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Ref Planning application PP09495882 - 31 Asbury Road Bordon Hampshire GU35 0XG

8th February 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

I write this covering letter in respect of my planning application reference above. It will provide some background information linked to that application and advise on compliance with the East Hampshire District Local Plan - Joint Core Strategy and Residential Extensions & Householder Development Supplementary Planning Documents.

As you will see from my application I propose to replace the Boundary Treatment along the Northern edge of my plot, installing a two meter wooden Close Board fence directly adjacent to the public footpath running along its length. I propose that this fence will join the side of the front of my dwelling and the rear fence on the West and Eastern aspects respectively, thus enclosing my rear garden and making a visually neater appearance from the exterior of the plot.

Historically this Boundary Treatment consisted of a three-meter high Conifer style hedge approximately 1.6 meters in depth with a six-foot wooden fence running along its inside edge. This hedge had become diseased and was a hazard to those using the public footpath due to trailing branches and dead foliage. Its poor condition had led it to become unsightly as it provided an environment for easy disposal of litter from the public footpath. It also shaded the footpath to the extent that moss and weeds would grow, requiring regular removal to remain safe underfoot. This hedge was removed for the above reasons in January 2021.

Replacing the existing fence in its current position 1.6 meters from the footpath creates an area of land belong to the plot which is problematic to maintain the appearance of for a number of reasons. Firstly the sub soil is of poor quality and reduced in depth nearer to the pavement. In that respect laying turf and maintaining its appearance will require regular watering and cutting. The electrical and water services of the address make this logistical

difficult as they must travel a significant distance to the site from the rear garden, via the front gate. Further to this, the area of open land alongside the footpath now appears to be used by pedestrians and cyclists who's access to the site is unrestricted. As a result of both of these factors it is proposed to move the boundary fencing level with the footpath, thus providing a neat and well-maintained appearance in keeping with the surrounding streetscape.

In my planning application I have attached a photograph of the type and appearance of the fencing that I propose to install which includes materials and detailing sympathetic to the surroundings. The proposed installation of the two-meter fence alongside the footpath will stop at the line of the front of the premises, thus retaining the 'open, safe and interesting public realm' and views into and out from the address. *(Ref East Hampshire Residential Extensions & Householder Development Supplementary Planning Document)*

Photographic examples of similar Boundary Treatments adjacent to the footpath within Ashbury Road are attached to my planning application. I believe my proposed development will be in keeping with the style of those fences and preserve the neat but open nature of the streetscape, enhancing the appearance of my plot when viewed from other residential premises in the road.

Further advantages to my proposed development are increased levels of light provided by the removal of the hedge. Although replanting a similar hedge would increase privacy in my rear garden, I feel the impact of doing so would adversely affect levels of light to neighboring properties.

I believe my proposed development is within the spirit and in compliance with the East Hampshire District Local Plan – Joint Core Strategy. It aims to maintain a 'Natural Build Environment' by using a high-quality design which respects and enhances the character of this area.

I submit this covering letter with my overall planning application and it should be read alongside that application and viewed in conjunction with all attached plans and photographs.

Submitted for your consideration

Susan Sharratt