



## **Construction Route Plan**

Land south of Holwell Road, Pirton, Hertfordshire

30 June 2017

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Client Name:CALA HomesDocument Reference:WIE11697-100-R-5-2-1-CRPProject Number:WIE11697-100

#### Quality Assurance – Approval Status

This document has been prepared and checked in accordance with Waterman Group's IMS (BS EN ISO 9001: 2008, BS EN ISO 14001: 2004 and BS OHSAS 18001:2007)

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#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Waterman Infrastructure and Environment Ltd. have been instructed by CALA Homes (North Home Counties) Ltd to review the construction route for the proposed residential development site at Holwell Road, Pirton, Hertfordshire.
- 1.2. The site has Reserved Matters approval for 78 dwellings (31 affordable and 47 private) pursuant to outline planning permission reference 15/01618/1 which was granted on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017.
- 1.3. An initial version of the Construction Management Plan (CMP) has been submitted to Hertfordshire County Council and agreed with the Highway Officers, subject to further vehicle tracking along the route.
- 1.4. The CMP was an individual agenda item on the planning committee of North Hertfordshire District Council on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017. It is noted that there is strong opposition to the current route from the development site to and from the direction of Holwell.
- 1.5. As a result of this, and the item being deferred at planning committee, it has been agreed with CALA Homes (North Home Counties) Ltd that a further review of all options is undertaken and put forward to HCC and local residents.
- 1.6. It should be noted that the permission of the outline application confirms that from a planning perspective the site is deliverable, and that adequate construction routing can occur. The accompanying CMP by CALA Homes suggested initially that the route through Holwell was the preferred option.
- 1.7. A meeting was held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017 to discuss the construction routes in more detail which concluded in a final routing strategy being agreed. Following this meeting and the subsequent on-site meeting with representatives from the Highway Authority, CALA and Waterman the route detailed in this report is the result of extensive consultations with the Local Authorities with the consideration of local residents being accommodated as much as possible.



### 2. Proposed Construction Timeframe

- 2.1. Although the site gained planning approval for up to 82 residential units, CALA secured Reserved Matters approval for 78 units.
- 2.2. Within the original CMP there was a suggested limitation on delivery times for Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) to only occur between 9.30am and 3pm. Following consultation with the CALA Homes construction team and suppliers, it is agreed that the restriction would be operational between 9.30am and 3pm.
- 2.3. In addition, given the rural nature of the surrounding road network, CALA committed to limiting the size of delivery vehicles to the site to 12m in length (with no articulated vehicles where practical). A review of the 12.4m long mobile crane has been undertaken along the route, and this is included later in this document.
- 2.4. The impacts of such a delivery schedule mean that less material can be brought to and from the site per day than a 'typical' construction site. The result is that not only are more, smaller, vehicles required but the overall construction programme is expected to take longer.
- 2.5. It is estimated that the construction of the development may last up to 3 years.



## 3. Construction Vehicle Routing

#### **Overview**

- 3.1. As the site, has Reserved Matters approval, there is acceptance that the site is deliverable from a construction point of view.
- 3.2. The site is located on the north-eastern edge of Pirton, with only a small number of potential routes being viable to bring HGVs to and from site.
- 3.3. Clearly, CALA Homes also have a responsibility as part of the Considerate Contractors Scheme to ensure that they and their contractors are acting in a safe manner during travelling to and from the site.
- 3.4. The routes have been explored by both CALA Homes' construction team and separately by members of the Waterman Infrastructure and Environment team. These routes have both been driven and walked.
- 3.5. A meeting was held on 13th June 2017, which discussed the routing options, resulted in a final routing strategy. A subsequent on-site meeting was undertaken which involved walking sections of the route which had particular road width constraints.
- 3.6. To this end, the route proposed is to provide one-way working therefore the opportunity for construction vehicles to pass one another is negated and vehicles will be spread over a wider area. The original route sought to minimise HGV mileage, however due to the consultations and further consideration it was decided that for the benefit for a majority of residents the route is extended to reduce this impact. In summary, the route is.
  - 1. Arrive along Priors Hill Shillington West Lane Site
  - 2. Depart from Site Holwell Road Waterloo Road
- 3.7. It should be noted that an additional route was requested to be explored by local residents which involved construction vehicles being taken along an existing track from Hitchin Road. This route involves land outside of CALA's control and potentially involves a number of separate land owners and requires the crossing of existing Rights of Way / Bridleways. This has also been reviewed by HCC, who agree that the off-road route is not viable for this development site.



#### 4. Proposed Construction Vehicle Route

- 4.1. As discussed previously in this report extensive consideration has been made regarding the proposed route involving meetings with the Local Authorities and a subsequent meeting with HCC, WIE and CALA walking along the most constrained lengths of the route to identify possible highway improvements. The route has been agreed with HCC. A plan showing the route is provided at *Appendix A*.
- 4.2. It has been identified that there is on-street residential car parking on Shillington Road and West Lane adjacent to the junction with High Street.
- 4.3. The key constraint of this route is the narrow section of road around Waterloo Lane, where forward visibility is limited, and vegetation reduces road widths. A gradient is also present leading from Holwell towards Pirton along this stretch of road.
- 4.4. This route has been reviewed in detail as part of the original CMP which highlighted the route's use by an hourly bus service and existing use by traffic of a range of sizes. No weight or width restrictions are present on the route.
- 4.5. Holwell itself is a smaller village settlement than Pirton with correspondingly lower pedestrian numbers. In addition, although it is acknowledged that some on-street parking does occur on Holwell Road around the church, the vast majority of the residential properties in Holwell have on-plot car parking.
- 4.6. The concern from many of the objection comments relates to the impact of vehicles passing each other, particularly along Waterloo Lane, where road widths are restricted. CALA Homes would have control over their own delivery drivers in terms of scheduling and ensuring that they would be released from site at a time not to coincide with bus services. Due to the one-way route the conflict between construction vehicle will be prevented.
- 4.7. Given the reduced number of properties be impacted upon, lower pedestrian footfall, fewer junctions and parked cars, it was decided that this was the preferred route for construction traffic to use.



#### 5. Mitigation Measures and Strategy

- 5.1. Further potential mitigation measures have been considered for discussion with HCC in addition to those the measures already identified in the previously submitted CMP (which were far-reaching and significant improvements to construction operation).
- 5.2. The original CMP included the following mitigation measures:
  - Limiting HGVs to rigid vehicles of no longer than 12m where practical;
  - Restriction in delivery times (after 9.30am and before 3pm) other than in agreed situations with HCC;
  - Scheduling of deliveries to be actively controlled by CALA to avoid interactions with the local bus service;
  - Use of remote passing bays for vehicles to wait prior to proceeding to site (again to avoid conflicts between construction traffic and the local bus service).
- 5.3. The following revised suggested mitigation measures are proposed:
  - Limiting HGVs to rigid vehicles of no longer than 12.4m (to include mobile cranes) and low loaders / articulated vehicles if required;
  - Scheduling of deliveries to be actively controlled by CALA to avoid interactions with other construction traffic and the local bus service;
  - Implement a one-way working route to ensure construction vehicle will not need to pass one another;
  - Use of remote passing bays and road widening for vehicles (see Appendix B for details) to wait prior to proceeding to site (again to avoid conflicts between construction traffic and the local bus service), in locations including;
    - Junction of Shillington Road/Prior Hill
    - o Waterloo Lane
    - o Holwell Road
  - Letter drop to residents who park their cars on-street along the route;
- 5.4. The above amendments solely relate to the 12.4m long mobile crane. The 12.4m long mobile crane has been tracked using Autotrack along both routes, and the tracking plots are provided at *Appendix B*. The tracking shows that the mobile crane has a smaller and more manoeuvrable chassis / body than other rigid body (12m long) vehicles. The mobile crane is expected to be able to navigate to and from the construction site via either the Holwell or Pirton route (notwithstanding further mitigation measures as identified in this section).
- 5.5. The following temporary mitigation measures will be provided:
  - Signage be erected at both ends of Waterloo Lane to communicate to drivers that this is a construction route and to expect the potential for HGV traffic;



- Signage be erected at both ends of the area adjacent to Walnut Tree Farm to act as above;
- Signage be erected at both ends of the Hitchin Road / Walnut Tree Road junction to communicate to drivers that this is a construction route and to expect the potential for HGV traffic;
- Limitations on the route that roof trusses can be brought to site –but potentially in and out via Pirton subject to some of the measures in the above bullet points. Mobile cranes have (as explained in the previous chapter) the ability to use either route.
- 5.6. It is believed that with suitable additional mitigation measures in place that the key pinch points on both routes can be managed to a satisfactory extent.
- 5.7. Details of the proposed route and temporary carriageway works along the route is provided at *Appendix C*. These details include construction details with level information which set out the principles of the works. The construction details will be subject to a detailed design process which will require the agreement of HCC prior to any works being undertaken.



#### 6. Conclusion

- 6.1. This CMP Route Plan report provides of the HGV route to and from the development site at Holwell Road, Pirton.
- 6.2. There are acknowledged pinch points on both routes, although neither route is limited by weight, height or width restrictions.
- 6.3. The options considered in this report are for review by HCC and presentation to residents and council members for approval under the discharge of condition 6. Whilst no solution will appease all objectors, the additional mitigation measures identified within the report highlight that CALA Homes are willing to explore alternatives in order to reduce potential impacts.



## **APPENDICES**



A. Proposed Construction Route



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**B. Mobile Crane Route Tracking** 



A1-Wat-S, OS



This drawing should not be scaled. Dimensions to be verified on site. Any discrepancies should be referred to the Engineer prior to work being put in hand. This drawing is the property of Waterman Infrastructure & Environment Limited, and the drawing is issued on the condition that it is not copied reproduced, retained or disclosed to any unauthorised person, either wholly or in part without the consent in writing of Waterman Infrastructure & Environment Limited Pickfords Wharf, Clink Street, London SE1 9DG t 020 7928 7888 f 020 7902 0992 3 Kev: Large Mobile Crane Overall Length Overall Width Overall Body Height Min Body Ground Clearance Track Width Lock to lock time Kerb to Kerb Turning Radius 12.300m 2.430m 3.386m 0.590m 2.430m Riddy Park Meadow Farm Ashcroft Farm Elmdene Farm Capel Grange 1.... Hazelbury Pinchgut H Pound Farm A01 20.06.17 FIRST ISSUE Rev Date Description Amendments Holwell Road, Pirton Proposed Construction Traffic Route Auto Track Analysis Large Mobile Crane Travelling towards Holwell via Pirton Client CALA Homes (North Home Counties) Ltd **M**aterman Pickfords Wharf Clink Street London SE1 9DG t 020 7928 7888 f 03333 444 501 mail@watermangroup.com www.watermangroup.com PRELIMINARY Project No WIE11697 JW Date June 2017 Drawn by Computer File No work to figured dimensions only Scales @ A1 WIE-11697-SA-05-0041-A01.dwg 10m 20m 30m 40m 50m 60m 70m 80m 90m 100m Revision Publisher Zone Category Number \_\_\_\_ 0041 A01 SA WIE 05 1:1 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100



C. Proposed Route and Highway Improvements



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