

## AWDM1494/25 Linfield House

I wish to register my objection to this planning application. There is overdevelopment of a limited site, inadequate parking arrangements and a loss of light.

My Mum is a long term resident of this care home and I chose it for her not only for the quality of care Guild Care provides but for its light open aspects and outside garden space available for the use of residents. She can no longer speak for herself.

Linfield House is in a conservation area and is quite a large building occupying a site with limited space for expansion or visitor parking. I visit several times a week and my experience is that frequently there are no vacant spaces in the car park. Staff are asked not to park on site during the day. It is difficult to find a local street space and not an option when collecting a resident for an outing due to limited mobility. Signs have been put up asking that visitors do not park on the grass as a verge in the car park has often been used in desperation to squeeze in a couple of extra vehicles, particularly when there are contractors or a meeting on site. I anticipate that a building project in progress would prevent any visitors parking on site at all and the creation of extra rooms without provision of extra spaces will just add to the existing problems. (AWDM 1544/25 also includes extra rooms)

I believe the addition of a 3 storied extension in this application, taken in context with the other additional bedrooms and the associated application AWDM1544/25 is over development of the limited space available on site. It removes the dedicated secure safe outside space for the Richmond Dementia Suite which was so important to my Mum. To get outside in the sunlight and be able to sit and have a coffee, take the air and dead head a few flowers with me was maintaining "normality" for a lifetime gardener whose happy place was her garden. She might not have remembered doing it later, but it left her feeling happy.

Normally I believe one would cite loss of light to a next-door neighbour but in this case I believe the existing residents are the "neighbours" who will be affected.

At present the Richmond Lounge has two east facing windows that look out on the Richmond garden and patio seating, they let morning sunshine into the lounge and provide an outlook for the residents who cannot move about. They have the benefit of watching changing seasons, the blossom of the neighbour's cherry tree, spring bulbs and summer flowers in the garden. There are visiting birds, foxes, squirrels and local cats. The proposed adjoining new room extension will not only be built over their patio seating area outside but result in these windows being blocked up. The result, a gloomy sunless lounge that only has windows on the north side facing a solid fence a short distance away, overhung with the tall trees from Victoria Park. No outlook, reduced natural light and nothing stimulating outside visible to share and talk about. Combined with the proposed conversion into another bedroom of the only other available shared lounge space in Richmond that is sunny and faces the outside world. I really have serious reservations about the impact on residents and lack of

consideration for them that has gone into these plans. The option to remove a resident out of the sometimes noisy and busy lounge into the quiet space in the reception area for time out has also been affected as under these proposals that space will also be converted into another bedroom.

The impact of disturbance from a building site in terms of welfare, frightening loud noises, disruption to routine and possible temporary relocation to an unfamiliar place/room and carers for dementia sufferers cannot be overlooked.

I was so disappointed to have to find out about these proposals from an Official Notice in the local paper.

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