

Proposed Alterations to Boundary Wall at Yew Tree Cottage, Ferring.

Heritage Statement.

Ferring Conservation area.

The Parish of Ferring lies between the sea and the A259 and is 4 miles east of Littlehampton. Ferring Conservation area was designated in 1976.

The conservation area is the old core of the village around St Andres Church and consists of Ferring Street south of the shops, Church Lane and Ferringham Lane north of Grange Close. It is a small area surrounded by 20th century development. The main characteristics of the three roads that make up the area is that they have retained their lane character although in an urban form. There is an informal approach to the design and the layout of the area, with different building lines, different styles of architecture and different size gaps between buildings.

Within the Conservation Area this characteristic is seen at its best in Ferring Street and Church Lane. These roads are narrow, well planted and there is an attractive feeling of enclosure. The buildings, particularly those in Church Lane, are of higher quality than the rest of the area, and there is a considerable uniformity of character through the use of flint, both in the buildings and the boundary walls.

The proposal site, Yew Tree Cottage, No. 11 Ferring Street was probably constructed by 1720 and originally comprised a single storey building with flint external walls and a thatched roof containing 4 rooms around a central chimney stack. Modern single storey flat roofed extensions have been added to both the north and west elevations. In 2010 part of the land to the south of the cottage was sold off and is now occupied by a single storey dwelling of flint and slate construction. The original flint wall along the eastern boundary was retained.

The boundary walls are of flint cobble construction of varying heights from 1.8metres to 0.6metres high. Both the property and the boundary walls exemplify the characteristics of this Conservation Area along with the informal 'cottage' style planting of this site. The current amount of on street parking along the frontage of the application site is detrimental to the characteristics of the Conservation Area.

This proposed removal of part of the boundary wall is to enable vehicular access to off street parking within the grounds of the proposal site and will remove the necessity for on street parking required by Yew Tree Cottage. This will potentially help alleviate the current high demand for parking in Ferring Street.

The proposed opening is where the wall is at the lowest height and will incorporate an existing opening, thus keeping removal of the wall to a minimum.

The works will provide an opportunity to 'make good' any areas of disrepair to the remaining wall.

The surface of the on-site parking spaces will be of 10mm shingle in keeping with the current shingle path. Any disruption or removal of planting to accommodate the on-site parking spaces, will be sympathetically re-landscaped in keeping with the current 'cottage garden' planting scheme to maintain the characteristics of the street.