ST. EDWARDS CE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
LEEK

PAVED BIN STORE

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

Context

St. Edwards's School operates a recycling policy and has a collection of various bins that area currently stored on the playground. There have been problems with pupils running into the bins and in one case one pupil cut their head open on a bin. The bins need to be removed from the playground but have to be located within a reasonable distance from the main School building and the kitchen for disposal of waste but be a minimum of 4.5m from the building under the County Council guidelines. The School commenced excavation work on 18 January 2010 for a small paved area just beyond the existing playground mesh fence. Land is in full ownership of the School. Neighbours complained and an enforcement officer visited the School on 18 January 2010 and recommended that the work stop and that a planning application was made. A number of possible locations for a bin store were discussed. Bins need to be located on the northern side of the building close to the kitchen and main staff door. The bins must be positioned on level ground. Bins could be positioned on the north west corner but would be within the playground and still a potential safety risk to the pupils. The ground would have to be excavated to a considerable depth into an embankment with a retaining wall close to an adjoining dwelling. The retaining wall would need secure fencing around the top to prevent anyone jumping or falling off the wall from above, and would be considerably more expensive than the store location that has started. The store position that is started and that is the subject of this planning application positions the bins outside the main play area with a fence between the two to remove any safety problems with pupils running around the playground. The bins would be positioned around the perimeter of a tarmac hardstanding with 1.8m paladin mesh fence behind the bins. Lids would open and lean against the fence to allow ease of opening and closing. The bin lid would therefore always be closed when not in use. Planting around the fence would mask the area. Laurel bushes are proposed. The bin compound would be secure outside School hours but will need gates to allow grass mowers onto the remaining area for maintenance. This application is made after excavations have started but before any hardcore or tarmac are laid and work has stopped pending approval.

Design

The existing building is unaffected as the bin store is outside the fenced play area.

Amount

The bin store has to be sufficiently large to accommodate the recycling bin facilities around the perimeter of the space and approximate size of 9m x 5m is required plus access.

Scale

The scale is unaffected.

Layout

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The position of the bin store has to be close to School doors as noted in the introduction.

Appearance

Tarmac – black. Fence – dark green but masked by laurel hedging.

Landscaping

A small area of grass has been removed but will not affect the general bio diversity of the site. Laurel hedging would add some cover and possibly add to bird species on the site.

Access

Access is not affected.

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