

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE**

DATE: **20TH APRIL 2016**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF OFFICER (PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT)**

SUBJECT: **FULL APPLICATION – DEVELOPMENT OF EXTERNAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMPRISING AIR SUPPLY UNITS, DUCT WORK, STACKS & SUPPORTING STEEL WORK & ASSOCIATED ROADWAYS & LANDSCAPING TO SUPPORT THE OPERATION OF 2 NO. BOOTHS WITHIN THE PAINT SHOP BUILDING AT CHESTER ROAD, BROUGHTON**

APPLICATION NUMBER: **055021**

APPLICANT: **AIRBUS OPERATION LTD**

SITE: **AIRBUS OPERATIONS LTD, CHESTER ROAD, BROUGHTON, FLINTSHIRE, CH4 0DR**

APPLICATION VALID DATE: **24TH FEBRUARY 2016**

LOCAL MEMBERS: **COUNCILLOR W. MULLIN**

TOWN/COMMUNITY COUNCIL: **BROUGHTON & BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

REASON FOR COMMITTEE: **HEIGHT OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**

SITE VISIT: **NONE REQUESTED**

1.00 SUMMARY

- 1.01 This full application relates to the provision of external infrastructure air supply units, ductwork, and associated roadways and landscaping to support 2 booths within the paint shop building, at Airbus Operations Ltd, Chester Road, Broughton.

2.00 RECOMMENDATION: TO GRANT PLANNING PERMISSION, SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING:-

- 2.01 1. Time limit
 2. As per the approved plan
 3. Noise levels
 4. Noise levels emitted from mechanical and electrical plant
 5. Noise levels nearby sensitive premises

3.00 CONSULTATIONS

- 3.01 Local Member
 Councillor W Mullins
 No response at time of writing.

Broughton and Bretton Community Council
No objections.

Head of Public Protection

Application is located in a position which is unlikely to cause a noise disturbance to nearby residents. Would advise that conditions are attached to any permission granted to safeguard the local amenity and have been historically attached to the site when the original application for the paint shop building was granted.

Natural Resources Wales

Do not have any comments to make on the proposed development.

Airbus Operations Ltd.

No aerodrome safeguarding objection to the proposal.

4.00 PUBLICITY

- 4.01 Site Notice
 No response at time of writing.

5.00 SITE HISTORY

- 5.01 **053219**
 Full Application for the erection of a radar mast and associated development.

052843

Erection of ground support equipment shelter – Approved 19th December 2015.

051621

Relocation of the existing fuel farm- approved 18th February 2015.

051469

Construction of a new catering facility- approved 7th January 2014.

6.00 PLANNING POLICIES

6.01 Flintshire Unitary Development Plan

GEN1 - General Requirements.

D1 - Design Quality, Location & Layout.

D2 – Design.

EMP3 - Development Zones & Principal Employment Areas.

EWP12 - Pollution

STR8 - Built Environment

7.00 PLANNING APPRAISAL

7.01 Main Planning Considerations

It is considered that the main planning issues in relation to this application are as follows:-

- a. Principle of development having regard to the site in question and its surroundings.
- b. Proposed scale of development and impact on the character of the site and its surroundings.

7.02 The Proposed Development

Airbus at present uses four paint booths within the existing paint shop building at the Airbus Broughton site. These booths are associated with the preparation and painting of the aircraft wings constructed on the site prior to transhipment to another factory ready for assembly on the final aircraft. However, due to increase in production capacity, Airbus Operations Ltd are now proposing to install two additional booths within the building.

7.03 To allow for operational expansion, the paint shop building was designed to offer accommodation for additional booths without the need to amend the external appearance.

7.04 To support the operation of the new booths it will be necessary to construct external infrastructure (e.g. air circulation systems), alongside the north-western elevation of the building. This infrastructure given the height would not benefit from permitted development rights and as a result requires planning permission due to this aspect, notwithstanding other buildings within the complex being higher again.

7.05 In summary, the external infrastructure proposed consists of the following:-

- A. 'spraying booth' air supply unit, associated circulation ductwork and exhaust stack.
- B. 'preparation booth' air supply unit, associated circulation ductwork and exhaust stack.
- C. external steelwork to support the ductwork and exhaust stacks proposed.
- D. minor reconfiguration of maintenance roadways and landscaping to allow for the placement of the external infrastructure

7.06 Site & Its Surroundings

Airbus Broughton site is located to the north of the A5104 Chester Road and the settlements of Broughton and Bretton. The proposed site is located next to the main 'east' factory and other buildings which includes the Beluga building recently constructed. The building itself is centrally located within the Broughton site, away from residential properties.

7.07 The external infrastructure which forms the content of this application is located immediately next to the north-western elevation of the existing paint shop building. This land currently comprises of hard standing and mown grass, which essentially forms a small island due to the nearby internal roadways serving the site.

7.08 Paint Shop Building

The paint shop building is constructed from a double span steel portal frame. The northern span is 74m long by 25m wide and its southern span is 68m long by 26m wide. In addition, an interconnected smaller building is 15m wide by 34m long extends from its south-western elevation. The elevations consist of brick walls, to a height of 2m, with metal profiled cladding above. The building extends to a height of between 15m to 16m.

7.09 As noted, four booths associated with the painting and sealing of aircraft wings are currently being used, and it is proposed to install two additional booths (spraying and preparation) within the building. Due to the nature of the building and the use of the overall site the new paint booths, do not require formal consent.

7.10 It will be necessary to construct supporting infrastructure (e.g. two air circulation systems) immediately next to the north-western elevation of the building and it is this element or part of this project which requires consent. The combination spraying booth air supply unit is proposed to be constructed next to the north-western elevation of the paint shop

building. The unit would be 12.5m long x circa 5.3m wide x circa 5.5m high. It would comprise of a prefabricated structure which includes a series of personnel doors and intake grills, all finished in grey. The ductwork and stack would also be finished in grey and where it passes through the building's envelope any gap would be finished in the appropriate matching colour. It is the ductwork/stack which require consent being over 15metres high.

- 7.11 The stack extends to a height of 20.5m (1.8m wide) and include emissions testing point. The existing paint shop building is 15m to eaves 16m to ridge, therefore only a small section of the stack would protrude above the height of the building.

7.12 Policy Context

The application site forms part of an existing employment area which is allocated through Policy EM3 'Development Zones and Principal Employment Areas'. The policy identifies that within these areas employment development will be permitted subject to specific controls. Policy EM3 identifies three development zones, in the case of the application site which forms an: 'Airport Development Zone' which is of particular interest stating : "This is another area of existing employment uses and industrial estates and which also encompasses the Hawarden Airfield and the aerospace industry. Given the existing focus of employment, the expansion of Airbus and the growing potential for spin off developments from the aerospace sector, the area has a strategic function in the context of the County's economy..."

- 7.13 In terms of Policy EWP12 'Pollution' the proposal would not create an additional risk of pollution or hazard either at the site or on the surrounding environment. The pollution control measures including filtration systems contained within the air supply units, noise attenuation features (silenced fans and lagged ductwork) mean that the proposal would not create a pollution risk. Therefore the proposal is also considered to accord with this policy and Policy EWP13 'Nuisance'. Environment Health have been consulted on the application and request conditions that were imposed on the original building are placed on this application relating to noise levels

8.00 CONCLUSION

- 8.01 The scale of the proposed development is dictated by its intended function as new paint shop facilities and associated space. It is the ductwork/stack which requires consent being over 15 metres high. The stacks and associated development is to be located within the Airbus site, a location which is characterised by large manufacturing /industrial buildings. Given the scale of the existing buildings on site, and the fact that the infrastructure/stacks will be of a similar height to existing buildings, the scale of the development is considered to be appropriate to its location and to its intended function

- 8.02 In considering this planning application the Council has acted in accordance with the Human Rights Act 1998 including Article 8 of the Convention and in a manner which is necessary in a democratic society in furtherance of the legitimate aims of the Act and the Convention, and has had due regard to its public sector equality duty under the Equality Act 2010.

LIST OF BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Planning Application & Supporting Documents
National & Local Planning Policy
Responses to Consultation
Responses to Publicity

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