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**APPLICATION DETAILS**

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<b>Application No:</b>	<b>17/0051/FPL</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Dorman Museum Grounds Linthorpe Road Middlesbrough TS5 6LA</b>
<b>Proposal:</b>	<b>Erection of bronze memorial statue and associated plinth and paving works</b>
<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Mr Neil Dalus</b>
<b>Ward:</b>	<b>Park</b>
<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Approved with Conditions</b>

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**SUMMARY**

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Planning permission is sought to erect a statue and associated plinth and hard surfacing within the grounds of the Dorman Museum on Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough.

The statue would be made of bronze and be a life size representation of Mr Tom Dresser, a Victoria Cross recipient. The statue would be within a landscaped part of the Dorman Museum Grounds, adjacent to Linthorpe Road and in close proximity to the Cenotaph and the existing Stan Hollis VC Memorial.

The proposed addition to the museum grounds is of a scale and appearance which is in keeping with its surroundings and it is considered that the statue would not unduly compromise the significance of the Listed Dorman Museum and associated grounds in that it is of a limited scale and well positioned addition and is set within an urban context with other similar structures within the immediate locality.

No objections have been raised in respect of the consultation exercise.

Officers recommend approval of the proposed statue subject to conditions.

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**SITE AND SURROUNDINGS AND PROPOSED WORKS**

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The proposed statue would be located within the grounds of the Dorman Museum, a publically accessible building with some external gardens which lies between Linthorpe Road and Albert Park, positioned to the south side of the town centre.

The site lies adjacent to the cross roads with Linthorpe Road Park Road North at a point where the Cenotaph and existing VC memorial statue are positioned within a formally laid out area of open space. The character of the area is partly defined by the retail and residential premises lining the western side of Linthorpe Road, the Museum Building and the open space.

The proposal is to erect a bronze memorial statue within the grounds of the museum which will be stood on a plinth and orientated to face towards the Cenotaph. The plinth would be approx. 500mm high and the statue a further 1560mm high giving an overall height of slightly over 2m.

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## PLANNING HISTORY

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No relevant planning history

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## PLANNING POLICY

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In accordance with Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Local Planning Authorities must determine applications for planning permission in accordance with the Development Plan(s) for the area, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Section 143 of the Localism Act requires the Local Planning Authority to take local finance considerations into account. Section 70(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) requires Local Planning Authorities, in dealing with an application for planning permission, to have regard to:

- a) *The provisions of the development plan, so far as material to the application;*
- b) *Any local finance considerations, so far as material to the application; and*
- c) *Any other material considerations.*

The following documents together comprise the Development Plan for Middlesbrough;

Middlesbrough Local Plan;

- *Housing Local Plan (2014);*
- *Core Strategy DPD (2008, policies which have not been superseded/deleted only);*
- *Regeneration DPD (2009, policies which have not been superseded/deleted only);*
- *Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD (2011);*
- *Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Policies & Sites DPD (2011);*
- *Middlesbrough Local Plan (1999, Saved Policies only); and*
- *Marion West Neighbourhood Plan (2016, applicable in Marion West Ward only).*

The overarching principle of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is to support sustainable development, and that it should go ahead without delay. It defines the role of planning in achieving economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development and recognises that each are mutually dependent. The NPPF requires local planning

authorities to approach development management decisions positively, utilising twelve 'core planning principles', which can be summarised as follows:

- *Being plan led;*
- *Enhancing and improving areas;*
- *Proactively drive and support sustainable economic development to deliver homes, business, industry and infrastructure and a thriving local economy;*
- *Always seek a high quality of design and good standard of amenity for existing and future occupants;*
- *Take account the different roles of areas, promoting the vitality of the main urban areas whilst recognising the intrinsic character of the countryside;*
- *Support the transition to a low carbon future, taking full account of flood risk, resources and renewables;*
- *Contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment;*
- *Encourage the effective use of land;*
- *Promote mixed use developments;*
- *Conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance;*
- *Actively manage patterns of growth making fullest use public transport, walking and cycling and focus significant development in sustainable locations; and*
- *Take account of local strategies to support health, social and cultural well-being and deliver community and cultural facilities to meet local needs.*

The planning policies and key areas of guidance that are relevant to the consideration of the application are:

CS5 - Design  
DC1 - General Development  
UDSPD - Urban Design SPD

The detailed policy context and guidance for each policy is viewable within the relevant Local Plan documents, which can be accessed at the following web address.

<https://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/planning-and-housing/planning/planning-policy>

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## CONSULTATION AND PUBLICITY RESPONSES

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### Public Responses

Number of original neighbour consultations	7
Total numbers of comments received	0
Total number of objections	0
Total number of support	0
Total number of representations	0

### Consultee Responses

#### Conservation Officer

This application proposes the siting of a bronze statue on a sandstone plinth within the front curtilage of the Dorman Museum.

The application is for Planning Permission; Listed Building

Consent is not required for this work as it does not constitute an alteration or extension to the listed building. As the development is within the curtilage and setting of the listed building and within the Albert Park and Linthorpe Road Conservation Area, a Heritage Statement should accompany the application, but doesn't appear to be available.

The Dorman Museum was opened in 1904 as a national history museum, itself a memorial to its founder's son and other soldiers of the Yorkshire Regiment who lost their lives during the South African wars of 1899-1902. Constructed of red brick and terracotta, with ornamental copper domed tower, the building has become a local landmark.

The setting of the building contains other listed structures such as the cenotaph with its gates, gate piers and screen walls; West Lodge on the entrance to Albert Park with its screen wall and memorial; along with a Roman limestone coffin. This entrance to Albert Park lies to the west of the park and forms its principal entrance.

The proposed memorial would sit to the north west of the museum with the statue itself facing towards the cenotaph.

It is my opinion that the proposed siting of the memorial is appropriate. This public space features other memorials, most of which are military related. The statue will be visible from most public viewpoints and there would be no harm to the setting of the listed buildings or the Conservation Area as a result of its installation.

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## **PLANNING CONSIDERATION AND ASSESSMENT**

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The proposed statue if of a size which would normally be associated with such a structure, being similar to that of the nearby Stan Hollis VC Memorial. The proposed structure has a relatively modest plinth and combined, these would in no way dominate the adjacent Dorman Museum which is a building of relative significant standing within the immediate area. The proposed statue will sit within the grounds to the front of the museum buildings and would appear as a structure within the garden rather than a significant or dominant part of the museum or indeed its function.

The Conservation Officer has advised that the Dorman Museum was opened in 1904 as a national history museum, itself being a memorial to the founder's son and other soldiers of the Yorkshire Regiment who lost their lives during the South African wars of 1899-1902. The significance of the Listed Dorman Museum arguably therefore comes from the way in which it was built, its purpose and its architectural merit. The Museum is considered to be of local significance rather than being of national or wider significance and it is considered that the positioning of the proposed statue to the front of the museum building, given its positive form and limited scale, would have only a very limited impact on the significance of the listed building. Given the scheme would have a minor impact on a listed building of local importance and is in keeping with its surroundings, it is considered that the proposal meets with the requirements for development in such locations which has the ability to affect the setting of listed buildings. For the same reasoning and in view of the position of the proposed statue, it is considered that it would not undermine or have a detrimental impact on the setting of the nearby Cenotaph or other listed structures.

There are no known implications on highway safety given the existing character of the area and current existence of similar structures within the immediate locality. There are similarly no known implications for public safety or amenity and there are no known planning grounds to warrant refusal of the application.

In view of the above, the proposed development is considered to accord with the guidance within Local Plan Policies DC1 and CS5 as well as the Urban Design Guide and the principles of the National Planning Policy Framework.

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## **RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONDITIONS**

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## Approved with Conditions

### Approved Plans

1. The development hereby approved shall be carried out in complete accordance with the plans and specifications listed below and shall relate to no other plans.

*Drawing Number TC\_VC 2016-GA-001 Rev A as received on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017*

Reason: To ensure a satisfactory form of development and for the avoidance of doubt.

### Time Period for Commencement

2. The development to which this permission relates must be begun not later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date on which this permission is granted.

Reason: The time limit condition is imposed in order to comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

## Reason for Approval

The proposed statue is considered to accord with the principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Local Plan in relation to being of an appropriate design and scale for its position and would not unduly affect the setting or significance of Listed Buildings in the vicinity, would not notably affect highway safety, amenity or community safety.

The Council has worked with the applicant in a positive and proactive way in line with paragraphs 186-187 of the NPPF.

The application is therefore considered to be acceptable, fully in accordance with the relevant policy guidance and there are no material considerations which indicate that the application should be refused.

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## INFORMATIVES

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Case Officer: Andrew Glossop

Committee Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017

Site Plan

