Planning Officer's Report – LDCA SEPTEMBER 2024

APPLICATION 2024/33 – Proposed Installation of Electric Vehicle (EV)

Charger for a period of four months

PERMISSION SOUGHT Full Permission

REGISTERED 8th August 2024

APPLICANT Jeremy Hart Limited

LOCALITY Museum Car Park, Jamestown

ZONE Intermediate Zone

CONSERVATION AREA Heritage Coast

CURRENT USE Car Park

PUBLICITY The application was advertised as follows:

Sentinel Newspaper on 15th August 2024

A site notice displayed in accordance with Regulations.

EXPIRY 29th August 2024

REPRESENTATIONS None Received

DECISION ROUTE Delegated / LDCA / EXCO

A. CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

1. Sewage & Water Division No Objection - Comments

Energy Division No Response 2. Fire & Rescue No Response 3. 4. **Roads Section** No Objection No Response **Property Division** 5. **Environmental Management** No Response 6. **Public Health** 7. No Response 8. Agriculture & Natural Resources No Response St Helena Police Services Not Consulted 10. Aerodrome Safe Guarding Not Consulted

11. Economic Development (Agent) No Objection - Comments

12. National Trust13. Sure SA LtdNo Objection

14. Heritage Society No Objection - Comments

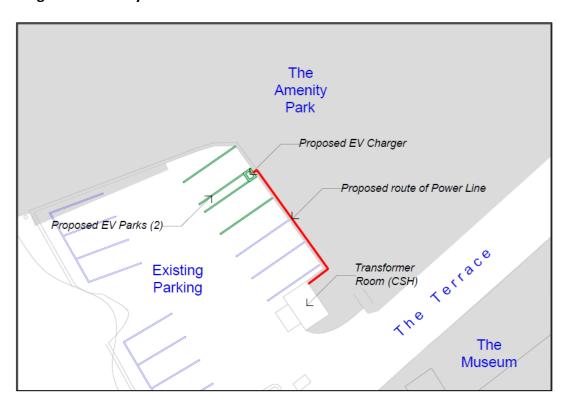
15. Maritime Not Applicable

B. PLANNING OFFICER'S APPRAISAL

Diagram 1: Location Plan



Diagram 2: Site Layout



PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The proposal is to install a single freestanding electric vehicle (EV) charging cabinet on a 1.5m high post within the Museum Car Park for a period of four months. The charger itself will be a maximum 256mm x 193mm x 106mm. The scheme would be in a matt black colour coating.

The purpose of this proposal is part of a larger media initiative focused on creating content that showcases the charging and usage of an electric vehicle on one of the world's most remote islands. The applicant in partnership with Subaru and Easee Chargers, will provide a vehicle with charging units as well as a film crew for the project scheduled to take place in November 2024.

In terms of the installation a small concrete pad will be constructed for the unit to be sited upon. Electricity supply to the unit will be managed through trunking that will run behind the curbing to the unit.

Diagram 3: EV Charging Unit with Pole Mounted Support



STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK & REPRESENTATIONS

There were no objections received from stakeholders or members of the public.

Comments were received from the following stakeholders:

Heritage Society – 'The Heritage Society welcomes this proposed development but points out that the development site is within the Jamestown Historic Conservation Area and recommends that SHG should urgently prepare a traffic and parking strategy for Jamestown because it is drowning under parked vehicles.'

Connect Water & Sewerage – Note sewer main in the area, permit to dig (PTD) advised if any excavation is required.

Economic Development (Agent) – 'The Economic Development team support this application. Whilst the installation is temporary it will allow for filming to take place at the location as well as Island wide The resulting coverage will be beneficial for the Island as it will be used by a major car brand for advertising their new EV brand in UK, Europe and potentially picked up by their global advertising unit. Also will be used by the owner of the EV charging unit in their advertising.'

LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

The relevant policies of the Land Development Control Plan (LDCP 2012 - 2022) that are applicable in the assessment of the proposed development are set out below:

- Intermediate Zone Policy IZ1 b)
- Built Heritage Policies BH1 c) & BH5
- Energy Policy: E1 a)

OFFICER'S ASSESSMENT

The proposal is to install an electric vehicle charger for a period of four months as part of a marketing initiative put forward by the applicant. It is not foreseen at this stage for this development to remain on a permanent basis, unless an organization from the private sector decides to manage the operation and maintenance of the unit, which would be subject to a full development permission to retain.

In assessing the proposal, this will be the first installation of an EV charger within the public space for the island. This proposal will result in the loss of 2 parking spaces initially during the installation and testing phase, as well as during the two week filming period (expected in November 2024) for when a vehicle will need to be charged. Roads section have not raised any objections and the loss of two parking spaces in this parking location to the rear of the Museum is not considered to be unacceptable as this will be on a temporary basis and will not be during the peak holiday season.

There is no excavation envisaged with just a concrete pad to be poured on top of the current ground surfacing (parking tarmac) to support the unit.

The visual impact will be minimal due to its slim design, post measuring approximately 1.5m in height and charger would be of a small scale and in matt black such that it is not considered at this location that the use or appearance of the development will have any adverse impacts on the setting of the Jamestown Conservation Area.

It should be noted that although two locations are being considered under separate development applications, only one unit will be installed at either location. The other location is also for consideration on this agenda.

Overall, the proposal complies with the relevant policies, principles and strategy within the LDCP for the protection of land and natural resources from inappropriate development and pollution, as it will provide infrastructure that is considered appropriate for reducing pollution whilst offering a sustainable solution, as well as facilitating basic infrastructure necessary to enable wider of the island, even if it is currently being provided on a temporary basis.