

CHECAA
Craigweil House and its Environs
Conservation Area Association
'Preserving our Regal, Historic and Architectural Heritage for Future Generations'

AW-238-12 – 'Welsh slate' paving - 49 Kingsway – 20-12-2012

BY EMAIL ONLY

Head of Planning Services
Arun District Council
Maltravers Road
Littlehampton
BN17 5 LF

20 December 2012

**OBJECTION – AW/238/12 – Laying of 'Welsh slate' to 49 The Drive within the
Craigweil House Conservation Area and Area of Special Character**

CHECAA has studied this site and the application and the Planning Applications Scrutiny Committee is troubled by the descriptions of intended work and is far from satisfied that the proposed replacement material will serve to preserve or enhance or make a positive contribution to the Craigweil House Conservation Area (CHCA) and Area of Special Character (ASC). As the application stands, we see no option but to object in the expectation that the Case Officer will be able to secure more, better and detailed information in order to clarify the applicant's intentions.

The property was built together with No.51 by the same builder at the same time and, at the time they blended in well with that part of The Drive which enjoyed no form of designation. Unhappily, vast numbers of trees were felled to facilitate the development that was in the rear garden of a property in Kingsway. The website heading is '*Change surface of drive and path*' and the application form at item 3 says that this will be to '*lay black Welsh slate slabs*'. Item 10, under 'Vehicle access and hard-standing' states under 'Proposed' '*Driveway and path black slate STYLE slabs*'!

The attached edited brochure of Brett Paving describes these slabs as being of '*soft rippled finish*'; to be '*natural Limestone*' and they appear to be cast from reconstituted stone and not to be genuine Welsh slate at all. We are unhappy at this apparent act of deception as to what material will be used if the application is granted.

More than this, we are simply not persuaded that solid black paving of any kind will sit comfortably with the existing paving in the area; that it will enhance or preserve the existing established character of the area or make any positive contribution to it.

Indeed, we are inclined to the view that stark black paving will starkly 'jar' and not be compatible with the existing character of this part of the CHCA. To the south of this property is the relatively newly (but before any designation) built substantial red brick Craigweil House. CHECAA objected to concrete tiles and sought a slate roof. Sadly, cheap Chinese, dull and matt black slate was used which we considered, along with all the neighbouring residents, served only to damage the area.

We are concerned that black paving of any kind may have a similar incongruous effect on the area but the issue is one which will be determined by the Case officer of the Local Planning Authority whom we ask to take into consideration our studied, as long-term residents of Craigweil, objective views.

Please refuse this application as it is currently presented for it can only detract from the established character of the Craigweil House Conservation Area.

Yours faithfully

Richard D. Ostler
Chairman

Established 20 January 2001

**Chairman: Richard D. Ostler: 'Silvergates', 52 The Drive, Craigweil-on-Sea, Aldwick, PO21 4DT
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