

Dear Neighbours

Once again, please forgive the impersonal nature on this email, however, I wanted to let everyone know that at the planning meeting last Thursday night the planning committee voted to grant planning consent for our proposal at Bailey Drive!

This is terrific news and I particularly wanted to express a HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who has taken time out of their busy schedules to support our application. This development is going to be great for Christchurch, providing greater shopping choice, superb leisure and recreational facilities and urgently needed affordable homes.

This has been a textbook example of the lobbying power of local people, as the Councillors mentioned at the committee that they were inundated with calls and emails from residents in support of the Bailey Drive application. We know that your emails and calls really made a difference and we really, really appreciate your efforts.

However, the planning consent has been granted subject to approval by the Secretary of State. This is because our site was chosen in preference to the Magistrates Court site which was identified by the council's planning consultants as sequentially preferable. Therefore this is another stage that has to be overcome before the planning consent becomes binding. We are hoping that this will only be a formality.

We will shortly be making a start on the drawings for the detailed planning application (as this application was outline only). We are keen to see this development completed and open to the public as soon as possible so we will be working hard to ensure this becomes a reality.

I will keep everyone updated with regards to new developments as they happen and in the meantime we look forward to the Secretary of State approving the application as granted by the planning committee within the next few weeks.

Finally, may I once again thank you all so much for everything you have done individually in support of our application!!

Kind regards

Simon

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