

OBJECTION TO PLANNING PROPOSAL DM/25/0437.

Written submission in objection to the planning proposal, Ref: DM/25/0437, for 8, Ockley Lane, Hassocks, BN6 8BA from the directly affected neighbours at 10, Ockley Lane.

We would like to submit a written response to the Mid Sussex District Council Planning Committee, due to meet on the 9th October at 4pm. We cannot attend personally, unfortunately, due to work commitments.

Given that this planning application has reached committee stage and that two separate planning officers have suggested that this proposal is too borderline for them to make a decision themselves, it feels clear to us that there will be a material negative impact on our property, by the building of the proposed double storey extension. The point of contention to be addressed by this committee seems to us, to be the extent of the impact on our family home of 23 years. We do not understand why we should suffer any material impact on our property.

Two planning officers having visited our house have felt that the decision is in the balance. The parish council have come down on the side of granting permission we understand, due to light reports. Those reports suggest that we will come within 1% of 'adequate daylight becoming challenging' in some of our rooms.

We feel that this level of detrimental impact on our property is unacceptable and distressing and do not understand why the planning boundary laws are potentially being waved, to allow for development right up to the property boundary. We understand that a family home needs to be developed as we have ourselves, but we have previously gone over and above to build in keeping with neighbouring properties, as requested by the planning authority, and to minimise all impact on our neighbours. We do not feel that these expectations are being imposed on this planning application.

We are disappointed that this proposal has continued to be pursued, unaltered, given our material concerns and the obvious and undisputed impact on us.

Not only will we face light reduction, which is without contention, we will also look out onto a solid, double storey with roof, brick wall, approximately 1m from our property windows. It is unlikely that the hedge outside of our window will survive given the amount of footings required to build this extension and the future suggested proximity of a light reducing brick wall to the hedge. Thus, our visual amenity is likely to be even further compromised.

It seems that we are not allowed to object to the brick wall that will raise above the hedge most of the way down our garden, due to the infill of an extensive single storey extension, proposed in the rear garden of 8, Ockley Lane. This too, however, will have a serious visual impact on our back garden experience.

We have no desire to create tension, but we are calling on the council to consider the lived experience of our family home of 23 years, as we know our neighbours would do, if the situation were reversed.

With regards, [REDACTED] (10, Ockley Lane).