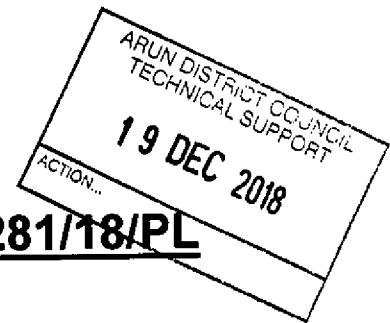
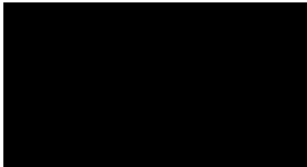




Objection to planning application BR/281/18/PL

PROPOSAL FOR 99 VICTORIA DRIVE, BOGNOR REGIS

SUBMITTED BY PETER HODGKINSON AND SUSAN LIVETT, 92 VICTORIA DRIVE, BOGNOR REGIS, WEST SUSSEX, PO21 2EF



We object strongly to this application for the following reasons:-

DENSITY

Victoria Drive north of Linden Road [VDN] already has a proliferation of multiple occupancy buildings - purpose built and conversions- figures to follow. This proposal compounds the over-population with plans to build nine further flats. Some few years back the adjoining family house [101] and large garden were demolished and replaced with a block of six flats with six parking places.

The other adjoining family house [97] had an application to convert into four flats rejected.

By OUR calculations there are 51 family homes remaining in VDN though we know that some of these are also multiple occupancy. There are 4 Care Homes, a bed and breakfast, a vet's surgery and hospital and 8 multiple occupancy conversions.

Purpose built multiple occupancy buildings hold a further 68 flats.

Are these proposed flats for sale or rent? This could make a considerable difference to the quality of of lives

TRAFFIC

It has been difficult getting a recent traffic count for VDN but all those that I spoke to for this objection and during the past several years are very concerned about the amount of traffic and the speed of the cars. Day and night cars are parked on the pavement the length of VDN. Might I suggest that you use your facilities to get a more accurate picture of the scale of the problem. Traffic is the main preoccupation of the overwhelming majority of those I consulted in Victoria Drive and we have agreed to meet and lobby our respective councillors to take action. EG. Resident parking schemes.

We used to get the DoT traffic count as they monitored the traffic from a vehicle parked opposite 92 Victoria Drive. The single greatest increase in the volume of traffic was caused by a planning decision to place traffic lights at the crossroad formed at the junction of Town Cross Avenue and the Chichester Road. This quadrupled the volume still evident today resulting in a daily back up at the main roundabout which has had the inevitable effect of frustrated drivers using VDN as a rat run. Our lives would be safer and quieter if the traffic lights were removed and a Pelican crossing installed providing safe passage for the schoolchildren to cross the Chichester Road, which was the intention of the traffic lights without the unintended consequences.

We note that there is a provision for 9 parking spaces at the rear of the proposed building. If our experience of NO 101 is anything to go by then we confidently await the inevitable overflow that will join the overflow of cars from No. 101 [on average 5 cars overnight].

NOISE

In addition to the noise caused by the above traffic I can report that the current 6 flat building's occupants and their visitors are responsible for considerable noise and anti-social behaviour, including loud music & people drinking alcohol on the pavement - which has on a number of occasions led to the police being called and the managing agents being drawn in. Parking to the rear of No. 99 will inevitably create noise and nuisance to the immediate neighbours in VDN and Hillsborough Road.

FAMILY

This will be the fourth family house to be demolished in the past ten years.

HOUSES AND GARDENS

Yet another large garden is to be lost to bricks, concrete and mortar.

NEIGHBOURS

This proposal shows no concern to neighbouring properties in VDN and to the rear in Hillsborough Road. The planned three storey building will overlook them all and to compound this most of the flats are furnished with balconies to exacerbate the intrusion.

VDN

In the 21 years we have lived in Victoria Drive North we know of only two applications for infilling in VDS, both were refused planning though one [now Fawkes Mews] was after many years finally approved. This aside from the council and institutional buildings close to the Linden Road roundabout.

By comparison we know of four approved applications in VDN, three for multiple occupancy developments and one [credit where credit is due!] was for a converted Victorian Villa being restored to a single family home. No. 97's application for conversion into four flats was refused [thank you].

Those of us who live in VDN feel somewhat abandoned and neglected.