

Liz Everest

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 August 2026 15:17
To: Catherine Cardin
Cc: planninginfo
Subject: Comment on Planning Application DM/26/1734

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[REDACTED]
Dear Catherine,

I wish to submit the following comments regarding planning application DM/26/1734 at Villa Margarita, 18 Paddockhall Road, Haywards Heath.

My comments relate only to the proposed changes to the Paddockhall Road frontage, as detailed in section 5.2 of the application's Design and Access Statement. I have no objection to the wider aspects of the proposed development.

I am concerned about the loss of established frontage planting and its cumulative effect on the character of Paddockhall Road. There has already been significant removal of mature planting at the neighbouring properties, Nos. 20 and 22, and I believe further losses risk changing the verdant character of this part of the street.

The application describes the existing Leylandii hedge to be removed as being "out of character for the location" and states that the proposed Portuguese Laurel will be more in keeping with the area. However, I would suggest that this does not fully reflect the established character of this section of Paddockhall Road, where a variety of mature trees, hedges and other planting make an important contribution to the streetscape. The proposed Portuguese Laurel, specified at approximately 1.8m in height, will be substantially less mature than the existing planting and will take many years to provide the same level of screening and visual contribution to the street.

I also note that it is not entirely clear from the proposed landscaping plan (DWL 12) how much of the existing frontage planting is to be removed and how much retained. The existing planting appears more dense and varied than a single Leylandii hedge, and I would ask that the extent of the proposed removal is clearly established when considering the application.

As the property lies within the Lucastes Conservation Area, I believe particular consideration should be given to preserving the established green character of the area. I would therefore ask the Council to clarify the extent of the proposed frontage removal and assess its impact on the character and appearance of Paddockhall Road, particularly in the context of the recent loss of mature planting at the neighbouring properties. If the Council considers that the proposed removal would have a detrimental impact, I would ask that the existing mature planting be retained, or that the landscaping proposals are amended to reduce its loss.

Thank you for taking my comments into account.

Kind regards,



Kia Mena
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