

I wish to submit a formal objection to proposed work at Linfield Nursing Home, Guild Care, 18 -20 Wykeham Road, Worthing. AWDM/1544/25 and AWDM/1494/25

My mother is currently a resident of Linfield, Guild Care funding her own care and has been a resident for nearly 3 years. I am writing as her Lasting Power of Attorney, her advocate and a concerned daughter. She has Alzheimer's and Vascular dementia, both progressive conditions, living in the Richmond Suite which is a secure dementia unit. Much of the proposed work is centred around this unit with some work in very close proximity to her bedroom, her safe and calm space.

Mum like the other patients on the only two dedicated units for dementia at Linfield, Richmond and Selden are vulnerable individuals who are sensitive to any changes in their routine or their environment. Such changes, even subtle things can lead to heightened anxiety, agitation, confusion and disorientation. Some may respond with challenging verbal and physical behaviour. Such situations can so easily become safeguarding concerns and add further pressures on the staff who are the one's looking after our loved ones on a day-to-day basis. These behaviours are very distressing not only for the individual, but also for their family and friends to witness. It is a time when you feel totally helpless. One I have witnessed with my own mum only a few months ago. The community specialist dementia team assisted, resulting with medication adjustments having to be trialled to find an equilibrium again. This process took weeks and is still being monitored carefully. For some if this behaviour continues, Linfield can no longer continue care.

Guild Care pride themselves on being dementia specialists, so should fully understand the ramifications and implications on the residents if such building work should progress. Consideration must be made for the impact of any construction work, including noise and vibration. Under the Care Act 2014 they have a Duty of Care to protect, prevent harm and to promote both physical and mental well-being, safeguarding every individual. They have not been open or transparent about these work proposals. None of the proposed work has been advertised or discussed at any resident's meetings. No posters or information boards have appeared in the reception. I found out by accident from a friend who saw a small article in a newspaper. I find this very disappointing, especially for an organisation that prides themselves on CARE.

The level of distress that this work could cause surely outweighs the benefit of an additional five bedrooms. In achieving these bedrooms, as well as affecting individuals' mental health and well-being my following comments will show how the structure and make up of Linfield will be affected. Linfield is currently an open, light airy place to live, with quiet corners where individuals can feel safe and secure and outside spaces offer therapeutic benefits throughout the year. All the reasons why we as a family chose Linfield to care for mum.

Subject: Objection to planning application submitted by Linfield, Guild Care AWDM/1494/25 and AWDM/1544/25.

## **AWDM/1494/25 Phase 1 Scheme A**

Alterations and extensions to existing care home to provide additional bed spaces, including construction of single storey glazed link extension to southwest elevation, three storey extension to southeast elevation and installation of solar panels to existing flat roof and southwest roof slopes.

### **Documents**

25014 - AL(2-)103 Ground Floor Plan as Existing - SCHEME A - PLANNING Layout1 (1)

The layout of the entrance to the Richmond suite is incorrect, and rooms are numbered incorrectly.

25014 - AL(2-)111 Ground Floor Plan as Proposed - SCHEME A - PLANNING Layout1 (1)

The new suite on the Northeast aspect takes away the garden space that is a dedicated area for the residents of the Richmond Unit. This is an area that is essential for the mental well-being of those with dementia. Research shows that maintaining a connection with nature helps individuals too feel calm offering therapeutic benefits. Even in the winter months residents benefit from looking out, watching squirrels and the local cat. My mum personally loves the trees.

A small closed in courtyard will be left, which would be surrounded by walls, not a green space. The addition of this room will also affect the light airy feel of the lounge/dining area.

The new bedroom on the Southwest aspect of the Richmond Unit takes away a quiet haven for individuals and their families to visit, away from the main lounge area. It is a safe space, one with views of the front garden, another important aspect, which will be lost.

The proposed bedroom in the reception area which replaces the multipurpose lounge, again takes away a central place for all to sit and talk. Currently it is used for some activities, for visitors to sit with their loved ones or to contemplate, and for one to one's with staff. It is a calm, light airy area. Closing this in will completely change the feel of Linfield as you enter.

## **AWDM/1544/25 Phase 2 Scheme 2**

Two storey extension to provide two bedrooms to the front / southwest elevation

## Documents

25014 - AL(2-)203 Ground Floor Plan as Existing - SCHEME B - PLANNING

Layout1 (1) Again the room numbers on the Richmond Suite are wrong, and the layout of the entrance to the unit is wrong.

25014 - AL(2-)210 Site Plan as Proposed - SCHEME B - PLANNING Layout1 (1)

The proposed addition room directly adjoins my mum's bedroom, her quiet safe space. This is shown as Rm 8 on the plan. It is in fact RM 11. Any building work or construction, including noise or vibrations would directly affect her mental well-being.

25014 - AL(2-)211 Ground Floor Plan as Proposed - SCHEME B - PLANNING

Layout1 (1) As before the new bedroom on the Southwest aspect of the Richmond Unit takes away a quiet haven for individuals and their families to visit, away from the main lounge area. It is a safe space, one with views of the front garden, another important aspect, which will be lost. The proposed bedroom in the reception area which replaces the multipurpose lounge, again takes away a central place for all to sit and talk. Currently it is used for some activities, for visitors to sit with their loved ones or to contemplate, and for one to one's with staff. It is a calm, light airy area. Closing this in will completely change the feel of Linfield as you enter.

25014 - AL(2-)212 First Floor Plan as Proposed - SCHEME B - PLANNING Layout1 (1)

The infill space for an extra bedroom is in close proximity to my mum's room, so she would be affected by the impact of the construction noise and vibration.

Helen Lee

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