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8 Tamarisk Way

Ferring

BN12 5ER

24 January 2019

Mr Andrew Wood

Arun District Council

Dear Mr Wood

Re: Planning Application FG/220/18

In response to the further letter dated 18 January from the applicants, Mr and Mrs Jenkins relating to the above application, I would like to make the following points:

Background

There is of course absolutely no guarantee that if granted permission either of the two houses will be used as homes for their family which they seek to use as some justification. It is very easy for an applicant to have a "change of heart" on this, and simply sell or rent on the open market. We have seen this happen many times locally.

Density/ Overdevelopment

The applicants insist that the development will compliment (sic) the existing pattern of development. We contend that this is absolutely not the case as it would be out of character with most of the surrounding properties, and would destroy the existing unique street scene here. Any development on surrounding roads which are quite different to the junction of Tamarisk Way and Sea Lane cannot be used as justification. In addition, simply quoting plot sizes in isolation without taking into account the location of each house in Tamarisk Way is not relevant.

Access and Visibility

The selective quotation of one apparently helpful sentence from the WSCC Highways report does not add to the applicant's case, especially as that report was only compiled from a desk top survey. Their letter completely ignores the genuine concerns of local residents who actually live here and experience problems of road safety every day.

Flooding/ Drainage

Again, blindly quoting the Environment Agency Flood Map without taking into account issues on the ground is not helpful. On at least one occasion in our experience, the gardens of properties on the north side of Tamarisk Way, including my own, have been flooded at times of heavy rainfall. We also find the comment - "When it rains, the same volume of water will fall on the site whether there is a dwelling present or not" - quite insulting. The point local people are making is that a new property will of course reduce the ability of the land to soak up rainfall as it will be covered in concrete and lead to more run off.

In addition, there is no mention of the drainage ditch which runs west from the property and links this pond to the system of ditches which remain in the village and in due course the Warren pond and Little Paddocks pond. They are all interlinked and must not be interfered with.

We also note the absence so far of any consultation report from the Arun DC drainage engineers, which is important here in light of local concerns. We are informed that this report is awaited and we trust that it will not rely on a desk top survey.

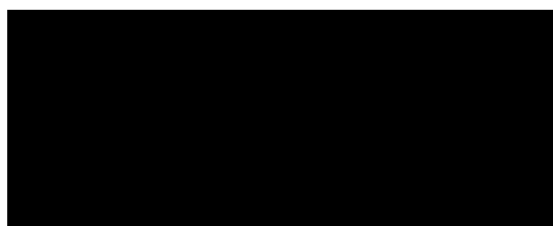
Conclusion

The applicants refer to the area under consideration as "surplus garden land" – we resent that title. This is a decent sized garden in a semi-rural area providing a valued break between the Tamarisk Way properties and Sea Lane, and with good amenity space – a garden which the applicants have praised to other residents before this application was submitted.

Virtually all of the Tamarisk Way residents have so far objected to this plan, as well as other local Ferring residents and Ferring Parish Council. We abhor the thought of this development, especially the way it has come about. It would have an adverse effect on the area's appeal and biodiversity – in the last 2 days for example I have heard a Tawny Owl calling at night from the garden of Elm Lodge. If the application is passed, we would never experience this natural highlight again.

Once again, we call for it to be refused, as we do not want another developer spoiling the ambience of the village, which even they believe to be worthy of comment.

Yours Sincerely



David Bettiss