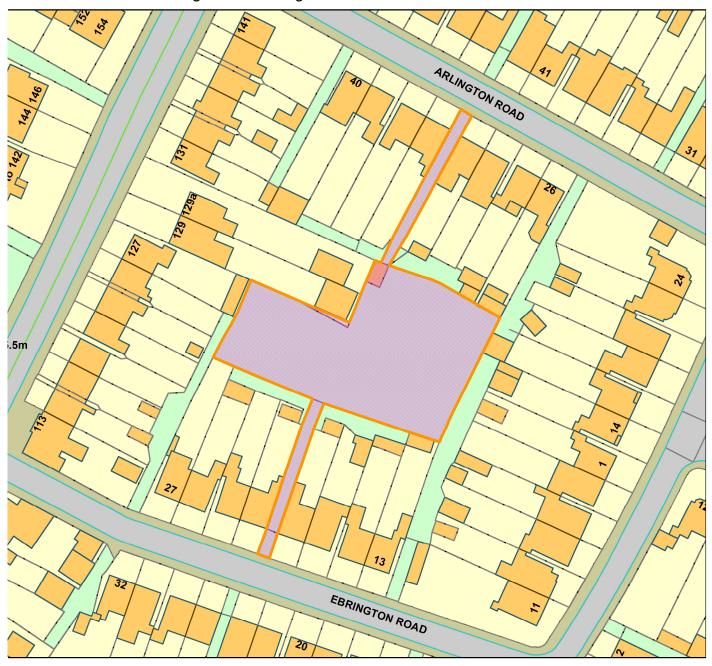
SAD H2 – Housing Windfalls SAD HE5 – Archaeology and Development Proposals

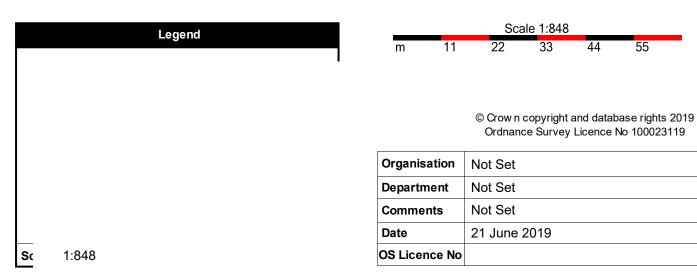
5. Contact Officer

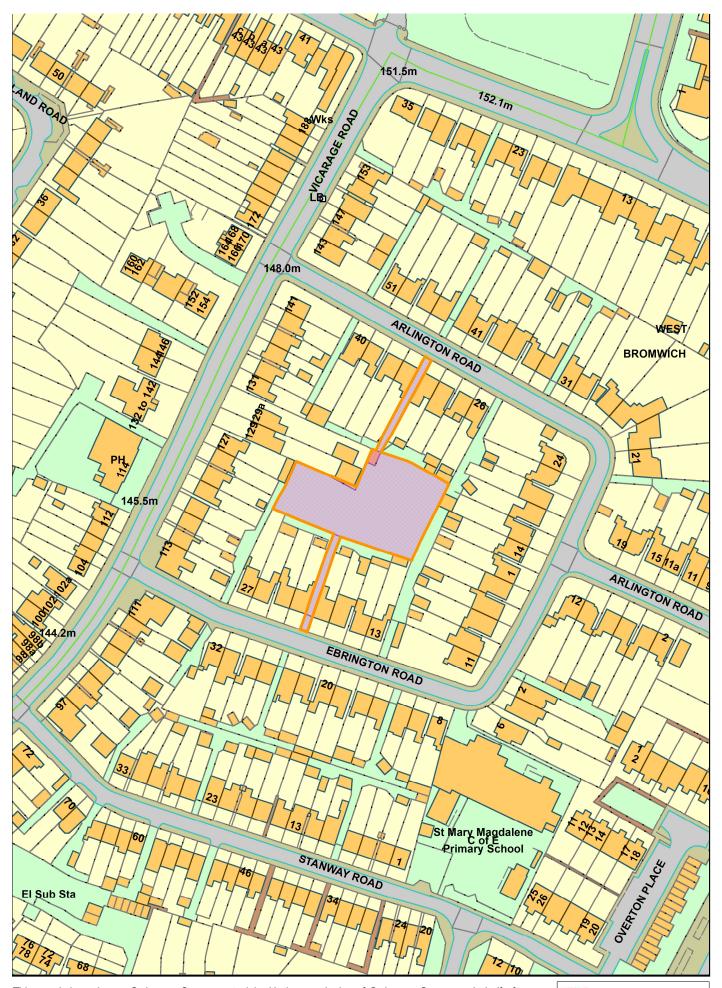
Mrs Christine Phillips 0121 569 4040 christine_phillips@sandwell.gov.uk



DC/19/62696 Land to the rear of Vicarage Road/Ebrington Road

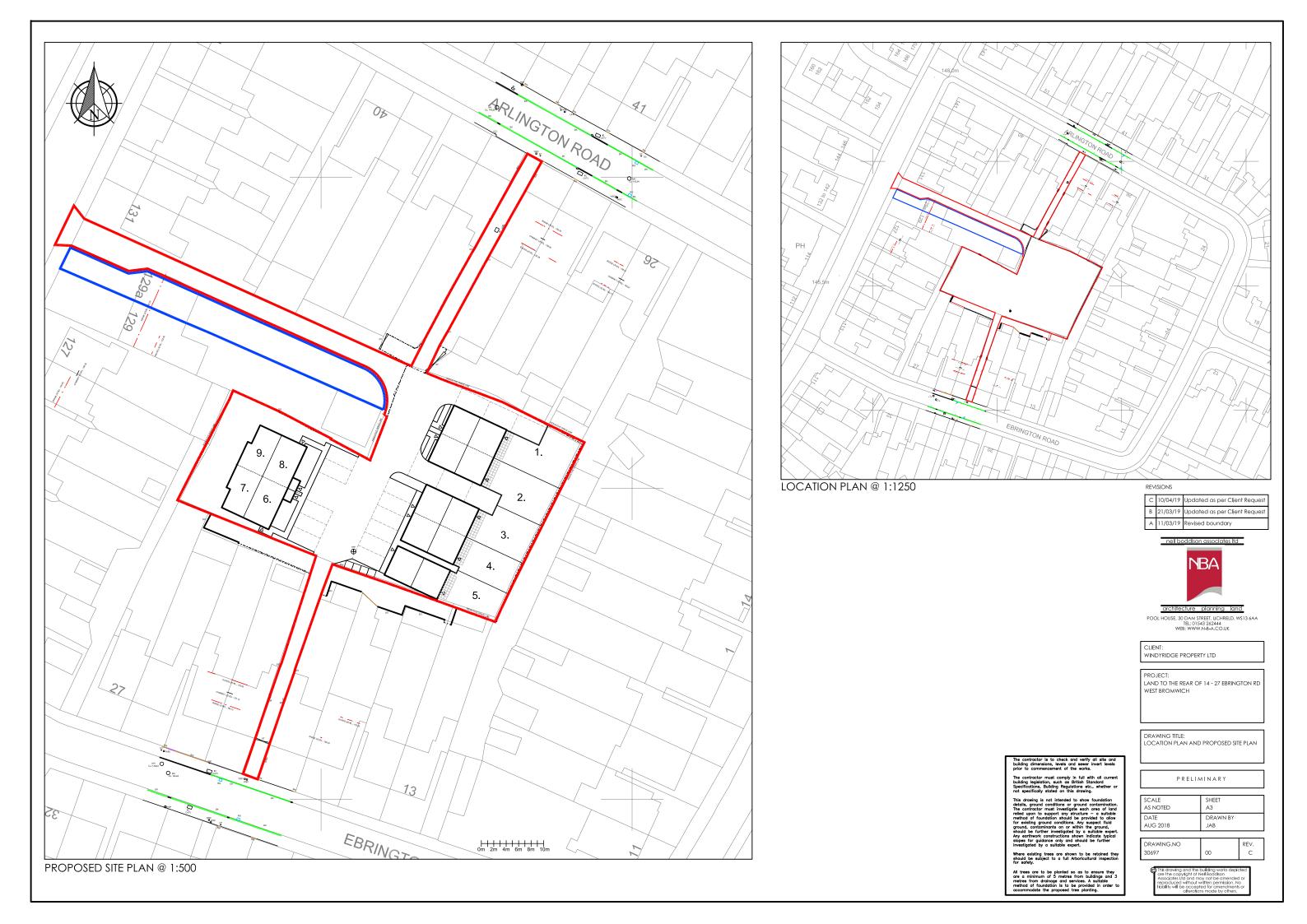






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Marke points



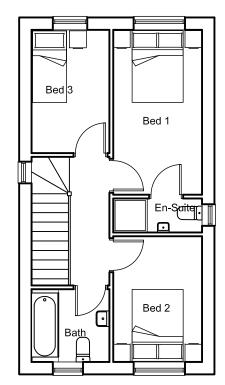




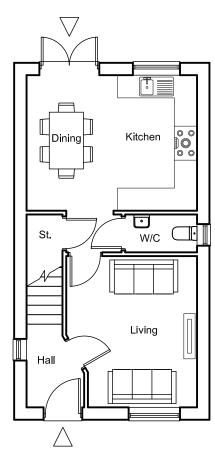


Proposed Rear Elevation

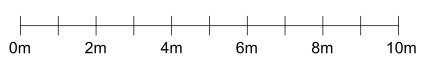
Proposed Side Elevation



Proposed First Floor Plan



Proposed Ground Floor Plan











CLIENT: WINDYRIDGE PROPERTY LTD

PROJECT: LAND TO THE REAR OF 14 - 27 EBRINGTON RD WEST BROMWICH

DRAWING TITLE:

PLOT 5 PROPOSED FLOOR PLANS & ELEVATIONS

PRELIMINARY

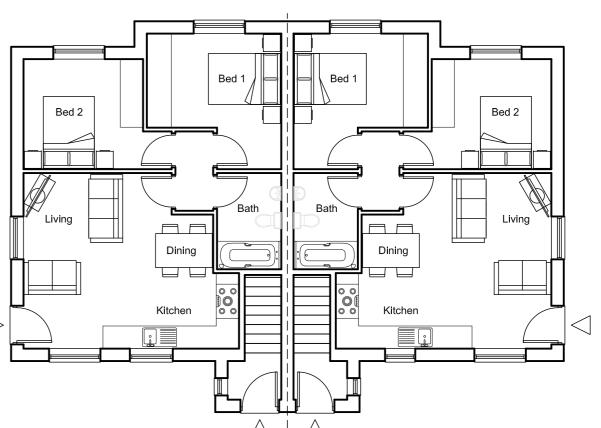
SCALE 1:100	SHEET A3
DATE JAN 2019	DRAWN BY JAB

DRAWING.NO		REV.
30697	03	



Proposed Side Elevation

Proposed Rear Elevation





Proposed Ground Floor Plan



The contractor is to check and verify all site and building dimensions, levels and sewer invert levels prior to commencement of the works.

The contractor must comply in full with all current building legislation, such as British Standard Specifications, Building Regulations etc., whether or not specifically stated on this drawing.

This drawing is not intended to show foundation details, ground conditions or ground contamination. The contractor must investigate each area of land relied upon to support any structure — a suitable method of foundation should be provided to allow for existing ground conditions. Any suspect fluid ground, contaminants on or within the ground, should be further investigated by a suitable expert. Any earthwork constructions shown indicate typical slopes for guidance only and should be further investigated by a suitable expert.

All trees are to be planted so as to ensure they are a minimum of 5 metres from buildings and 3 metres from drainage and services. A suitable method of foundation is to be provided in order to accommodate the proposed tree planting.

neil boddison associates Itd



architecture planning land POOL HOUSE, 30 DAM STREET, LICHFIELD, WS13 6AA TEL: 01543 262444 WEB: WWW.N-B-A.CO.UK

CLIENT: WINDYRIDGE PROPERTY LTD

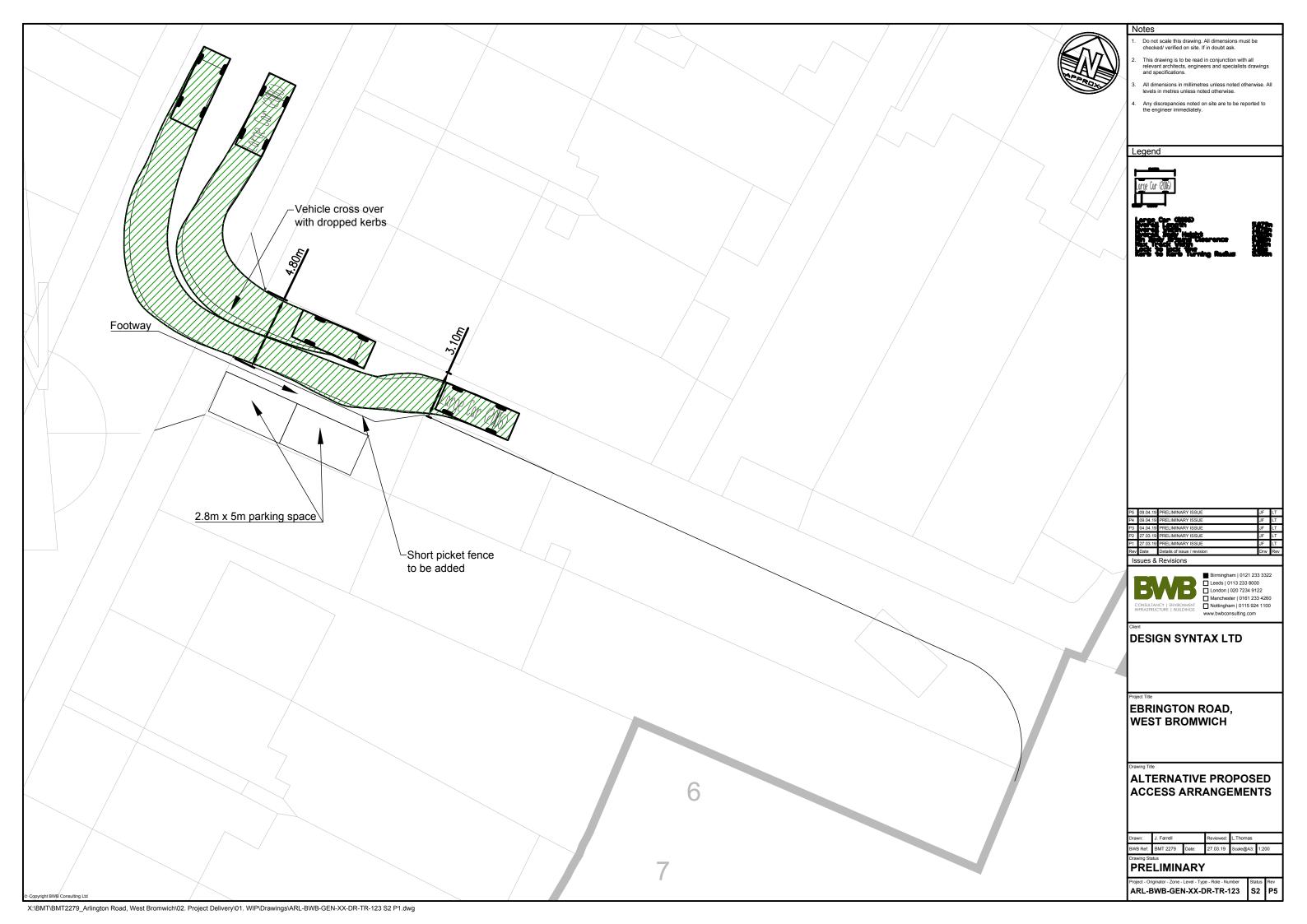
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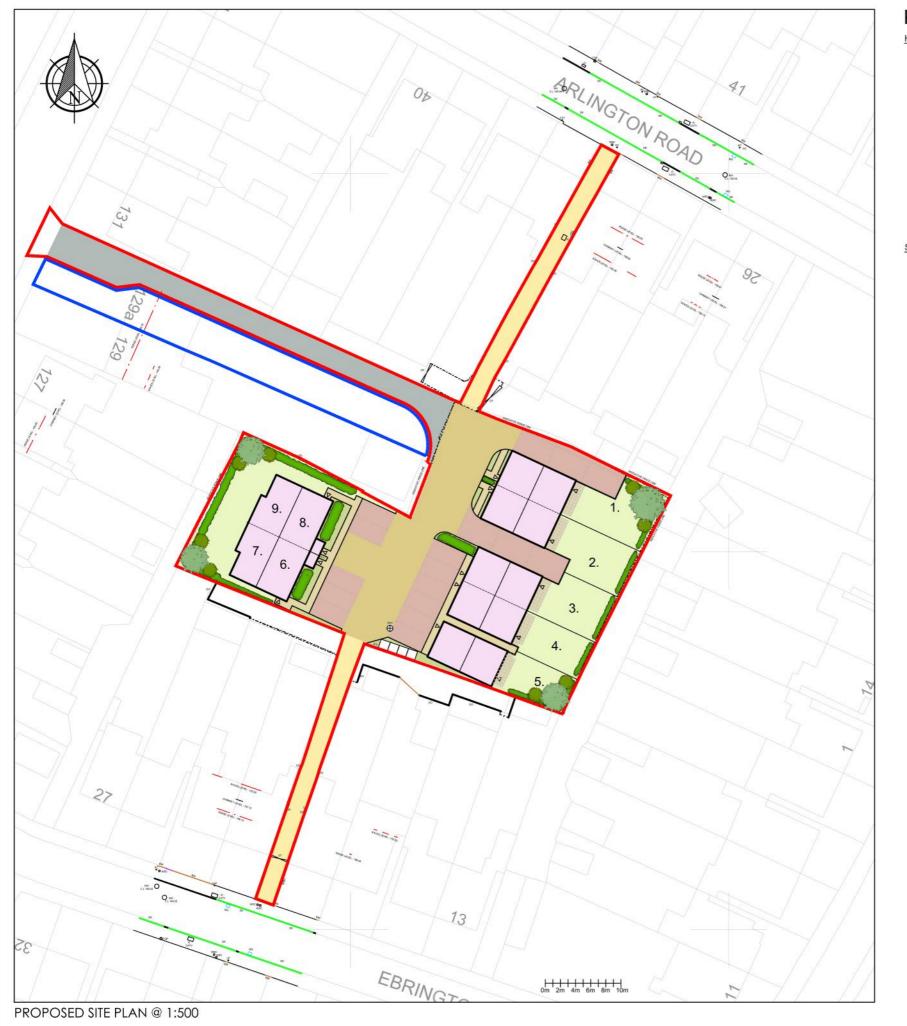
DRAWING TITLE: PLOTS 6-9 PROPOSED FLOOR PLANS & ELEVATIONS

PRELIMINARY

SCALE 1:100	SHEET A2
DATE JAN 2019	DRAWN BY JAB

DRAWING.NO REV. 30697





KEY

HARD LANDSCAPE KEY



BUILDING



SLAB PAVING TO PATHS AND PATIOS

PERMEABLE GRAVEL



TARMAC



COLOURED BLOCK PAVING SURFACING TO ROAD Colour to suit adjacent hard surface areas e.g. buff



BLOCK PAVING TO FRONT



FENCE

SOFT LANDSCAPE KEY



HEAVY STANDARD TREES Cupressusocyparis Laylandii 10-12cm girth 5L Pot



SPECIMEN SHRUBS (300mm depth of topsoil)

Supply Size Size 600-800mm 10L Species Hamamelis mollis Viburnum x burkwoodii 600-800mm 10L



PROPOSED HEDGEROW (300mm depth of topsoil) NATIVE HEDGE Planted at 450mm centres in a double staggered row. Rows to be 400mm apart.

% Species
100% Carpinus betulus Supply Size 600-800mm

ORNAMENTAL HEDGE
Planted at 400mm centres in a single row.

Supply Size 400-600mm Pot Size Species 100% Escallonia 'Apple Blossom'



PROPOSED ORNAMENTAL PLANTING

(Southin deput of topsoil)			
Species	Supply Size	Pot Size	Spacing
Anemone x hybrida 'Honorine Jobert'	Strong Clump	2L	500mm c/s
Bergenia 'Silberlicht'	Strong Clump	2L	400mm c/s
Cornus alba 'Sibirica'	600-800mm	3L	600mm c/s
Cornus stolonifera 'Kelseyi'	400-600mm	3L	450mm c/s
Geranium macrorrhizum 'Album'	Strong Clump	2L	400mm c/s
Helleborus orientalis	Strong Clump	2L	400mm c/s
Liriope muscari 'Big Blue'	Strong Clump	2L	400mm c/s
Lonicera pileata	300-400mm	2L	500mm c/s
Pachysandara terminalis	150-200mm	2L	400mm c/s
Persicaria affinis 'Darjeeling Red'	Strong Clump	2L	300mm c/s
Rosa 'Kent'	300-400mm	3L	450mm c/s
Sarcococca hookeriana var. humilis	200-300mm	2L	400mm c/s
Vinca minor 'Bowles Variety'	200-300mm	2L	400mm c/s



PROPOSED MOWN GRASS TO FRONT OF PRIVATE PROPERTY (150mm depth of topsoil)



PROPOSED MOWN GRASS TO REAR OF PRIVATE PROPERTY

(150mm depth of topsoil)



SITE BOUNDARY

REVISIONS

В	24/04/19	Materials updated	
Α	10/04/19	Revised to match site plan	_



POOL HOUSE, 30 DAM STREET, UCHFIELD, WS13 6AA TEL: 01543 262444 WEB: WWW.N-B-A.CO.UK

CLIENT: WINDYRIDGE PROPERTY LTD

PROJECT: LAND TO THE REAR OF 14 - 27 EBRINGTON RD WEST BROMWICH

DRAWING TITLE: LANDSCAPING PLAN

PRELIMINARY

SCALE AS NOTED DRAWN BY AUG 2018

REV. 30697