

Epsom Civic Society

shaping the future, safeguarding the past

2 Leighton Way
EPSOM Surrey
KT18 7QZ

9 May 2018

Mr Viv Evans Dip TP, MRTPI, FRGS, FRSA
Interim Head of Planning and Building Control
Town Hall
EPSOM
KT18 5BY

Dear Mr Evans

PLANNING APPLICATION 17/01586/FUL
FORMER POLICE STATION, CHURCH STREET, EPSOM
AMENDED DRAWINGS

Thank you for your letter of 30 April concerning the amended drawings submitted in this case.

We welcome the Design Addendum document and the attention that has been paid to both the potential for future development and the design of the current proposed buildings. We agree that it is essential that the potential for development of the ambulance station and the clinic should be safeguarded and hope that the layout shown on figure 3 of the document could be achieved even if the clinic were not available at the same time as the ambulance station.

Regarding the current designs, we are pleased that local distinctiveness has been encouraged and that the previous rather square and unfriendly appearance has been softened and improved without resorting to pastiche. This is greatly helped by the new slated mansard roofs and the ground floor plinths.

We believe, however, that the entrances deserve a better and more substantial treatment. We would also greatly prefer the remaining flat roofs in Block B to be replaced by a continuation of the dormers which would create a much more consistent appearance. The large areas of red brickwork might also be relieved by the introduction of some diagonal features, the inclusion of some bricks of a different colour or other softening design features.

The proposed amendments help to achieve the enhancement of the character and appearance of this part of Church Street, as required by the Development Brief (para 5.3), although our earlier reservations on parking and affordable housing remain.

Yours sincerely

ALAN BAKER FRICS
Vice Chairman

cc Ward Councillors