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PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE AND APPLICATION FOR PLANNING APPROVAL FOR MINOR ALTERATIONS, CHANGE OF USE FROM B1 OFFICES TO A2 OFFICES AND CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT AT:

105A High Street,
Rayleigh,
Essex SS6 7QA
For Mrs Gina Newman
C/o Ascension Legal Support Services Ltd, Basildon

Job No. 62491



PLANNING, DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT

Author:

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Checked by:

Simon Gorst

Date:

November 2016

Status:

Pre-Planning Application (Rev. A)

Submitted to:

Basildon District Council

architecture
building surveying
building services
planning
interior design
environmental design

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1.00 INTRODUCTION

1.01 Ingleton Wood LLP were asked by Gina Newman and the Directors of Ascension Legal Support Services Ltd to carry out an assessment of the above property in relation to change of use from B1 offices to A2 to form a new office. It is understood that just the building is a conservation area and as such an application is also required.

Other associated works include replacement of a shopfront and providing new branded signage.

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2.00 THE SITE AND ITS CONTEXT

2.01 105A High Street, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 7QA is a corner location at the junction, of High Street and Eastwood Road, and is located in a parade of shops and opposite a pelican crossing. It is a three storey early 19th century period property with a pitched slate roof and facing brickwork elevations with a rendered section at 1st floor with various later additions to the rear.

The overall site area amounts to 0.008 Ha (refer to Location Plan). The main access is from Eastwood Road, with the front of the building having a south-east orientation and the ground floor shop not being in the applicant's ownership/tenancy. The surrounding area is predominantly retail with residential of relatively low density, comprising mainly semi-detached two storey housing with retail below.

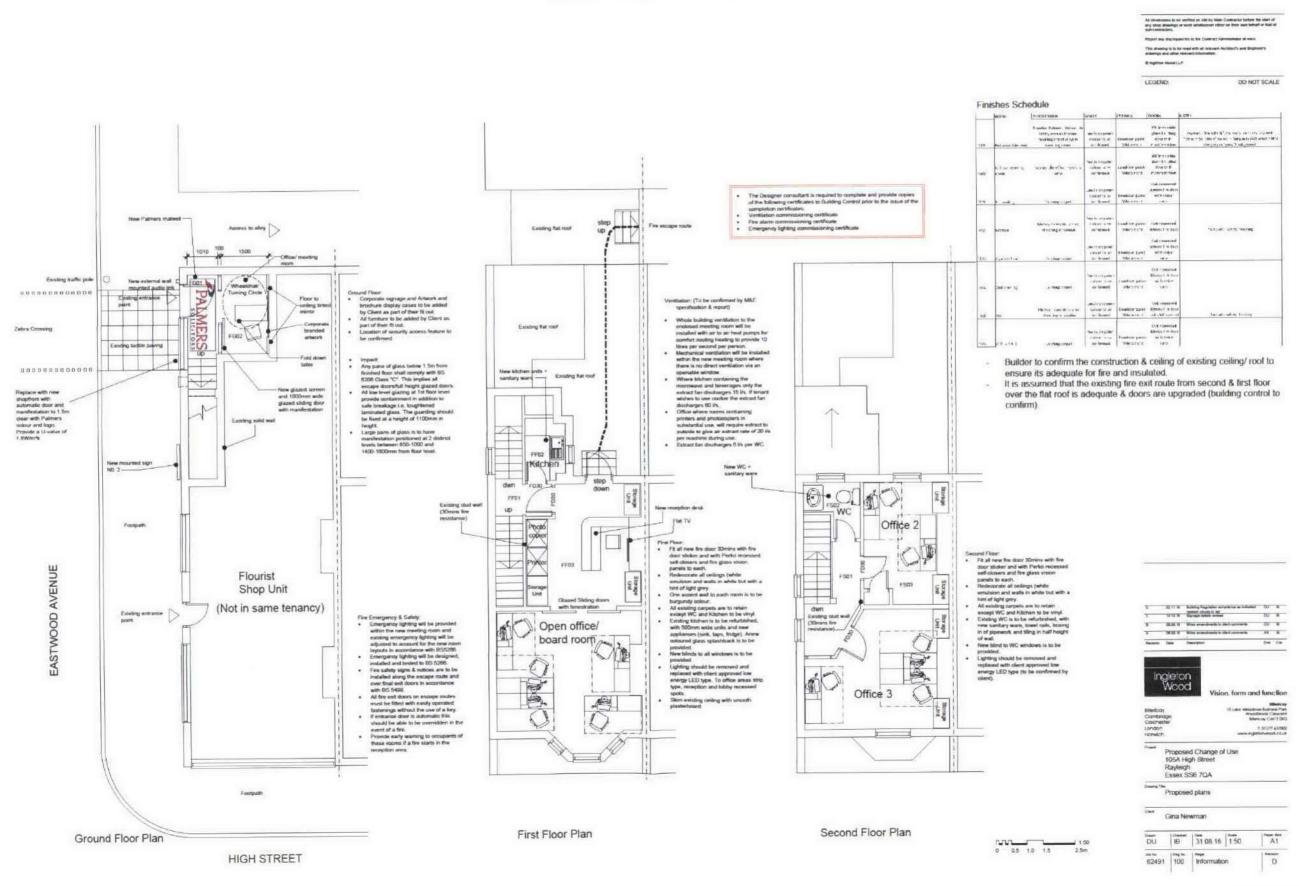
The proposed application is a three storey construction with a total floor area of approximately 88m² (ground floor area is 10m², first floor area is 42m² and second floor area is 36m²).

Site Location (not to scale)





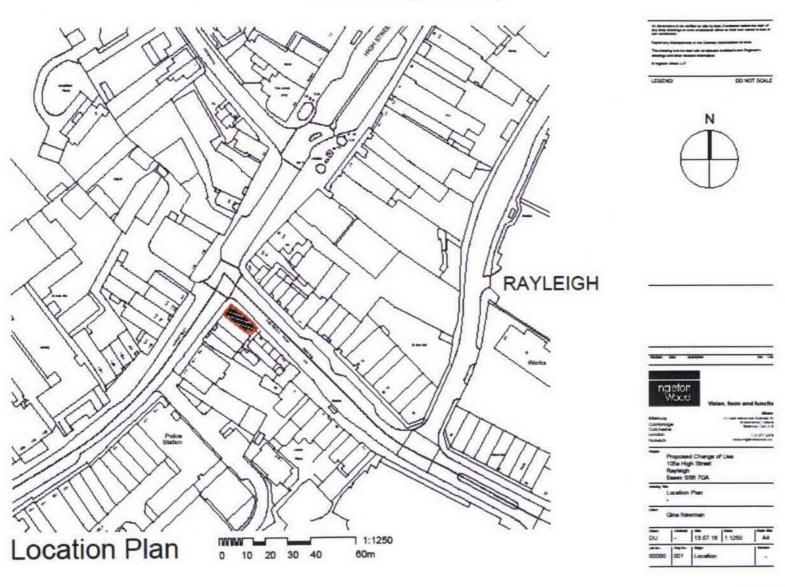
Proposed Plans (not to scale)



Planning, Design & Access Statement: 105A High Street, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 7QA Change Of Use From B1 Offices To A2 Offices and Conservation Area Consent Job No: 62491 - Date: November 2016



Location Plan (not to scale)



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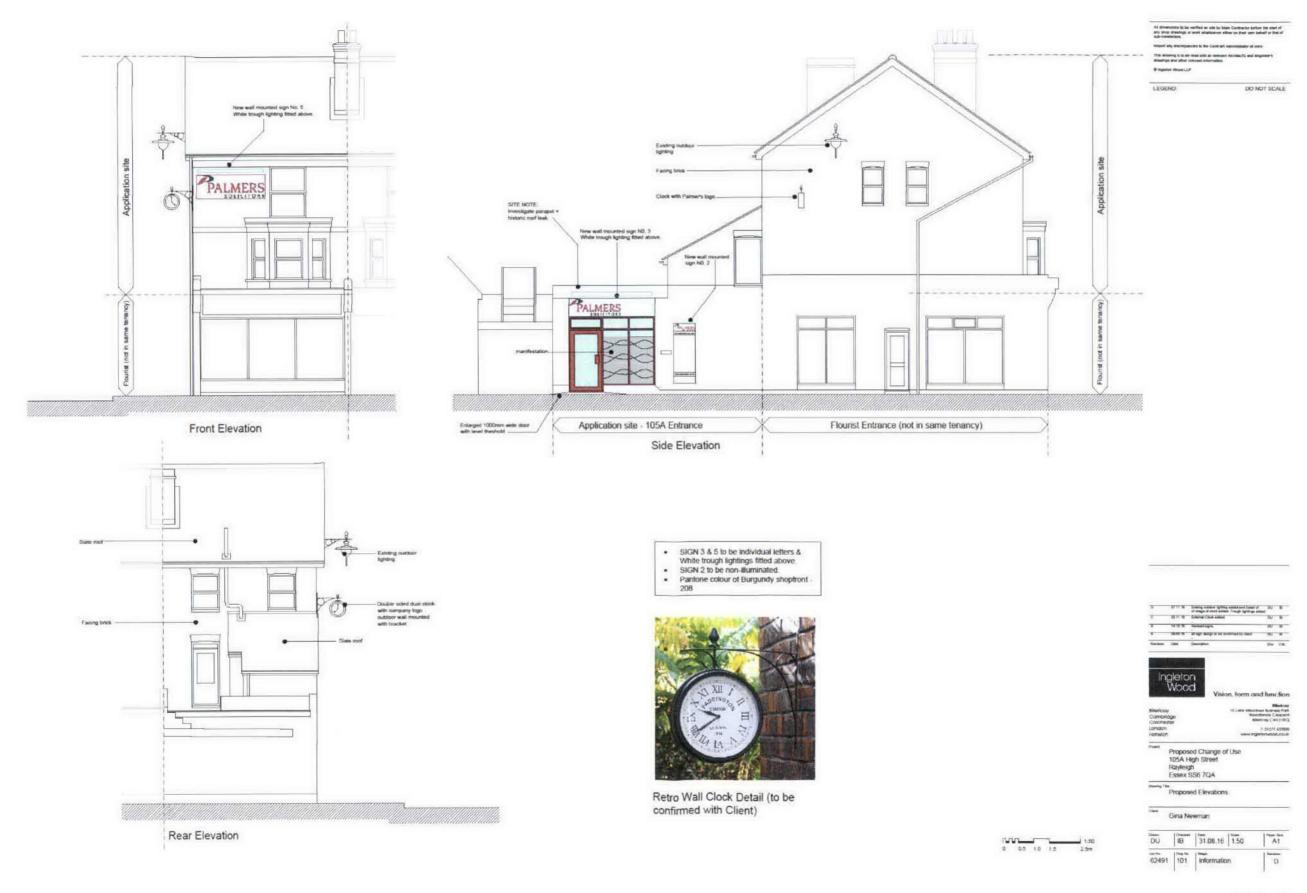


Existing Site Plan (not to scale)





Proposed Elevations (not to scale)







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3.00 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- 3.01 The client will be a tenant and wishes to refurbish the building to provide a local legal services branch, including change of use from B1 offices to A2 offices. The works include the replacement of a shabby shopfront, doors and signage, and provide improved entrance and interview facilities for their customers.
- 3.02 Layout The layout is a simple and efficient essentially rectangular building over three floors, with a single storey ground floor entrance and 1st and 2nd floor offices, boardroom, meeting room, kitchen and WC.
- 3.03 Scale The proposed three storey building fits into the High Street and will keep the scale and massing.
- 3.04 Appearance The new signage and shopfront represents an opportunity to provide a modern, flexible facility. Windows and doors will be in corporate aluminium sections in pantone number 208 'burgundy', providing a modern and contemporary feel. Samples and colours can be conditioned.

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4.00 ACCESSIBILITY / Access

- 4.01 Overall public accessibility to the building is very good with bus stops in close vicinity. The bus links provide easy access to the wider local area. The doors are locked for the current use of a volunteer centre and a door bell ring for attention.
- 4.02 The philosophy of the design of the development is fully inclusive and this includes, but is not limited to, the needs of people with disabilities, elderly people, people with pushchairs or people with restricted mobility. Corridor and room widths are adequate. A lift is not provided.
- 4.03 The pedestrian routes allow limited access to the entrance by wheelchair users, those with sight impairments or users of sticks/crutches, with appropriate surfaces, easy gradients and good lighting. Some visitors will arrive in vehicles or on motor cycles and pedal cycles, but the new shopfront with push-button auto-doors will provide call button (reception linked) opening in office hours.
- 4.04 Proposed site levels and entrances enable level access to new internal sliding doors with a ramp as required.
- 4.05 All building entrances will be clearly defined, with level thresholds complying with the guidance in Approved Document Part M. Door widths will meet the requirements for wheelchair accessibility. The existing fire exit route over the flat roof will be maintained.
- 4.06 There are sufficient facilities and turning circle for wheelchair users. It is not practical to provide accessible WC's to ground floor areas.
- 4.07 Clear, colour contrasting, legible and appropriate signage will be designed to suit all users.
- 4.08 Careful use of colour and tone will be applied throughout the development.
- 4.09 All internal doors and corridors will be at suitable widths in accordance with guidelines laid down in AD Part B.

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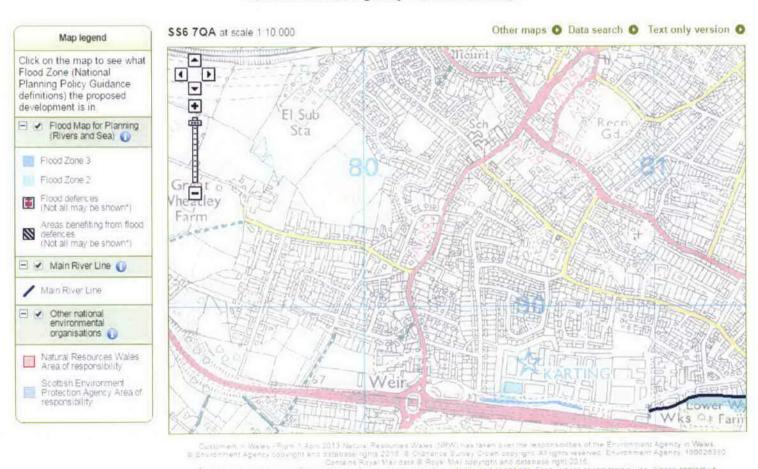


5.00 MISCELLANEOUS

a) Flood Risk

Initial enquiries to the Environment Agency indicate that the shop lies within a Zone 1 flood risk site which indicates that there is 'low flood risk'. A Flood Risk Assessment is necessary in this instance.

Environmental Agency Flood Risk Map



b) Parking

There is currently, and proposed to be, no car parking, as it is a sustainable town-centre location. There is a car park located 2/3 minutes' walk away on Websters Way for two cars, but it is not attached to the property. Other short and long stay car parks are available.

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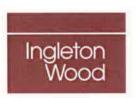
c) Employment

There are currently 6no. staff and it is proposed that this will increase to 10 in three years.

d) Opening Hours

For the public 8:00am - 6:00pm weekdays and closed at weekends, however staff only use the building outside of these hours. By appointment only and on rare occasions clients may been seen outside of these hours.

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APPENDIX 1:

SITE PHOTOGRAPHS OF BUILDING / AREA

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Photograph 1



Photograph 2



Photograph 3



Photograph 4



Photograph 5



Photograph 6

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Photograph 7



Photograph 9



Photograph 11



Photograph 8



Photograph 10