

SUNRISE[®]

SENIOR LIVING

By Darren Slade
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A NEW KIND OF HOME FOR OLD PEOPLE: Inside the flagship home

Backing for new home for elderly

By Darren Slade

PLANS for a new kind of old people's home on the site of a car dealership have been unanimously backed by councillors.

The former Westover Nissan premises in Poole Road, Westbourne, will be demolished and replaced with "assisted living accommodation" for the elderly.

Sunrise Senior Living plans a building consisting of 90 residents' rooms, including 26 for people with Alzheimer's.

Bournemouth Borough Council's planning board unanimously approved the scheme.

Westbourne councillor John Beesley told the board: "I think in a number of aspects this application is to be welcomed."

"The applicant had "gone to some effort" to create a building which would fit in with its surroundings, he said.

"Too often, developments of this type tend to be bland and uninteresting and don't actually respect the adjoining property," he added. "We've definitely got some planning gain but I think that gain has been particularly amplified by some good design



INTERIOR VIEW: How the accommodation will look inside

features."

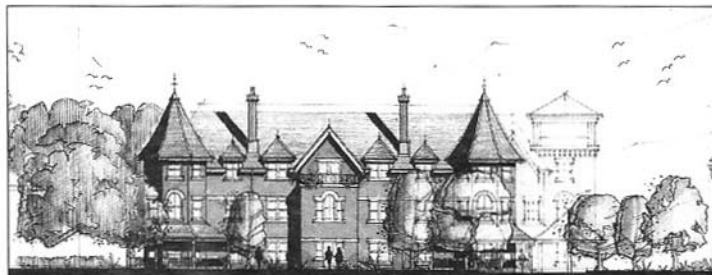
Planning officer Steve Davies said the building would be "substantial". He said it would overshadow the neighbouring Drumconnor nursing home "to some extent" but there would be no overshadowing during the afternoon.

Planning chairman Cllr Ken Mantock praised "what appears to be a very well planned scheme,

not only in its own right but also in the context of its setting".

Sunrise has said its scheme will be welcome in the town following the closure of 95 care homes in six years. Around 80 full-time equivalent jobs will be created.

The building's 90 en suite rooms would include 25 for couples, with an "innovative and tailored" programme for people with Alzheimer's.



SUNRISE SITE: An artist's impression of the Bournemouth assisted living home