

CK Designs

Planning Department

Canterbury City Council

Re: Planning Application Number CA/23/02191 - Little Swarling, Watery Lane, Petham, Kent

Planning Statement

To accompany Planning Application Number CA/23/02191 Little Swarling, Watery Lane, Petham, Kent.

Little Swarling is a Grade 11 Listed building C17 or earlier. Timber-framed cottage with red brick infilling, the north front faced with tarred weatherboarding. Two storeys. Gable end facing north. The first floor of the South front oversails with a small bay on the ground floor below it. A tiled roof with pertice on east side and red brick chimney stack on the west, the South has a hipped end. The property has casement windows and simple doorcase.

Little Swarling is a K.C.C. Registered Foster Home which currently has 4 teenagers aged 12,13,14 & 15 , 1 person aged 24 (shared lives) and one person aged 20 (Supported homes) Also the owners son who suffers with C.M.T. (Charcot Marie Tooth) Type 1a. which is a progressive peripheral neuropathy, lives on the premises.

The purpose of the proposed barn which will be ancillary to the main building is to include as well as storage for all the equipment needed to manage the grounds which extend to 3 acres, is to include facilities for a boxing ring for their son who is a level 2 coach, and who also carries out volunteer work with special needs children. The proposed gymnasium and ring would enable their son to bring these children to the barn for fitness training and would also benefit the resident teenagers and adults.

The barn would also house woodworking facilities to encourage children and adults to learn new skills along with the proposed office to learn IT skills. The proposed barn will also have a games area with a pool table, Table tennis and other items where the cared for persons can be able to relax and enjoy their free time without having to travel from Petham to Canterbury. The storage area will also accommodate all the bikes, camping equipment etc. which is used on trips out. The extra room will also enable the home to expand its facilities by enabling children with special needs to visit for day trips and enjoy the Kent countryside.

Purpose of the Proposed Barn:

The proposed barn will be ancillary to the main building, which is the residence of the Willams family, and hopefully serve multiple functions beneficial to the residents and the community. The proposed barn will include:

1. Fitness and Boxing Facilities:

- A boxing ring for their son, who is a level 2 coach, and volunteers to help with children who have special needs and are in care, and the extra space will provide fitness training facilities to promote health and well-being for the residents, which includes the teenagers and adults.

2. Woodworking Facilities:

- A woodworking area to encourage learning of new skills for both the young and adult residents.

3. Office for IT Skills:

- A proposed office space to facilitate the learning of IT skills a space to use as a classroom for children who are out of school.

4. Games Area:

- A recreational area with a pool table, table tennis, and other items for the residents to relax and enjoy their free time, without the need to travel to Canterbury for leisure facilities all the time.

5. Storage Area:

- Space for storage of equipment needed to manage the 3-acre grounds, including bicycles, camping equipment, canoes and all the other items used on trips away from the premises.

6. Expansion of Facilities:

- The additional space will also allow for the expansion of facilities, enabling children with special needs to visit for day trips and enjoy the Kent countryside.

Community Benefits:

The proposed barn will contribute positively to the community by providing a safe and inclusive space for fitness training, skill development, and recreational activities. It aligns with the foster home's commitment to the well-being of its residents and extends its services to benefit the wider community, especially those with special needs.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the proposed barn at Little Swarling would serve as a valuable addition to the existing facilities, promoting physical and mental well-being, skill development, and community engagement. I kindly request the Planning Authority to consider this application favourably, by considering the positive impact it will have on the residents and the surrounding community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Julie Keeley

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