Committee Date: 31/10/2013 Application Number: 2013/06971/PA
Accepted: 13/09/2013 Application Type: Full Planning
Target Date: 08/11/2013
Ward: Brandwood

Lindsworth School, Monyhull Hall Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham, B30 3QA

Retention of single storey modular building to form 3 new classrooms.

Applicant: Birmingham City Council
Children Young People & Families
Agent: CS Surveying & Architectural Design
1 Clock Court, Campbell Way, Dinnington, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S25 3QD

Recommendation
Approve Temporary

1. Proposal

1.1. This retrospective application proposes the retention of a temporary classroom block within school grounds which has been recently installed. It measures 12m wide x 12.5m deep x 3.5m high and contains 3 classrooms and a store room.

1.2. Lindsworth School caters for secondary age pupils with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties and currently consists of 20 difference buildings spread across a large site. The physical nature of the site raises challenges for the management of behaviour and well-being of the pupils and there is a long term plan to rationalise the site but this is some 2-5 years away at best. In the meantime, the temporary classroom would allow the relocation of classrooms closer to the main school building.

Proposed site plan and elevations

2. Site & Surroundings

2.1. The school site comprises some 20 buildings on a 6ha site. The buildings are located in the northwest half of the site and there is a sports field to the southeast. Original school buildings are Victorian but the school has been significantly extended and has a number of more modern buildings scattered across the site.

2.2. The temporary classroom block has been located on a small landscaped area adjacent to the staff car park.

Site location

Streetview
3. **Planning History**

3.1. Various applications for extensions.

4. **Consultation/PP Responses**

4.1. Transportation Development: No objection on the basis that there is no change to the number of pupils or staff and the existing parking spaces are not affected.

4.2. Regulatory Services: No objection.

4.3. Children, Young People and Families: No objection.

4.4. West Midlands Police: No objection.

4.5. West Midlands Fire Service: No objection.

4.6. Site notice posted and local Councillors and Residents' Associations notified of the proposal: no responses received.

5. **Policy Context**


6. **Planning Considerations**

6.1. The temporary classrooms do not facilitate an increase in the number of pupils so there is no additional traffic or noise generated. The main issue for consideration is the appearance of the cabin.

6.2. The cabin is set well into the site some 75m from Monyhull Hall Road and its low height means it would not be prominent in the streetscene. It has a functional design. Several large windows break up the elevations and provide for visual interaction with the rest of the school site. It would be situated between two attractive Victorian school buildings and it lacks the architectural quality which would be expected from a permanent extension however in the short term it is considered to be acceptable.

7. **Conclusion**

7.1. This application is recommended for approval. The impact on visual amenity would be acceptable on a short term basis. As the long term plan is expected to be implemented within the next 2 to 5 years a 4 year temporary consent is recommended.

8. **Recommendation**

8.1. Approve subject to conditions

---

1 Requires the prior submission of a scheme to show how the building would be removed within a four year timescale
Case Officer:  Amy Stevenson
Figure 1: View of cabin from car park at front of site

Figure 2: View of cabin in position