

Application ref: 2021/5255/P
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The Planning Lab
Somerset House
South Wing
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Dear Sir/Madam

DECISION

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Approval of Details Granted

Address:

British Museum
Great Russell Street
London
WC1B 3DG

Proposal:

Details of a granite bench and 2 security bollards pursuant to condition 16 (landscaping) of 2009/4638/P dated 13/01/2010 (for: Erection of 5 storey building (plus 3 basement levels) with roof level plant to provide a special exhibition gallery, logistic bay collection storage facilities, conservation laboratories, associated offices and management facilities for the British Museum, associated alterations, and landscaping)

Drawing Nos: Covering letter from the Planning Lab dated 25/10/2021; Proposed plan showing new granite seat; Proposed plan of collapsible bollards; Design detail of proposed bollard for front of old contractors entrance (001-2240 K/A, 001-2250 K/D) by Ultra Secure; 47445-001TR-01 issue A.

The Council has considered your application and decided to grant permission.

Informative(s):

1 Reasons for granting approval-

Details of landscaping were approved under condition 16 of the original planning permission for the new World Conservation and Exhibitions Centre

(WCEC) building. The landscaping details included 3 granite benches on Montague Place outside the new exhibition gallery space. These details were approved in 23/12/2013 (ref 2013/5309/P). This application seeks to add an additional granite bench to join the 3 existing benches and also install 2 new collapsible bollards in front of the gates to the north west entrance contractor's entrance that are set back from Montague Place as part of the comprehensive plan for this part of the streetscape.

The granite benches would be formed from channelled granite blocks. The WCEC building is sufficiently differentiated from its Edwardian and Georgian neighbours as to have a stair tower on its façade and is heavily glazed. Given this context, the additional bench is not considered to harm the conservation area or the setting of the neighbouring listed buildings. The security bollards are minor in nature. The Council's Transport officer has reviewed the information and is satisfied with its details.

One objection was received from the Bloomsbury Conservation Area Advisory Committee regarding the use of the bench and its materials. Following further clarification about the use and the materials (granite rather than concrete), the CAAC have withdrawn their objection.

The hard landscaping details would achieve a high quality streetscape that would contribute to the visual amenity and character of the area. The condition can therefore be discharged.

The full impact of the proposed development has already been assessed.

As such, the proposed details are in general accordance with policy B1 of the Camden Replacement Unitary Development Plan 2006 and policies D1 and D2 of the Camden Local Plan 2017.

- 2 You are reminded that conditions 17 (external lighting), and 19 (CCTV) of planning permission 2009/4638/P granted on 13/01/2010 are outstanding and require details to be submitted and approved.

In dealing with the application, the Council has sought to work with the applicant in a positive and proactive way in accordance with paragraph 38 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2021.

You can find advice about your rights of appeal at:

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/appeals/guidance/guidancecontent>

Yours faithfully



Daniel Pope

Chief Planning Officer