

Shared Heritage Services Team response

APP/21/000866

7 and 8 Northlea, Prince George Street, Havant, PO9 1FR

Proposal: Prior Approval for development consisting of a change of use of a building from Class E (commercial, business and service) to 2No.1 bed flats (Class C3).

The site is located on the corner of North Street and Prince George Street in Havant Town Centre and within the St Faiths Conservation Area. It has been recently developed to part residential but retaining the ground floor retail units at the front part of the building. The previous workshop has also been converted into residential units.

Section 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires planning authorities, when considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a Conservation Area, to have special regard to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character and appearance of that area.

Assessment:

The proposal is to now convert the existing shop units into residential as it has not been possible to let these for retail use, due to declining demand. This part of the conservation area has changed in character to that of mixed use residential /commercial rather than predominantly commercial with the loss of some shops and public houses.

The proposed conversion would not require any changes to the exterior façade and as such, it is not considered that any harm would occur to the character of the conservation area.

Overall the proposal would meet the test of Section 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and no objection is raised on heritage grounds to the application.

Conclusion – No objection

R McMurray

13/9/21