



Application for Planning Permission

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Publication of applications on planning authority websites

Please note that the information provided on this application form and in supporting documents may be published on the Authority's website. If you require any further clarification, please contact the Authority's planning department.

Site Location

Disclaimer: We can only make recommendations based on the answers given in the questions.

If you cannot provide a postcode, the description of site location must be completed. Please provide the most accurate site description you can, to help locate the site - for example "field to the North of the Post Office".

Number

Suffix

Property Name

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Town/city

Postcode

Description of site location must be completed if postcode is not known:

Easting (x)

Northing (y)

Description

Applicant Details

Name/Company

Title

Halstead Community Interest Company

First name

James

Surname

Bond

Company Name

Address

Address line 1

Empire Theatre

Address line 2

Butler Road

Address line 3

Town/City

Halstead

County

Essex

Country

United Kingdom

Postcode

CO9 1LL

Are you an agent acting on behalf of the applicant?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Applicant Contact Details

Primary number

07795280940

Secondary number

07795280940

Planning Portal Reference:

Fax number

Email address

cllr.foster@greensteadgreenandhalsteadrural-pc.gov.uk

Site Area

What is the measurement of the site area? (numeric characters only).

1415.00

Unit

Sq. metres

Description of the Proposal

Please note in regard to:

- **Fire Statements** - From 1 August 2021, planning applications for buildings of over 18 metres (or 7 stories) tall containing more than one dwelling will require a 'Fire Statement' for the application to be considered valid. There are some exemptions. [View government planning guidance on fire statements](#) or [access the fire statement template and guidance](#).
- **Permission In Principle** - If you are applying for Technical Details Consent on a site that has been granted Permission In Principle, please include the relevant details in the description below.
- **Public Service Infrastructure** - From 1 August 2021, applications for certain public service infrastructure developments will be eligible for faster determination timeframes. See help for further details or [view government planning guidance on determination periods](#).

Description

Please describe details of the proposed development or works including any change of use

Demolition of Car Wash, Storage Areas and Ancillary Buildings and removal of Underground Storage Tanks and the Construction of a Community Arts Centre adjacent to the Empire Theatre

Has the work or change of use already started?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Existing Use

Please describe the current use of the site

Car Wash, Hardstanding Parking and Storage

Is the site currently vacant?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Does the proposal involve any of the following? If Yes, you will need to submit an appropriate contamination assessment with your application.

Land which is known to be contaminated

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Land where contamination is suspected for all or part of the site

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

A proposed use that would be particularly vulnerable to the presence of contamination

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Materials

Does the proposed development require any materials to be used externally?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Please provide a description of existing and proposed materials and finishes to be used externally (including type, colour and name for each material)

Type:

Walls

Existing materials and finishes:

Proposed materials and finishes:

Standing seam zinc, glu laminated timber frame and render

Type:

Roof

Existing materials and finishes:

Proposed materials and finishes:

Standing seam zinc

Type:

Windows

Existing materials and finishes:

Proposed materials and finishes:

Anthracite grey aluminium

Type:

Doors

Existing materials and finishes:

Proposed materials and finishes:

Anthracite grey aluminium

Are you supplying additional information on submitted plans, drawings or a design and access statement?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If Yes, please state references for the plans, drawings and/or design and access statement

Pedestrian and Vehicle Access, Roads and Rights of Way

Is a new or altered vehicular access proposed to or from the public highway?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Is a new or altered pedestrian access proposed to or from the public highway?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Are there any new public roads to be provided within the site?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Are there any new public rights of way to be provided within or adjacent to the site?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Do the proposals require any diversions/extinguishments and/or creation of rights of way?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

If you answered Yes to any of the above questions, please show details on your plans/drawings and state their reference numbers

See drawing 1032-PL-007

Vehicle Parking

Does the site have any existing vehicle/cycle parking spaces or will the proposed development add/remove any parking spaces?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Vehicle Type:

Disability spaces

Existing number of spaces:

0

Total proposed (including spaces retained):

2

Difference in spaces:

2

Vehicle Type:

Cars

Existing number of spaces:

4

Total proposed (including spaces retained):

0

Difference in spaces:

-4

Vehicle Type:

Light goods vehicles / Public carrier vehicles

Existing number of spaces:

0

Total proposed (including spaces retained):

2

Difference in spaces:

2

Trees and Hedges

Are there trees or hedges on the proposed development site?

☒ Yes

☐ No

And/or: Are there trees or hedges on land adjacent to the proposed development site that could influence the development or might be important as part of the local landscape character?

☐ Yes

☒ No

You may need to provide a full tree survey, at the discretion of the local planning authority. If a tree survey is required, this and the accompanying plan should be submitted alongside the application.

The local planning authority should make clear on its website what the survey should contain, in accordance with the current 'BS5837: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations'.

Assessment of Flood Risk

Is the site within an area at risk of flooding? (Check the location on the Government's [Flood map for planning](#). You should also refer to national [standing advice](#) and your local planning authority requirements for information as necessary.)

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Is your proposal within 20 metres of a watercourse (e.g. river, stream or beck)?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Will the proposal increase the flood risk elsewhere?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

How will surface water be disposed of?

- ☐ Sustainable drainage system
☐ Existing water course
☐ Soakaway
☒ Main sewer
☐ Pond/lake

Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

Is there a reasonable likelihood of the following being affected adversely or conserved and enhanced within the application site, or on land adjacent to or near the application site?

To assist in answering this question correctly, please refer to the help text which provides guidance on determining if any important biodiversity or geological conservation features may be present or nearby; and whether they are likely to be affected by the proposals.

a) Protected and priority species

- ☐ Yes, on the development site
☐ Yes, on land adjacent to or near the proposed development
☒ No

b) Designated sites, important habitats or other biodiversity features

- ☐ Yes, on the development site
☐ Yes, on land adjacent to or near the proposed development
☒ No

c) Features of geological conservation importance

- ☐ Yes, on the development site
☐ Yes, on land adjacent to or near the proposed development
☒ No

Supporting information requirements

Where a development proposal is likely to affect features of biodiversity or geological conservation interest, you will need to submit, with the application, sufficient information and assessments to allow the local planning authority to determine the proposal.

Failure to submit all information required will result in your application being deemed invalid. It will not be considered valid until all information required by the local planning authority has been submitted.

Your local planning authority will be able to advise on the content of any assessments that may be required.

Biodiversity net gain

Biodiversity net gain is a legal requirement for planning permission introduced on 12 February 2024. All applications are required to either provide detailed information proving there will be a biodiversity increase; or explain why the requirement does not apply to the development.

Do you believe that, if the development is granted permission, the general Biodiversity Gain Condition (as set out in [Paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 \(as amended\)](#)) would apply?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Biodiversity net gain has been introduced as a general condition for planning permission. As set out in [The Environment Act 2021](#): "grants of planning permission in England [are] to be subject to a condition to secure that the biodiversity gain objective is met". Therefore, in England, all planning permissions are generally subject to biodiversity gain rules, unless they are specifically exempt or out of scope.

If you have stated that the biodiversity net gain requirement does not apply to your application you must provide the reason(s) why, and may also need to supply evidence (especially where you believe the application is eligible for the 'de minimis' exemption).

Please add all the reasons why biodiversity net gain does not apply and enter a justification for each one

Reason biodiversity net gain does not apply:
Development site area of 0.2 hectares or below

Are there any priority habitats on or within 500m of your site?:
No

Can you evidence that you carried out a site assessment if the local authority disputes the presence of priority habitats?:
No

Please justify the reason why biodiversity net gain does not apply:
The development site is below 0.2 ha and there are no priority habitats impacted by the proposal. The site is therefore exempt.

Please read the help text for further information why developments may be exempt or not in scope.

Foul Sewage

Please state how foul sewage is to be disposed of:

- ☒ Mains sewer
- ☐ Septic tank
- ☐ Package treatment plant
- ☐ Cess pit
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Unknown

Are you proposing to connect to the existing drainage system?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unknown

If Yes, please include the details of the existing system on the application drawings and state the plan(s)/drawing(s) references

See drawing 18598/LM/1

Waste Storage and Collection

Do the plans incorporate areas to store and aid the collection of waste?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If Yes, please provide details:

Waste recycling bins are already located onsite.

Have arrangements been made for the separate storage and collection of recyclable waste?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If Yes, please provide details:

Waste recycling bins are already located onsite. These will be sufficient to manage waste arisings from the proposed community arts centre.

Trade Effluent

Does the proposal involve the need to dispose of trade effluents or trade waste?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Residential/Dwelling Units

Does your proposal include the gain, loss or change of use of residential units?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

All Types of Development: Non-Residential Floorspace

Does your proposal involve the loss, gain or change of use of non-residential floorspace?
Note that 'non-residential' in this context covers all uses except Use Class C3 Dwellinghouses.

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Use Class:

Other (Please specify)

Other (Please specify):

Sui Generis

Existing gross internal floorspace (square metres) (a):

100

Gross internal floorspace to be lost by change of use or demolition (square metres) (b):

0

Total gross new internal floorspace proposed (including changes of use) (square metres) (c):

453

Net additional gross internal floorspace following development (square metres) (d = c - a):

353

Totals	Existing gross internal floorspace (square metres) (a)	Gross internal floorspace to be lost by change of use or demolition (square metres) (b)	Total gross new internal floorspace proposed (including changes of use) (square metres) (c)	Net additional gross internal floorspace following development (square metres) (d = c - a)
	100	0	453	353

Tradable floor area

Does the proposal include use as a shop (e.g. For the display/sale of goods under Use Class E(a), the sale of essential goods under Use Class F2, or as part of any other use)

☐ Yes☒ No**Loss or gain of rooms**

Does the proposal include loss or gain of rooms for hotels, residential institutions, or hostels?

☐ Yes☐ No**Employment**

Are there any existing employees on the site or will the proposed development increase or decrease the number of employees?

☒ Yes☐ No**Existing Employees**

Please complete the following information regarding existing employees:

Full-time

0

Part-time

45

Total full-time equivalent

22.50

Proposed Employees

If known, please complete the following information regarding proposed employees:

Full-time

1

Part-time

10

Total full-time equivalent

6.00

Hours of Opening

Are Hours of Opening relevant to this proposal?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Please add details of the of the Use Classes and hours of opening for each non-residential use proposed.

If you do not know the hours of opening, select the Use Class and tick 'Unknown'

Use Class:

Other (Please specify)

Other (Please specify):

sui generis

Unknown:

Yes

Industrial or Commercial Processes and Machinery

Does this proposal involve the carrying out of industrial or commercial activities and processes?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Is the proposal for a waste management development?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Hazardous Substances

Does the proposal involve the use or storage of Hazardous Substances?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Site Visit

Can the site be seen from a public road, public footpath, bridleway or other public land?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If the planning authority needs to make an appointment to carry out a site visit, whom should they contact?

- ☒ The agent
☐ The applicant
☐ Other person

Pre-application Advice

Has assistance or prior advice been sought from the local authority about this application?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If Yes, please complete the following information about the advice you were given (this will help the authority to deal with this application more efficiently):

Officer name:

Title

Mr

First Name

Rory

Surname

Hayhurst

Reference

25/60184/PREAPP

Date (must be pre-application submission)

27/11/2025

Details of the pre-application advice received

If a formal planning application was submitted for consideration, the proposal could be supported by Officers for the following reasons:

- The principle of the proposed development is acceptable. Policy LPP61 of the Adopted Local Plan supports the erection of new community facilities wherever possible.
- The impact upon the Non-Designated Heritage Asset (NDHA) would likely be acceptable, subject to the retention of the existing Empire signage on the southern elevation, which is an important architectural feature that is visible from the entirety of Butler Road.
- The design and external appearance of the proposed development is considered to be of a high standard of design and layout, taking heed of the important features of the existing theatre, whilst also forming a focal point, and landmark design that is suitable of a community arts centre.
- Based on the information provided it is not considered that the proposal would have a detrimental impact upon any neighbouring residential properties however this will need to be carefully assessed on site once proposed plans are finalised.
- It is not anticipated that the development would give rise to unacceptable impacts upon the adjacent highway network however it is noted that the highway impact of the proposal is a matter for Essex County Council Highways and you may wish to undertake a pre-application submission with them with regard to highway matters.
- There are no unacceptable ecology or landscape impacts.
- There would likely be no residual harmful noise impacts as a result of the proposed

Authority Employee/Member

With respect to the Authority, is the applicant and/or agent one of the following:

- (a) a member of staff
- (b) an elected member
- (c) related to a member of staff
- (d) related to an elected member

It is an important principle of decision-making that the process is open and transparent.

For the purposes of this question, "related to" means related, by birth or otherwise, closely enough that a fair-minded and informed observer, having considered the facts, would conclude that there was bias on the part of the decision-maker in the Local Planning Authority.

Do any of the above statements apply?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Ownership Certificates and Agricultural Land Declaration

Certificates under Article 14 - Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended)

Please answer the following questions to determine which Certificate of Ownership you need to complete: A, B, C or D.

Is the applicant the sole owner of all the land to which this application relates; and has the applicant been the sole owner for more than 21 days?

E.g. All the land is owned by a single individual

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Is the land owned by multiple individuals, or has agricultural tenants where the details of all individuals are known by the Applicant?

E.g. The land is owned by 2 people and the applicant can provide details of those owners.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Certificate Of Ownership - Certificate B

I certify/ The applicant certifies that:

- ☒ I have/The applicant has given the requisite notice to everyone else (as listed below) who, on the day 21 days before the date of this application, was the owner* and/or agricultural tenant** of any part of the land or building to which this application relates; or
- ☐ The applicant is the sole owner of all the land or buildings to which this application relates and there are no other owners* and/or agricultural tenants**.

* "owner" is a person with a freehold interest or leasehold interest with at least 7 years left to run.

** "agricultural tenant" has the meaning given in section 65(8) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Owner/Agricultural Tenant

Name of Owner/Agricultural Tenant:

Essex County Council

House name:

Number:

Suffix:

Address line 1:

County Hall

Address Line 2:

Town/City:

Chelmsford

Postcode:

Date notice served (DD/MM/YYYY):

16/08/2026

Person Family Name:

Person Role

☐ The Applicant

☒ The Agent

Title

Mr

First Name

Paul

Surname

Foster

Declaration Date

dd/mm/yyyy

☐ Declaration made