Planning permission for mobile classroom: Wilbarston Primary

A single mobile classroom was installed on site in 2008, when the school admitted an extra 5 children into Reception beyond their admission number. These children are still at the school and will be entering Year 5 in September 2013.

The school has a published admission number of 20, with a current (May 2013) pupil roll of 136 pupils as follows:
- Reception: 18
- Year 1: 21
- Year 2: 20
- Year 3: 18
- Year 4: 25
- Year 5: 19
- Year 6: 15

The school operates with five classes organised as mixed Reception / Year 1 (29), a mixed Year 1 / 2 (30), a class of 26 in Year 3 / 4, 25 in Year 4 / 5 and 26 in Year 5 / 6. The school buildings provide four classrooms, a staffroom and a combined library / ICT suite. The mobile is used as the permanent fifth classroom and currently houses the 25 children in Year 4 / 5. It therefore needs to be retained on site as basic need accommodation.

The school serves the village of Wilbarston and the linked villages of Ashley, Brampton Ash, Dingley, Stoke, Albany, Sutton Bassett and Weston-by-Welland. It is a voluntary controlled school and some parents will be including it in their school place application preferences due to the Church of England association. The pupil roll increases slightly in September 2013, as a small Year 6 group of 15 children leave the school and 20 come into Reception. Approximately 40% of the pupil roll come from Desborough, particularly those living on the Grange housing development at the north of the town, which is closest to Wilbarston. There are already pressures on primary school places in Desborough with no places available at Havelock or Loatlands. The building work to double the capacity at Loatlands is about to start on site to provide extra capacity for the rising birth rate and further housing growth in Desborough.

The County Council currently has limited capacity to undertake building projects where mobile classrooms are on site. There is significant pressure on the capital programme from the rising demand for primary school places across the county and school expansions are underway to provide an additional 9,000 places by September 2015.

July 2013