

ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN MAYOR

CLLR TONY KONIECZNY



TOWN CLERK

JANE LEE
TOWN HALL
CROSS STREET
ABERGAVENNY
NP7 5HD
Telephone: (01873) 735820

29th August 2019

Dear Mr Williams

RE: PROPOSED ALDI EXTENSION AND CAR PARK RECONFIGURATION AND DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION OF ATS EUROMASTER MOTOR VEHICLE SERVICE CENTRE AT MONMOUTH ROAD, ABERGAVENNY, NP7 5HF

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposals for the above development as part of the pre-application consultation.

Abergavenny Town Council has examined the proposals and as a result offer the following observations which I hope will be incorporated into the proposals prior to submission to Monmouthshire County Council.

Landscaping: Abergavenny Town Council is committed to improving the biodiversity of the town and improving the attractiveness of the town. To this end, they are working closely with a number of organisations to improve the quality and quantity of planting in the town. The Town Council is also supportive of Monmouthshire County Council's Green Infrastructure (GI) SPG and the river Gavenny which runs to the east of the site has been identified as a key GI asset. In support, the Town Council requests that the planting alongside the Gavenny is improved with the planting of appropriate tree species. The current plans retain the existing vegetation which is not of note. The improved planting would act as a visual screen to the industrial properties to the rear of the development site and improve the overall appearance of the approach into the town centre. In addition, if the species proposed in the current landscaping plan could be revisited and species that are more pollinator friendly included that would be welcomed by people and pollinators alike. For example, pyracantha, hebe, euonymus are low maintenance shrubs offering a limited contribution to improving biodiversity.

Sustainability: The Town Council welcomes the current proposals but considers solar PV could be included in the scheme which would reduce the carbon footprint of the building significantly. There are also rainwater harvesting technologies that could be installed for this type of building and use.

Corporate Social Responsibility: As mentioned earlier the Town Council is working to approve the attractiveness of the town and improve biodiversity. One of the elements of this work is to refresh planting beds across the town. Two of these beds are opposite Aldi's by the

bus station. As part of this scheme, the Town Council would welcome consideration by your client to pay for the planting and to request that the landscaping company engaged by your client carries out the work to clear and plant up these two beds? We will provide a landscaping scheme and list of plants. I attach photos of the beds in question, which show that the areas to be planted are not excessive, so this is not considered to be an excessive request. The large trees will remain. The Town Council would publicise the involvement of your client in contributing to the improvement of the town.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss any of these points in more detail.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Lee', written in a cursive style.

Jane Lee
Town Clerk