

Application No: DM/26/0373

Dear Mr Clarke,

I am writing to formally object to the revised planning application for 9 Riddiford Drive, Burgess Hill, RH15 8RJ, which proposes alterations to a private garden that was previously part of communal land.

When I purchased my flat, one of the key features was the outlook over a shared open area with a mature tree at its centre. This space contributed significantly to the character of the development, providing visual openness and a sense of shared community for residents. It was also an important amenity area, enjoyed collectively.

The revised application does not address the concerns from the original submission. In particular:

- The garden extension continues to encroach on communal land, further reducing the shared outdoor space available to residents.
- The mature tree at the centre of the original communal area is a key feature of the estate, providing both visual appeal and character. Even though the tree is currently healthy, enclosing this area as a private garden reduces the amenity and enjoyment it provides to all residents.
- My property now overlooks a significantly enlarged private garden rather than the intended communal area, impacting my outlook and enjoyment of my home.
- While the revised plans propose replacing part of the fence with a 1.8 high fence/hedge, this is a minor change that does not address the fundamental issue. The communal land has still been enclosed as a private garden, resulting in the permanent loss of shared space and a significant impact on residents' outlook and enjoyment. A smaller fence/hedge does not restore the openness or community amenity that has been removed.
- I was assured by the developers that the tree would be protected and the communal area would not be enclosed. This assurance has not been honoured, further undermining confidence in the management of communal spaces.

- The removal of communal space and enclosure of this land is inconsistent with the original layout and character of the estate.
- These changes were undertaken without prior consultation, preventing residents from having their say before the loss of this important community amenity.

For these reasons, I urge the Council to refuse this revised application and to seek restoration of the communal land and tree area, preserving both the amenity and character of the development.

Flat 4, 11 Riddiford Drive, RH15 8RX