

From: Paul Ashmore
Sent: 10 August 2021 17:13
To: Donophy, Selina
Subject: ASDA Havant - Planning Application Reference Numbers APP/21/00587 and APP/21/00588

Hi Selina,

We have been reviewing the information on our planning application on the public access portal and have noticed that the Highways Consultee has commented as per the attached letter.

We understand that there are concerns over the highways and traffic flow to and from the site and that the previous application at this site for a coffee shop was refused due to highways concerns.

At present we haven't had a transport assessment undertaken as part of these proposals but would like to provide the attached information to try and allay the highways officers concerns.

Existing Operation:

- The existing site operates a Click & Collect service with a 2 lane drive thru arrangement positioned within the car park.
- At present the Home Shopping Delivery Vehicles operate from the home shopping pod which is located on the stores southern gable end and links to the warehouse areas behind. The home shopping pod currently has 5No. van loading bays and parking space for 14No. additional vans. This provides a total of 19No. Vans operating from the store.
- In addition, the existing facility does not have the capacity to keep up with the increased demand for home delivery and, therefore, improvements to this are proposed.
- The home shopping pod starts loading the first batch of vans from 7.00am with the final vans returning to the store by 11.00pm.

Proposed Operation:

- The proposals are for the existing 2 lane drive thru click & collect facility to be increased in capacity to a 3-lane drive thru arrangement positioned in the current location.
- The existing chiller and freezer inside of the existing home shopping pod are to be demolished to provide much needed ambient storage space inside the home shopping pod.
- A new chiller and freezer are to be constructed externally below the existing van loading canopy, with increased storage capacity to meet the increased demand.
- A new van loading canopy with 7No. new van loading bays is to be constructed within the home shopping pod yard area.
- The yard area will not have any dedicated van parking spaces as per the existing situation, but vans will still be able to park in the yard overnight. We anticipate approx. 8 number vans parked in the yard with 7 No. vans also parked in the loading bays, giving a total of 15 number vans parked in the yard area over-night. The remaining vans will park outside of the yard gates on the access road and within the car park (as close to the home shopping pod as possible).
- Note: Each van loading bay can support a maximum of 4No. vans. Based on this, the number of vans available at this store will be 28 vans.

- The home shopping pod operational hours will be unchanged with the loading of the first batch of vans beginning at 7.00am with the final vans returning to the store by 11.00pm

Home Delivery Vans:

- Existing Operation – The 19 vehicles which operate from the store currently go out four times per day; once in a morning, twice during the day and once in the evening. This equals a total of 76 number trips (both out and return to the store).
- Proposed Operation – It is proposed to operate approx. 28 vans from the store; the procedure will continue as before with vans currently going out four times per day; once in a morning, twice during the day and once in the evening. This equals a total of 112 number trips (both out and return to the store). This equates to an increase in trips of 36 number throughout the day.
- Note: The trips associated with the Home Delivery vehicles are spread out throughout the time period as they are dependant on how far away the vehicles have had to travel and return from in order to re-fill for further deliveries. It is, therefore, expected that the predicted trips could be staggered over the whole time period and as a result the increase in number of Home Delivery vehicles will not result in a material impact on the operation of the car park or the surrounding highway network.

Click and Collect:

- Existing Operation - The sites click and collect service currently operates using a 2 lane drive thru. Customers are provided with a time slot for collection with a total of 10 orders collected per hour/per lane. This equates to a maximum of 20 trips per hour by customers.
- Proposed Operation – The proposals are to increase the click and collect service from 2 lanes to 3 lanes. The collection arrangements will remain as existing with 10 orders collected per hour/per lane. This equates to a maximum of 30 trips per hour by customers. An increase of 10 trips per hour.

Car Park Usage Survey:

- Attached is a copy of the car park usage (drone survey) that was carried out at this store in 2018. As you can see from the data the car park at its peak trading times is operating at only half capacity.
- Since the attached survey was carried out physical store visits by customers has declined due to both the Pandemic and the changing shopping habits of customers. A recent survey has not been carried out, but it is clear from ASDA's customer data that trips to the store have declined.

Conclusions:

- Due in part to the Pandemic and due to the changing shopping habits of customers, the physical journeys to the store by customers has declined in recent times, this in turn eases the pressure on the car park and the surrounding highways network. The car park usage and trips to the store have therefore also reduced.
- The increase in home delivery vans and the extra trips generated from this activity will be spread out through the day, it is therefore anticipated that this will not contribute to any noticeable increase in traffic along the highways network. This can also be offset by the reduced number of trips taken by customers as they will not need to visit the store if they are receiving home deliveries.
- The increased capacity of the click and collect drive thru although generating more trips, removes the need for customers to actually visit the store and park in the car park. It is therefore anticipated that there will be a net zero increase on the number of trips generated from this aspect of the proposals.

There are also comments in the attached letter regarding luminance levels of the proposed signage to the click and collect canopy. We are currently awaiting feedback from the specialist lighting/signage contractor but we will confirm shortly as to the exact level that will be achieved.

Could you please also advise the status of the application, as looking on the website the statutory expiry date is today (10th August 2021). Do we need to agree an extension of time to enable the application to be determined with a favourable outcome?

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards

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ACIAT