DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

PROJECT

Provision of two "Broxap" prefabricated rain shelters at St Peter's First School, Alton .

LOCATION

St Peter's First School
Alton
Staffs
ST10 4AW

10/00207/ CONSER 12 MAR 2010 - S M
10/00206/ FUL 12 MAR 2010 - S M

CLIENT

Ms Caroline Gregory (Head Teacher), St. Peter's First School.

Description of Application

The proposal is for the provision of two prefabricated rain shelters, one on the front elevation of the school and the second over the central area of a side walkway. The shelters form part of the implementation of the "walk to school" policy. The proposed shelters are partly fixed to the structure of the school but does not involve any alterations to the structure either internal or external.

Physical Context

St. Peter's First School is a detached building constructed in red facing brickwork with pitched roofs covered with plain Staffordshire Blue tiles. The school is located within the village development boundary. The property is located to the south west of a small agricultural field and immediately opposite to a row of traditional cottages. To the south west of the site progressing along Town Head is a row of terraced cottages and to the rear of the site and adjoining the site are the rear gardens of the residential properties which are accessed off Castle Hill Road.

Other properties in the immediate vicinity are varied in style and materials. These include terraced cottages, detached houses, bungalows etc. Materials include natural stone, painted stone, render, both red and yellow brickwork, Staffordshire Blue plain tiles and concrete interlocking pan tiles.

Social Context

The area is rural, and with the exception of a number of bed and breakfast enterprises is residential.

Design Principles and Concepts

Amount

The proposal is for two canopies/rain shelters. The existing school building footprint measures 430 m2, on a plot measuring approximately 1250m2. The area of external ground to be covered by the shelters will be 26 m2.

The proposed shelters will provide an area where parents and pupils can shelter whilst waiting for the school to open at the start of the school day and where parents can wait when waiting to collect their children at the end of the school day.

Layout

The positioning of the proposal is determined by the location of the entrances to the school.

The shelter on the side of the school, part way along the external walkway will not be immediately visible from the front of the building.

The layout and gradients of the external areas of the school and the proposal facilitates a straight forward and clear access to the entrance of the school within the site boundaries, ensuring the shortest possible travel distance on a very slight gradient, thus providing optimum accessibility.

Scale

The proposed shelters are compatible in scale and sub-ordinate in appearance to the existing building.

Landscaping

No alterations to the existing landscaping are required or proposed as part of this proposal.

Appearance

The canopy over the side through-way is similar in principle to the existing canopy on the rear of the school, The front elevation canopy is of more traditional design.

The proposal has been developed having regard to the following considerations:-

- The need to retain and enhance the character of the existing building.
- The need to leave the form and scale of the original building unaltered.
- The desire to retain all external features which contribute to the character of the building.
- The need to achieve the purpose of the proposal to justify the necessary investment.

Access

The access onto and around the site will remain unaltered.

Vehicular and transport links

Being located within the village, the school is easily accessible by pedestrians. Users of the school also have direct access to the local bus services which are available from several points within the village. One aspect of this proposal is that more users of the school will be encouraged to walk to and from the school and to reduce the reliance on the use of cars.