

1 Bellview Road
Worthing BN13 1EY
17th November 2018

Arun District Council Planning

Ref: FG/170/18/HH
Pied A Terre, Ferring Street - proposed extension.

I refer to the Ferring Conservation Group's comments on this planning application dated 7th November. In view of the contents my client has asked me to write to clarify certain matters.

The Group should be aware that under Planning legislation brought in by the Government a few years ago, subject to certain criteria, the conversion of offices to residential is 'permitted development'. In the case of the application property, such a change of use was affirmed by Arun District Council last year under 'Prior Notification' Notice reference FG/34/17/PD. This is not a planning permission in the traditional sense but it does have the same effect. The Government brought in the new rules mainly to boost housing supply nationally.

Consequently, the existing building, although small, was able to be used for residential purposes. Since then, with its new residential status, the property has been formally renamed 'Pied A Terre' Ferring Street.

The Group should also be aware that the current application for the extension *is* for full planning permission. The HH suffix on the application number stands for 'Householder'.

Although it is a legitimate change of use, the owner acknowledges that the building is small and the current application has therefore been submitted with a view to enlarging and improving the living space for the occupiers. Incidentally, to pick up a point raised in the Group's letter, the kitchen area is within the living room (a popular modern concept).

At the same time, my client is proposing to alter the design of the building to an art deco style. We believe that this will make a far better contribution to the appearance of the street scene than the 'shoe-box' appearance of the existing building.

Yours sincerely

Andy Bower *MRTPI*
Chartered Town Planner
(agent for the applicant)

Cc Ferring Conservation Group