

Planning Officer's Report – LDCA SEPTEMBER 2024

APPLICATION	2024/34 – Proposed Installation of Electric Vehicle (EV) Charger for a period of four months
PERMISSION SOUGHT	Full Permission
REGISTERED	8 th August 2024
APPLICANT	Jeremy Hart Limited
LOCALITY	In front of the Arch Shop Car Park, Grand Parade, Jamestown
ZONE	Intermediate Zone
CONSERVATION AREA	Heritage Coast
CURRENT USE	Car Park
PUBLICITY	The application was advertised as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Sentinel Newspaper on 15th August 2024▪ A site notice displayed in accordance with Regulations.
EXPIRY	29 th August 2024
REPRESENTATIONS	None Received
DECISION ROUTE	Delegated / LDCA / EXCO

A. CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

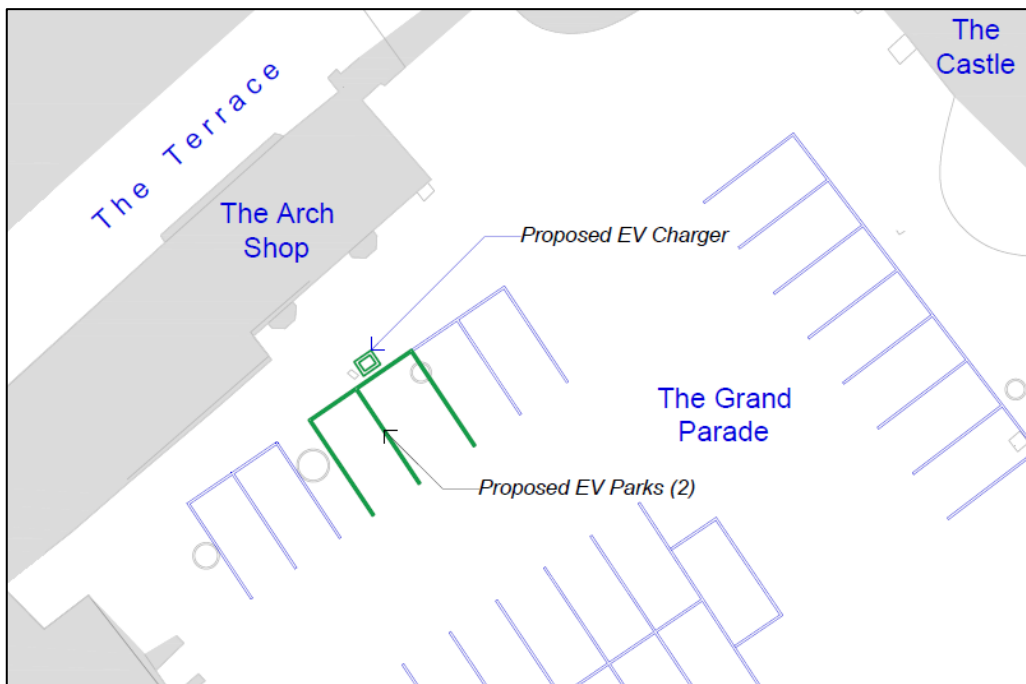
1. Sewage & Water Division	No Objection - Comments
2. Energy Division	No Response
3. Fire & Rescue	No Response
4. Roads Section	No Objection
5. Property Division	No Response
6. Environmental Management	No Response
7. Public Health	No Response
8. Agriculture & Natural Resources	No Response
9. St Helena Police Services	Not Consulted
10. Aerodrome Safe Guarding	Not Consulted
11. Economic Development	(Agent) No Objection - Comments
12. National Trust	No Objection
13. Sure SA Ltd	No Objection
14. Heritage Society	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 in front of the Arch Shop car park, Grand Parade for a period of four months. 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.

Diagram 3: Proposed Schematic of EV Charging Unit



STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK & REPRESENTATIONS

There was an objection received from a single stakeholder and none from members of the public.

Comments were received from the following stakeholders:

Heritage Society – Objection: ‘The Heritage Society points out that the site of this proposed development is within the Jamestown Historic Conservation Area and notes that the application does not include any statement to the effect that it is a temporary proposal (as application 2024/33). If it is a temporary proposal on the same basis as 2024/33, the Heritage Society welcomes it. If it is a permanent proposal, the Heritage Society objects to it on the basis that the location is not appropriate because it further cements the domination of the Grand Parade by motor vehicles and a more appropriate location would be near the petrol station. Either way, the Heritage Society recommends that SHG should urgently prepare a traffic parking strategy for Jamestown because it is drowning under parked vehicles.’

Connect Water & Sewerage – Note water main below ground in area, Permit to Dig advised if any excavations are 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 (LDGP 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: EP1 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 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 will result in the loss of parking spaces initially during

the installation and testing phase, as well as during the two week filming period for when the vehicle will need to be charged. The visual impact will be minimal with its slim design, post measuring approximately 1.5m in height and charger being 256mm x 193mm x 106mm, it is not foreseen at this location that the use or appearance of the development will have any adverse impacts on the setting of the 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.

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.