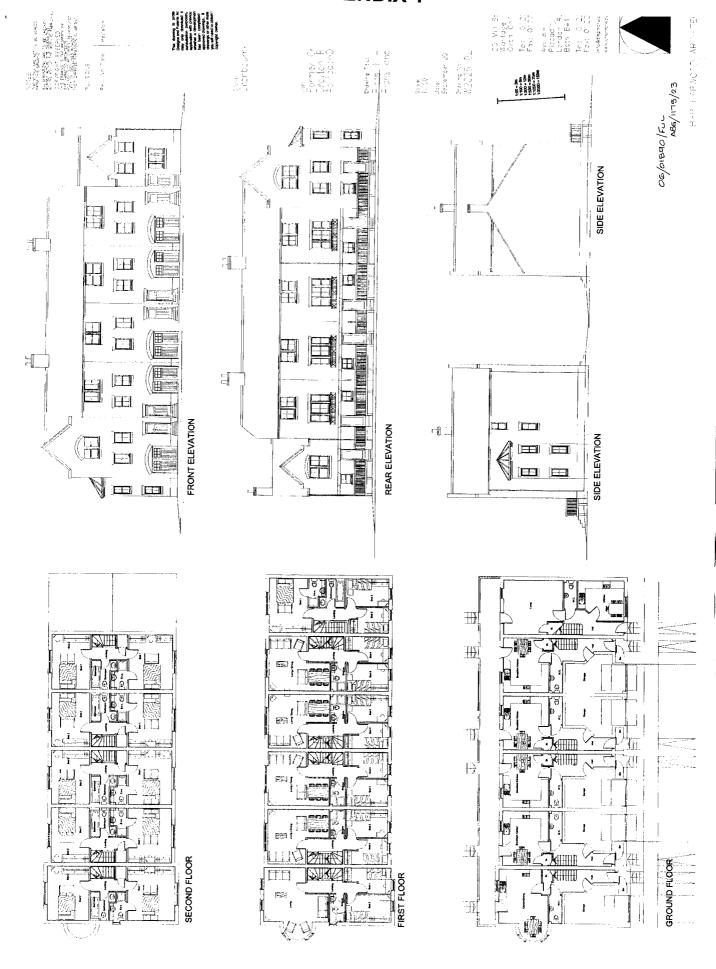


BHP HARWOOD ARCHITECTS

APPENDIX 1



McCoy Associates Chartered Town Planners

54 New Street — Henley on Thames — Oxon RG9 2BT — Tel: 01491 579113 Fax: 01491 410852 www.mccoyassociates.co.uk email denis@mccoyassoc.co.uk

12th February 2007-02-12

For the attention of Alison Blyth

Deputy Director (Planning & Community Strategy)
The Vale of White Horse Distrct Council
PO Box 127
The Abbey House,
ABINGDON
OX14 3JN

Dear Alison

Former Crossroads Garage Site, Drayton Road, Abingdon Proposed Residential Development

I refer to the drawings of this scheme, and design and access statement, which you handed to me last Wednesday. You have requested that I offer comments on the design and townscape implications of the proposal.

In my judgement this scheme promises to create a good sense to identity at a part of the town which lacks particular character at present. The conundrum of accommodating today's car parking requirements has I believe been skilfully handled here, with little impact on the public realm.

There are a few minor inconsistencies on the drawings, for example dormers on plots 34 - 43 are not consistent between drawing number 03 and the roof plan at drawing 01. The ends of this block are rather boring, and rather disappointing at the end elevation facing the entrance to the estate.

The greater missed opportunity however is at the end of plots 44 - 65 nearest the town centre. The handling of the large stairwell here in my judgement does not really offer the sort of visual interest, or even excitement, which we have always advised should be sought at this corner of the site. The intended balconies on the front of the block may generate a little animation, but I believe these Architects could respond more creatively if encouraged to create more of a landmark feature at this point.

You will of course need to ask them for particulars of how the front boundary of the site, and the boundary along the entrance to the park, are to be treated.

Your various papers are being returned with the postal copy of this letter.

Yours sincerely

McCOY ASSOCIATES

enc

Denis F McCoy DiplArch(Oxford) ARIBA FRTPI
Christopher R Baker Company Secretary
McCoy Associates Limited, company registered in England n
VAT No. 363 3525 59

APPENDIX 2