



Neats Court Isle of Sheppey

Planning Application Number: 19/502969/FULL

Sheppey plays an important role in Aldi's story in the South East. In 2019 Aldi opened a multi-million-pound regional distribution centre to increase accessibility to its high-quality, low-cost offer in the region, creating 400 jobs on the island.

The application for a new Aldi store at Neats Court will allow Aldi to continue to serve the residents of Sheppey, with a modern, high-quality shopping experience. We are delighted that the planning application for a new Aldi store is being recommended for approval by your officers.

Why a new store?

Aldi is committed to providing its offer to the people of Sheppey, but the existing store in Sheerness is just not sustainable. To put it simply, we have outgrown it.

The Sheerness store suffers from being too small and cramped, and crucially it lacks parking. With no room to expand or improve the existing store, our only option is to relocate.

The Neats Court site is not only an existing regeneration area, opposite our new distribution centre, it is also a sustainable and accessible location. It is the only viable option to allow us to provide the best Aldi customer experience for Sheppey residents.

Highways improvements

Our approach to highways has been approved by KCC Highways and Highways England. As noted by your officer, our new store will bring highways improvements, including:

- A new cycle and foot path linking the site towards the north
- 15 electric vehicle charging points

Investing in Sheppey

A new, larger store at Neats Court will bring many benefits to Sheppey:

- A net increase in jobs
- Improved access to Aldi's low-cost, high-quality healthy food
- A modern, accessible store that works well for all our customers
- Further multi-million-pound investment on the island

Respecting our neighbours

A lot of consideration has gone into the design of the new store to improve its appearance in the local landscape and respect our neighbours. We have worked hard with your officers, and other statutory consultees in this respect.

As well as proposing a considerable amount of tree, shrub and wild flower planting, we have also improved the building design with a mix of building materials and a distinctive curved roof.

SUPPORT



When we consulted the local Neats Court community, we were delighted to see a show of support for the proposals, as well as letters of support that have been submitted directly to the Council and referenced in your officer's report.

"The quicker you open a larger store the better. Sheppey needs you"

"The new store will attract a lot more customers as I think the layout of the Sheerness store puts people off."

"Think it is a brilliant idea. Much more ideal for a lot of people to get to. Parking is an issue at the old site. Think it will improve the area significantly"

"Believe a large Aldi store will benefit this island"

THE ALDI EXPERIENCE



Quality products at low prices



Creating 50 local jobs, a net increase of 20



Paying staff the national living wage



No zero hour contracts



Driving footfall to nearby businesses



Redistributing surplus food



Over 2 million meals are donated each year



100% recyclable or compostable packaging by 2025

As concluded in your officer's report the economic benefits of the proposal outweigh any concerns raised regarding the relocation of the existing store.

We hope members agree with your officer's recommendation for approval, and look forward to improving our amazing everyday value offer for the local Sheppey community.

