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Design Access and Heritage Statement for Proposed Extension and Alteration at Elda Cottage, Hook Lane, Aldingbourne PO20 3TS

This cottage was originally the single storey western leg of the property known as Greenacres which became a self-contained entity some considerable time ago. It is understood that the listing of Greenacres included this section now known as Elda Cottage.

The building itself is probably some 150 years old, constructed in flintwork with brick quoins and details under a play clay tiled roof. It is proposed that the extension and alterations works be carried out to match as closely as possible the existing materials and finishes, both externally and internally.

The kitchen extension and glazed entrance have been kept to a modest height so as not to detract from the existing. Similarly, the open porch has been kept simple for the same reason.

The location of the extension is deep within the site curtilage and will not be visible from Hook Lane or Greenacres. Furthermore, it will hardly be visible from Keymer Cottage, as proposed it will have little, if any, impact on the surrounding environs.

As can be seen, the new entrance point has been moved from the north, Hook Lane frontage to the west. The existing entrance was located in the days when life was somewhat slower. Today Hook Lane is rather busier and to use this part of entrance/exit direct onto Hook Lane is dangerous to say the least, hence the proposed relocation which will also give opportunity to provide easier access to the property.

In conclusion the proposal attempts to improve the accommodation and access whilst retaining the quality and character of the existing dwelling.