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NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

DECISION NOTICE

Correspondence Address:

AJ Planning And Development
Office 14
35 Stow Park Circle
Newport
NP20 4HF

Applicant:

PARTICULARS OF DEVELOPMENT

Application: 25/01514/FP

Proposal: Erection of shop, forecourt canopy, car and jet wash, car and cycle parking, EV vehicle charging points, hard and soft landscaping, and bin stores following demolition of existing buildings (as amended by plans received 1st September 2025, 27th January 2026, and 3rd February 2026)

Location: Whitehorse Service Station, Clothall Road, Baldock, Hertfordshire, SG7 6PD

Plan Nos: Existing Elevations B and C Existing Elevations A and D
Existing Floor Plans 1110-LA-P-01 P1 Topographic Survey
1209 100.P2 1209 102.P3 1209 200-PFS.P7 1209 201-PFS.P3
1209 400-PFS.P5 1209 401-PFS.P5 1209.420.P1 1209 421.P1
Proposed Elevations 1209 104.P1

PARTICULARS OF DECISION

In pursuance of its powers under the above Act and the associated Orders and Regulations, the Council hereby **GRANT PERMISSION** for the development proposed by you in your application received with sufficient particulars on 1 July 2025, subject to the following condition(s):

Biodiversity Net Gain

1. This development is not subject to the statutory Biodiversity Gain Plan condition because it is considered exempt under the statutory exemptions (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-net-gain-exempt-developments>) or transitional arrangements in respect of the biodiversity gain condition.

Planning Conditions

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with the provisions of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out wholly in accordance with the details specified in the application and supporting approved documents and plans listed above.

Reason: To ensure the development is carried out in accordance with details which form the basis of this grant of permission.

3. No development shall commence until a Construction Management Plan has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, including elements of the CLOCS standards as set out in the Highway Authority's Construction Management template. Thereafter the construction of the development shall only be carried out in accordance with the approved Plan: The Construction

Method shall include details of:

- a. Access arrangements to the site;
- b. Traffic management requirements
- c. Construction and storage compounds (including areas designated for car parking, loading/unloading and turning areas);
- d. Siting and details of wheel washing facilities;
- e. Cleaning of site entrances, site tracks and the adjacent public highway;
- f. Timing of construction activities (including delivery times and removal of waste) and to avoid school pick up/drop off times;
- g. Provision of sufficient on-site parking prior to commencement of construction activities;
- h. Post construction restoration/reinstatement of the working areas and temporary access to the public highway; and
- i. where works cannot be contained wholly within the site a plan should be submitted showing the site layout on the highway including extent of hoarding, pedestrian routes and remaining road width for vehicle movements.

Reason: In order to protect highway safety and the amenity of other users of the public highway and rights of way in accordance with Policies 5, 12, 17 and 22 of

Hertfordshire's Local Transport Plan (adopted 2018), Policy SADM2 of the Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework.

4. Construction shall not begin until a detailed surface water drainage scheme for the site has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The surface water drainage scheme must prioritise the use of source control Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) in consideration of the National Standards for SuDS and demonstrate no increase in flood risk as a result of the Proposed Development with sufficient supporting evidence provided to support its viability including supporting calculations for the 100% AEP (1 in 1 year), 3.33% AEP (1 in 30 year), 3.33% AEP (1 in 30 year) plus climate change, the 1% AEP (1 in 100 year) and the 1% AEP (1 in 100) plus climate change critical storms. The scheme should include any required agreements from accepting authorities. The scheme shall subsequently be implemented in accordance with the approved details before the development is completed.

Reason: To ensure the flood risk is adequately addressed and not increased in accordance with NPPF and Policies of North Herts Council.

5. The development hereby approved shall not be occupied until details of the maintenance and management of the sustainable drainage scheme have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The drainage scheme shall be implemented prior to the first occupation of the development hereby approved and thereafter managed and maintained in accordance with the approved details in perpetuity. The Local Planning Authority shall be granted access to inspect the sustainable drainage scheme for the lifetime of the development. The details of the scheme to be submitted for approval shall include:

- I. a timetable for its implementation.
- II. details of SuDS feature and connecting drainage structures and maintenance requirement for each aspect including a drawing showing where they are located.
- III. a management and maintenance plan for the lifetime of the development which shall include the arrangements for adoption by any public body or statutory undertaker, or any other arrangements to secure the operation of the sustainable drainage scheme throughout its lifetime. This will include the name and contact details of any appointed management company.

Reason: To ensure that the development achieves a high standard of sustainability and ensure the flood risk is adequately addressed for each new dwelling and not increased in accordance with NPPF and Policies of North Herts Council.

6. Prior to the first use of the development, a detailed verification report, (appended with substantiating evidence demonstrating the approved construction details and specifications have been implemented in accordance with the surface water

drainage scheme), has been submitted to and approved (in writing) by the Local Planning Authority. The verification report shall include a full set of "as built" drawings plus photographs of excavations (including soil profiles/horizons), any installation of any surface water drainage structures and control mechanisms.

Reason: To ensure that the development achieves a high standard of sustainability and ensure the flood risk is adequately addressed for each new dwelling and not increased in accordance with NPPF and Policies of North Herts Council.

7. No development approved by this planning permission shall commence until a remediation strategy to deal with the risks associated with contamination of the site in respect of the development hereby permitted has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the LPA. This strategy will include the following components:
 1. A detailed site investigation scheme, based on the results from document titled 'Phase One Environmental Assessment Report (Preliminary Risk Assessment)', by Subadra (ref: IN25210 CL 001, dated Sept 2025) to provide information for a detailed risk assessment to all receptors that may be affected, including those off-site.
 2. A tiered risk assessment using the results of the site investigation referred to in (2).
 3. An options appraisal including sustainability and treatability studies of the remediation measures required and how they are to be undertaken.
 4. A remediation strategy and verification plan providing details of the data that will be collected in order to demonstrate that the works set out in the remediation strategy are complete; and identifying any requirements for longer-term monitoring of pollutant linkages, mitigation, maintenance and arrangements for contingency action.

Any changes to these components require the written consent of the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall be implemented as approved.

Reason: To ensure that the development does not contribute to, and is not put at unacceptable risk from or adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of water pollution in line with paragraph 187 of the NPPF.

8. Prior to any part of the permitted development a verification report demonstrating the completion of works set out in the approved remediation strategy and the effectiveness of the remediation shall be submitted to, and approved in writing, by the LPA. The report shall include results of sampling and monitoring carried out in accordance with the approved verification plan to demonstrate that the site remediation criteria have been met.

Reason: To ensure that the site does not pose any further risk to the land and water environment by demonstrating that the requirements of the approved verification plan have been met and that remediation of the site is complete. This is in line with paragraph 187 of the NPPF.

9. The development hereby permitted may not commence until such time as a detailed scheme for groundwater monitoring in respect of contamination has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the LPA. The scheme shall, where necessary, be supported by: detailed sampling and analytical schedules; programme for future maintenance and decommissioning; schedule for submission of interim and final monitoring reports contingency action plan including the list of potential mitigation measures that will be implemented, should unexpected changes in groundwater quality be noted as a result of decommissioning or redevelopment works. The scheme shall be fully implemented and subsequently maintained, in accordance with the timing/phasing arrangements embodied within the scheme, or any details as may subsequently be agreed, in writing, by the LPA.

Reason: To ensure that the site does not pose any further risk to the water environment by managing any ongoing contamination issues and completing all necessary long-term remediation measures. This is in line with paragraph 187 of the NPPF.

10. If, during development, contamination not previously identified is found to be present at the site then no further development (unless otherwise agreed in writing with the LPA) shall be carried out until further investigation and a remediation strategy detailing how this contamination will be dealt with has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the LPA. The remediation strategy shall be implemented as approved.

Reason: To ensure that the development does not contribute to, and is not put at unacceptable risk from or adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of water pollution from previously unidentified contamination sources at the development site. This is in line with paragraph 187 of the NPPF.

11. Piling (or other foundation designs undertaken using penetrative methods) hereby permitted by the LPA may not commence until such time as a scheme has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the LPA. The scheme shall be based on the information submitted as part of the application and, where necessary, supported by: a foundation works risk assessment; a conceptual site model; specification of the type, number and depth of piles/foundations; a detailed groundwater monitoring programme including a schedule for submission of interim and final monitoring reports; a contingency action plan including the list of potential mitigation measures that will be implemented, should unexpected changes in groundwater quality be noted as a result of piling/foundation works; timing/phasing arrangements. The scheme shall be fully implemented and subsequently maintained, in accordance with the timing/phasing arrangements contained in the scheme, or any details as may subsequently be agreed, in writing, by the LPA.

Reason: To ensure that piling/foundation works do not harm groundwater resources, in line with paragraph 187 of the NPPF.

12. No drainage systems for the infiltration of surface water to the ground are permitted other than with the written consent of the LPA. Any proposals for such

systems must be supported by an assessment of the risks to controlled waters. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure that the development does not contribute to, and is not put at unacceptable risk from or adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of water pollution caused by mobilised contaminants. This is in line with paragraph 187 of the NPPF.

13. The development hereby permitted shall not commence until such time as a scheme to install underground tanks has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the LPA. The scheme shall include the full structural details of the installation, including details of: excavations, tanks, tank surrounds, associated pipework and monitoring systems. The scheme shall be fully implemented and subsequently maintained, in accordance with the scheme, or any changes subsequently agreed, in writing, by the LPA.

Reason: To ensure that the underground storage tanks do not harm the water environment in line with paragraph 187 of the NPPF.

14. A No demolition/development shall take place/commence until an Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of archaeological significance and research questions; and:
 1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording
 2. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording as suggested by the archaeological evaluation
 3. The programme for post investigation assessment
 4. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording
 5. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation
 6. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation
 7. Provision to be made for public engagement and interpretation
 8. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation.

15. B The demolition/development shall take place/commence in accordance with the programme of archaeological works set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A)

16. C The development shall not be occupied/used until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis and publication where appropriate.

17. The approved details of landscaping as set out in Landscaping Strategy Plan (1110-LA-P-01 P1) shall be carried out before the end of the first planting season

following either the first occupation of any 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 or become seriously damaged or diseased, shall be replaced during the next planting season with others of similar size and species, unless the Local Planning Authority agrees in writing to vary or dispense with this requirement.

Reason: To safeguard and enhance the appearance of the completed development and the visual amenity of the locality, and to comply with Policy NE2 of the North Hertfordshire Local Plan 2011 to 2031.

18. All external lighting shall be installed in accordance with the specifications and locations set out in the strategy, and these shall be maintained thereafter in accordance with the strategy. Under no circumstances should any other external lighting be installed without prior consent from the local planning authority.

Reason: To protect neighbouring amenity in line with Policy D3 of the North Hertfordshire Local Plan 2011 to 2031.

19. The car wash, jet wash and vacuum shall only be used between the hours of 0800 to 2000 daily.

The shop shall only operate between the hours of 06:00 to 22:00 daily.

Reason: To protect the amenity of neighbouring residents in accordance with Policy D3 of the North Hertfordshire Local Plan 2011 to 2031.

Proactive Statement:

Planning permission has been granted for this proposal. Discussion with the applicant to seek an acceptable solution was not necessary in this instance. The Council has therefore acted proactively in line with the requirements of the Framework (paragraph 38) and in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.

Signed:



Shaun Greaves
Development and Conservation Manager

Development Management
North Hertfordshire District Council
Council Offices
Gernon Road
Letchworth
Herts
SG6 3JF

Date: 3 June 2026

The Council's Privacy Notice is available on our website: <https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/home/council-data-and-performance/data-protection/information-management-gdpr>

NOTES

- 1 **Failure to satisfy conditions may invalidate this permission and/or result in enforcement action. Particular attention should be paid to the requirements of any condition in bold.**
- 2 Applicants will need to pay a compliance fee where they request confirmation in writing of any planning consent, agreement or approval (commonly known as discharge of conditions) required by one or more conditions or limitations attached to a grant of planning permission.
- 3 The fee is £309 per request or £89 where the permission relates to an extension or alteration to a dwellinghouse or other development in the curtilage of the dwellinghouse.

The request can be informal through the submission of a letter or plans, or formal through the completion of an application form and the submission of plans. Any number of conditions may be included on a single request. The form is available via the Council's website:
www.north-herts.gov.uk/home/planning/planning-applications/submit-planning-application
- 4 If the development hereby permitted is one that will require a new postal address/es then please contact the Council's **street naming and numbering service** on 01462 474431 or email SNN@north-herts.gov.uk who will advise you on how to apply for the new address/es.

Any proposed sales and/or marketing name to be adopted by the developer should be forwarded to the **street naming and numbering service**, prior to any publication of the site details and sales information.
- 5 If you are aggrieved by the decision of your local planning authority (LPA) to refuse permission for the proposed development or to grant it subject to conditions, then

you can appeal to the Secretary of State under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

If you want to appeal against your local planning authority's decision then you must do so within 6 months of the date of this notice.

However, if an enforcement notice has been served for the same or very similar development the time limit is 28 days from the date of the LPA decision or 28 days from the date the enforcement notice was served.

Appeals can be made online at: <https://www.gov.uk/appeal-planning-decision>

If you are unable to access the online appeal form, please contact the Planning Inspectorate to obtain a paper copy of the appeal form on tel: 0303 444 5000.

The Secretary of State can allow a longer period for giving notice of an appeal, but he will not normally be prepared to use this power unless there are special circumstances which excuse the delay in giving notice of appeal.

The Secretary of State need not consider an appeal if it seems to him that the local planning authority could not have granted planning permission for the proposed development or could not have granted it without the conditions they imposed, having regard to the statutory requirements, to the provisions of any development order and to any directions given under a development order.

In practice, the Secretary of State does not refuse to consider appeals solely because the local planning authority based their decision on a direction given by him.

6 Purchase Notices

If either the local planning authority or the Secretary of State refuses permission to develop land or grants it subject to conditions, the owner may claim that he can neither put the land to a reasonably beneficial use in its existing state nor render the land capable of a reasonably beneficial use by the carrying out of any development which has been or would be permitted.

In these circumstances, the owner may serve a purchase notice on the Council (District Council, London Borough Council or Common Council of the City of London) in whose area the land is situated. This notice will require the Council to purchase his interest in the land in accordance with the provisions of Part VI of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

7 The District Council and County Highway Authority wish to ensure that, in the

implementation of the development, hereby approved, the highway verge adjacent to the property is not damaged or does not become unsightly due to the stationing of skips, parking of vehicles, storing of building materials etc thereon. Your attention is, therefore, drawn to the provisions of Section 131 of the Highways Act 1980 and to the Hertfordshire County Council Bylaws 1955 (specifically relating to grass margins and verges in Letchworth Garden City) by virtue of which such actions, unless authorised by the prior grant of a licence, constitute a prosecutable offence. Persons responsible for undertaking the development and any associated works are, therefore, strongly encouraged to take appropriate steps to ensure that no breach of the said legislation occurs during the course of such activities. In the event of any damage being caused it will be expected that suitable reinstatement is undertaken upon completion of the development. Failure to do so could also result in legal action being pursued. To obtain information regarding the issue of licences, contact Hertfordshire Highways, Hertfordshire County Council, County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG138DQ or telephone 0300 1234 047.

8 **Cadent Gas Informative:**

Cadent Gas own and operate the gas infrastructure within the area of your development. Contact our Plant Protection Team for approval before carrying out any works on site and ensuring requirements are adhered to. Email plantprotection@cadentgas.com Alternatively you can register on www.beforeyoudig.cadentgas.com This service is free of charge.

THIS PLANNING PERMISSION DOES NOT CONSTITUTE APPROVAL UNDER BUILDING REGULATIONS AND IS NOT A LISTED BUILDING CONSENT OR CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT. IT DOES NOT CONVEY ANY APPROVAL OR CONSENT WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED UNDER ANY ENACTMENT, BYELAW, ORDER OR REGULATION OTHER THAN SECTION 57 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990.