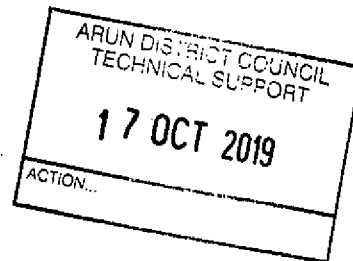


Old Manor Cottage
30 Barrack Lane
Aldwick
West Sussex
PO21 4DA



16 October 2019

The Group Head of Planning,
The Arun Civic Centre
Maltravers Road
Littlehampton
West Sussex
BN17 5LF



Reference AW/258/19/HH

As joint owners of Old Manor Cottage, 30 Barrack Lane, we wish to register our objection to the above Application on the following grounds:-

The proposed extension to the existing house at 26 Barrack Lane would, we believe, affect the visual impact of our listed Thatched Cottage, which is over 500 years old, and its surrounding area, as well as further reducing our privacy and light.

We understand that planning permission was granted in 2010, but was not acted upon: the existence of the subsequent application would impact on the saleability of our much-loved home. At the age of 81, we had hoped to live here until the end of our days, however, we both now have diagnoses which could influence our future plans. The anxiety caused by this application has already affected our sleep, appetites and motivation to keep spending our time and money on our property, rather than on holidays.

When we bought Old Manor Cottage in 2011, it was in a pitiful state inside and out, due, we understand, to the health problems of one of the owners and, sadly, the death of his wife. We have since worked continuously on the gardens and have had parts of the thatched roof replaced at considerable expense. We have researched the history of our property by visits to The Weald & Downland Museum; Public Records Office and Bognor Museum, and also actively support many fund-raising events in Aldwick and other local venues.

Despite having owned six previous properties since 1960 (one also Listed Grade II) we have never objected to a planning proposal. We love Aldwick and the thought of possibly having to consider the prospect of a house move now appals us. Our family, who have no interest in the financial aspect of our decisions, are naturally concerned about our levels of stress occasioned by this unforeseen Application.

We have a copy of a Covenant dated 15/12/1982, which we believe is relevant, that requires the owners of 26 Barrack Lane to gain the agreement, in writing, of the owners of 30 Barrack Lane regarding any Planning Application. We have not and will not, sign such a document.

We have established good relationships with many of our neighbours and receive frequent favourable comments from passers-by, including visitors from abroad, on the unusual and attractive appearance of our old building.

The proposed extension to number 26 would be closer to our property by 3.9 meters and would limit some of our vision of trees both from our garden and our east facing windows.

We are both active enough to work long hours in our garden, but believe that we would find the increased proximity of parts of number 26 a challenge to our relaxation and the health benefits of our gardening hobby.

We have already arranged for work to be carried out on the rethatching of our Summer House, by the Master Thatcher who has previously carried out work for us. The cost quoted for the Summer House is more than £5000 and a quotation for the customary permitted trimming of our trees is £650. We shall attempt to delay our acceptance of these quotations, pending the decision on the current Application.

Whilst we realise that any traffic generated by the proposed building work would be transitory, we feel that it could affect the safety of pedestrians, including ourselves, since there are no pavements in this section of Barrack Lane.

It seems to us unfair that what is deemed to be an improvement to one property could have the reverse effect on another, Listed, building.

Kenneth Brian Hickman

Katherine Anne Hickman