

Report to:	Planning Committee
Date of Meeting:	22 June 2010
Report by:	Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

Application No	CL/10/0191
Planning Proposal:	Erection of 8m High Sculpture

1 Summary Application Information

- Application Type : Detailed Planning Application
- Applicant : Lanark Airshow Committee
- Location : Railway Embankment
Lanark Loch
Hyndford Road
Lanark

2 Recommendation(s)

2.1 The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) Grant detailed planning permission (subject to conditions – based on conditions attached)

2.2 Other Actions/Notes

- (1) The Planning Committee has delegated powers to determine this application

3 Other Information

- ◆ Applicant's Agent: None
- ◆ Council Area/Ward: 02 Clydesdale North
- ◆ Policy Reference(s): **South Lanarkshire Local Plan**
Policy STRAT4: Accessible Rural Area
Policy DM1: Development Management

- ◆ Representation(s):
 - ▶ 1 Objection Letters
 - ▶ 0 Support Letters
 - ▶ 0 Comments Letters

- ◆ Consultation(s):

None

1 Application Site

- 1.1 The proposal relates to a raised grass embankment at the entrance to Lanark Loch on Hyndford Road and situated on the edge of the town boundary. The proposed public art sculpture would be placed on the level top of the former railway embankment which is approximately 4m above road level. The embankment marks the edge of the settlement boundary and forms part of the Lanark Loch's public space. Lanark Loch and park are situated to the east of the site and link with the racecourse and Lanark Golf Club to form a large edge of town recreation area. Dwellinghouses adjoin the site to the west while there are several commercial properties on the opposite side of Hyndford Road.

2 Proposal(s)

- 2.1 Detailed planning permission is sought for the erection of a sculpture at the entrance to Lanark Loch. The 8m high steel sculpture comprises a 3.9m high supporting column above which is the art feature involving three planes in flight. It is being erected to mark the centenary of the first international airshow to be held in Scotland, at Lanark Racecourse in August 1910.
- 2.2 The location of the sculpture was chosen to be located as close to the original airshow site as possible while still being part of and marking the entrance to the town of Lanark. The existing recreational area was seen as an ideal location as it would be seen by passing traffic entering Lanark while being accessible by the existing users of Lanark Loch. The application includes an information board on the edge of the existing footpath in to Lanark Loch which will explain the history of the airshow and its significance in aviation history. Three uplighters are also proposed at the lower ground level of the embankment.

3 Background

3.1 Local Plan Status

- 3.1.1 The South Lanarkshire Local Plan shows the site is situated on the edge of Lanark within the Accessible Rural Area covered by Policy STRAT 4: Accessible Rural Area, Policy DM 1: Development Management is also relevant.

3.2 Relevant Government Advice/Policy

None relevant

3.3 Planning History

No recent or relevant planning history.

4 Consultation(s)

- 4.1 No consultations were carried out on this application.

5 Representation(s)

- 5.1 Following the carrying out of statutory neighbour notification of the application, one letter of representation was received. The contents of which are summarised as follows, together with my comments thereon:

- (a) **The siting in such a prominent position will attract passers-by yet no additional parking spaces are to be provided. The existing parking at Lanark Loch is often full to capacity and overflows on to Hyndford Road and the surrounding area causing road management issues.**

Response: The positioning of the proposed public art sculpture is intended to be a landmark at the entrance to the town. It is not however envisaged that the sculpture itself will be a visitor attraction but rather a point of interest for visitors to Lanark Loch and therefore there would be no increase in traffic to the area as a result of the proposed sculpture.

- (b) **Although the embankment is currently an open public space with no restrictions on access, there is presently little activity on this area. This would change drastically if people were climbing the embankment to get a closer look at the sculpture resulting in the overlooking of the garden and compromising the objector's security.**

Response: The placing of the structure at the end of the railway embankment would not encourage pedestrians to scale the steep grassy embankment to view the sculpture. The sculpture's attraction is its scale and the views from below and from a distance. The embankment can already be accessed informally by members of the public. It is expected that any increase in passing pedestrian traffic will be negligible and will not have a significant impact on the residential properties that adjoin the site. In any event the majority of the gardens of the adjoining houses are screened by mature trees along the boundary to the embankment.

- (c) **The sculpture due to its design and position could have a health and safety implication with people trying to climb the column and scaling across the suspended arms. If the sculpture were to be founded at ground level instead of on an embankment, the column could be made several metres higher and much less likely to be climbed.**

Response: The design of the supporting column has been deliberately shaped to be wider at the bottom and the top and would have a smooth finish, oval shape and lack of gripping points. The height of the column is 3.9m above ground level and therefore climbing of the sculpture is highly unlikely.

- (d) **On a more technical note, I presume that even although this proposal probably does not require a Building Warrant that somebody has looked into/will look into the feasibility of siting the sculpture on the potentially contaminated material of a man made banking undermined by rabbits and badgers.**

Response: A structural engineer has been employed by the firm commissioned to supply the sculpture to look at the foundations and fixings for the proposed sculpture.

- 5.2 The letter has been copied and made available for inspection in the usual manner and is on the Council's Planning Portal.

6 Assessment and Conclusions

- 6.1 The determining issues that require to be addressed in respect of this application are compliance with the adopted local plan and its impact on the visual and residential amenity of the area.
- 6.2 In terms of the adopted South Lanarkshire Local Plan, the application site is identified as being within the Accessible Rural Area covered by Policy STRAT 4. This policy largely sets out the Council's development strategy for the wider area and is therefore not directly relevant to the proposal. There is reference in the policy to a focus on the area's high quality environment and tourism potential and to ensure these qualities are not eroded. The proposal would enhance the existing facilities at

Lanark Loch and provide a feature at the entrance to the town. It therefore accords with local plan strategy.

6.3 The sculpture itself is assessed under Policy DM 1 Development Management which seeks to protect the amenity of an area against any development that would have a significant adverse impact on the local environment and requires planning applications to take account of the local context and built form. The placing of the sculpture within the existing recreational facility of Lanark Loch is seen as appropriate in terms of land use and, as such, the principle of a public art sculpture being erected at this location is considered acceptable. The design, scale and location of the sculpture is considered appropriate for the chosen site and will not have any significant impact on the visual amenity of the rural area or residential amenity of the adjacent residential area.

6.4 In view of the above I recommend that planning permission be granted.

7 Reasons for Decision

7.1 I consider that the proposed sculpture will not have a significant detrimental effect on the residential or visual amenity of the area and complies with Policies STRAT 4 and DM 1 of the adopted South Lanarkshire Local Plan.

Colin McDowall
Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

7 June 2010

Previous References

♦ None

List of Background Papers

- ▶ Application Form
- ▶ Application Plans
- ▶ Representations

Representation from : Anne Plummer,
"Craigney",
2A Lake Avenue,
Lanark,
ML11 9BQ
DATED 25/05/2010

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Steven Boertien, Planning Officer, South Vennel, Lanark, ML11 7JT
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Detailed Planning Application

PAPER APART – APPLICATION NUMBER: CL/10/0191

CONDITIONS

- 1 The consent shall be carried out strictly in accordance with drawing numbers: LAS 1, LAS 2, LAS 3, LAS 4, LAS 5, LAS 6, LAS 7, LAS 8, LAS 9, LAS 10, LAS 11 and LAS 12.
- 2 The development hereby permitted shall be started within three years of the date of this permission.
- 3 That the development shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the plans hereby approved and no change to the design or external finishes shall take place without the prior written approval of the Council as Planning Authority.

REASONS

- 1 For the avoidance of doubt and to specify the drawings upon which the decision was made.
- 2 To comply with section 58 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended.
- 3 In the interests of amenity and in order to retain effective planning control.

CL/10/0191

Planning and Building Standards Services

Railway Embankment , Lanark Loch, Hyndford Road, Lanark

Scale: 1: 5000

For information only

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