10/10/2010

MR & MRS D. ALLEN
15 CROFT AVENUE
SOUTHWICK
WEST SUSSEX

[redacted]

Dear Hannah,

Following the installation of street lights on the 5th October at the Elmcroft site, Croft Avenue; we contacted ADC Environmental Health Department regarding the potential effects the position of these lights would have on illuminating rooms of our house. We were advised to contact you, in the first instance, as according to planning consent we were expecting low level bollard lighting within the Elmcroft development.
Here are our comments and photographs regarding the installation of Street lighting on the Elmcroft site.

New street light located at front of Elmcroft Development
Firstly, there is already an existing street light at the bottom of our drive positioned on the boundary between us (15, Croft Av.) and the Elmcroft development (see photo 1a). The new street light is positioned approx. ½ way down our drive (see photo 1b), **4.7** metres from our bedroom window (see photo's 1c and 1d). These two street lights are approx. 8 metres apart and located within the branches of the same Cherry tree (see photo 2a)! We find it astonishing that the new street light (without council approval) is sited so close to an existing one, and so close to our property. There are now 3 street lights on this side of Croft Avenue, 2 outside our house and one outside number 29! Photo's 2b and 2c show the illuminated street lights (7th Oct.), whilst the new street light doesn't appear to shine into the bedroom window above the garage by a considerable amount, it is enough to create light reflections in the room and the Cherry tree hasn't lost its leaves yet!

Two new street lights and one new low level bollard light located at rear of Elmcroft Development.

Photograph 3, shows the back view of our house. The first floor windows are 3 bedrooms and one bathroom. On the ground floor there is a very large conservatory, where the whole family spend a considerable amount of time and a dining/reception room (total of 11 M in length). There is a patio area immediately at the back of the house and a Koi pond situated in front of trellis (3 x 1.8M panels) adjacent to the boundary with the Elmcroft Development.
Two new street lights have been erected in the private residential car parking area at the rear of the Elmcroft Development. One of them has been sited approx. 0.5 metre from the boundary fence, amongst trees, and approx 7-8 metres from wall of our house (photo's 4a and b); the other one directly opposite the first ie. against the wall between houses 12 and 13 (photo 4c).
When these two street lights are on the amount of light is amazing, it is like standing next to a flood lit football pitch. The new street lights give off an intense white light and it hurts your eyes if you look at the bulbs. I was particularly surprised at how much light was coming into our garden, our ground floor rooms and the bedroom adjacent to the Elmcroft Development, given that one of the lights was situated amongst trees which haven't lost their leaves yet. Unfortunately, the photo's taken by the camera don't fully convey the amount of illumination provided by these lights.
The ground floor room closest to the Elmcroft boundary had light projected into the room some 6 meters across the floor and 2/3 rd up the wall (no television watching possible here!), we were

unable to take a photo of this, but we are happy for people to come and inspect. However, photo 5a taken looking out through the window of this room and photo 5b taken outside of the window clearly shows light shining in our garden, on the fish pond and the glare from the bulb in the street light located close to our patio area.
The first floor bedroom closest to the Elmcroft site also has a considerable amount of light entering the room, as has the ensuite bathroom to that room (via frosted window on the side of the house).
There are also problems with light from the Elmcroft Development entering the conservatory. Whilst the trellis and tree patterns projected around the walls of the conservatory by the street lights look pretty it prevents us watching television, playing snooker etc. In addition, sitting on the sofa, or indeed, anywhere facing towards the Elmcroft Development results in having to move because of the two intense white 'blobs' from the street lights shining in one's eyes.
The low level bollard light located outside the entrance of the block of flats is also surprisingly bright. This together with the lights in the stairways and the entrance hall of the 3 storey block of flats together with light reflected from the rendered exterior walls and white bin and bike stores also contribute to the overall 'White Light Glow' of the area next to our house (see photo 6). We note that PIR lights by the front doors of each house were lit also!

All the comments above regarding the illumination are based on the lights being on between 18:30-20:05 pm on 7th October. At 20:10 we spoke briefly to the site manager from Elmcroft about our concerns regarding the lights and how much the light had penetrated our rooms. We asked him to come round the next evening to see for himself, how these lights would affect us.
Following our correspondence with you on 8th October, only the street light between units 12 and 13 was turned on that evening and this light remained on all night. The site manager did not come round to see us. The amount of light coming into our rooms was obviously reduced by the others being turned off, particularly, the one nearest our patio at the rear of our property. However, the light turned on between units 12-13 still prevented us from sitting on our sofa in the conservatory as the bulb was shining directly into our eyes, and there was light still shining, although with reduced intensity, into the frosted side window of the ensuite bathroom located at the rear.

On the morning of 9th October, I spoke to the site manager briefly as he was passing by, to say that I still wasn't happy with the lighting situation and that I had been in contact with the planning office. I suggested to him that there appears to be no council consent for the street lights and that I would appreciate it if he could turn them off until some agreement could be made. I also mentioned again to the site manager about repetitive bleeps (every 4-10 seconds) coming from the site that my neighbours can also hear. He suggested once again that it could be a smoke alarm. It is now 11th October, the Elmcroft site is in relative darkness, except for stairwell and some flat and house lights left on; but the bleeps are still happening!

For a development that is supposed to be 'green' there appears to be an extraordinary amount of intense lighting that appears to be unnecessary and that shines on our property. I know security is a big issue these days but I am sure that the new residents of the Elmcroft site would be shocked if they could see how lit up they could be, even during the day on a dark winters day. However, it is interesting that on the western side of the development backing onto the **dark wooded** peace garden there are **no** lights!!

It is clear from the Lighting Design Proposal Plan dated 11/5/2010 that you received from Crest Nicholson on 8th October after our complaint and that you kindly forwarded to us; that we are the only house directly exposed to lights from the site. For your information we have updated the plan (see appendix 1) by outlining our living accommodation in green.

We hope that all the installed street lights are removed as soon as possible so that we are not bathed with light and that we can continue using our rooms as planned and once again enjoy living in our house. We realise that the street lights would have to be replaced with low level bollard lighting. But, how many will there be? Where will they be sited? Will they be as bright as the existing one by the flats entrance? Will we still have a very bright car park next to our house? We feel that replacing the 3 streetlights with 3 low level bollard lights would be more than adequate as even then the Elmcroft site will have more lighting than the whole of Croft Avenue!

Regards

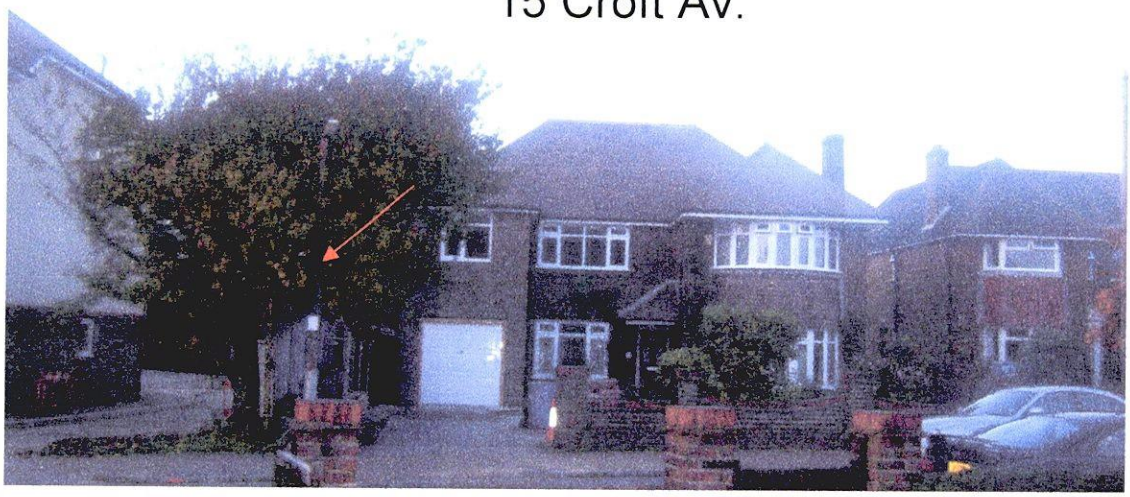
[redacted]

(WENDY ALLEN)

Photo 1A

Elmcroft

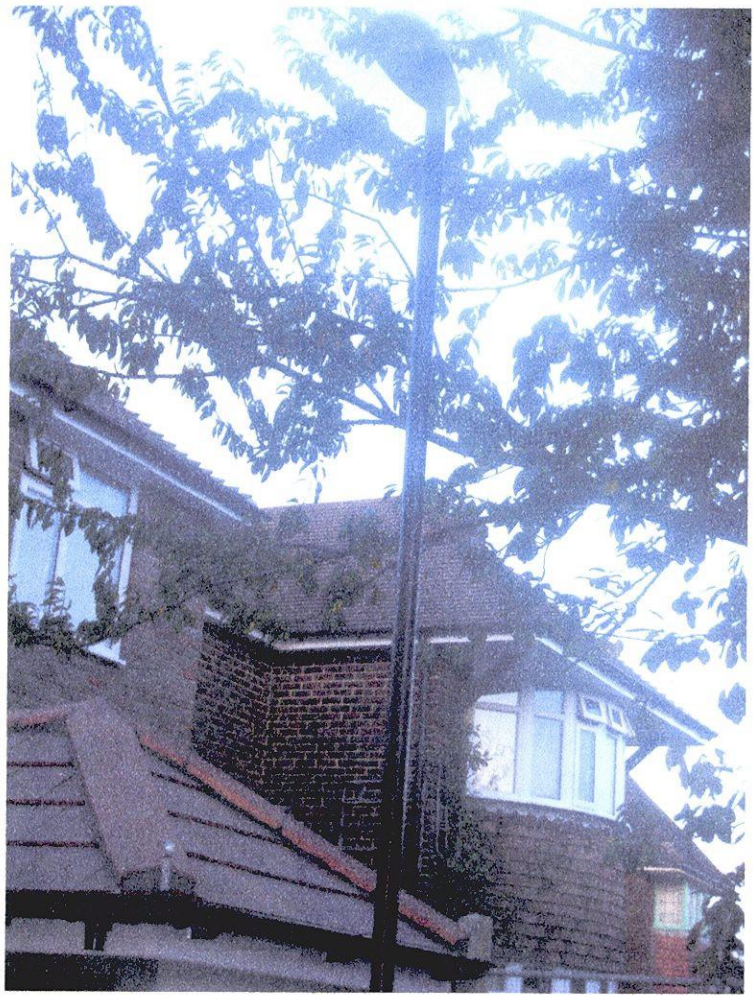
15 Croft Av.



1B



1C



View from Elmcroft site

1D



View from bedroom window before lamp post painted black

2A



2B



2C

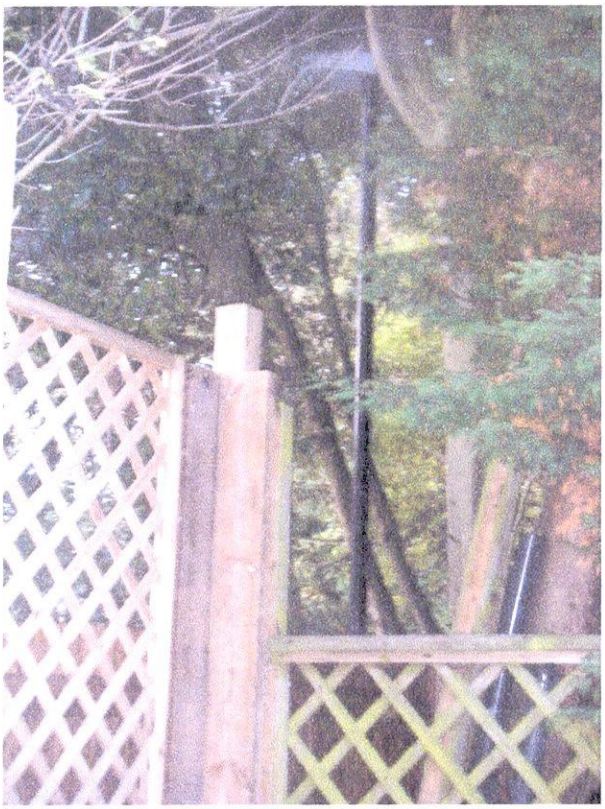


3

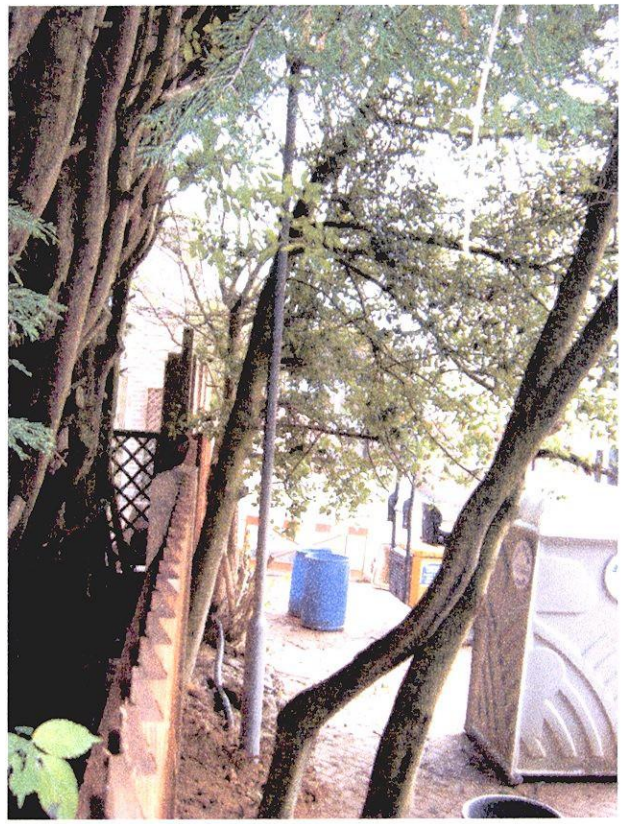
When seated here two street light bulbs shine in eyes.



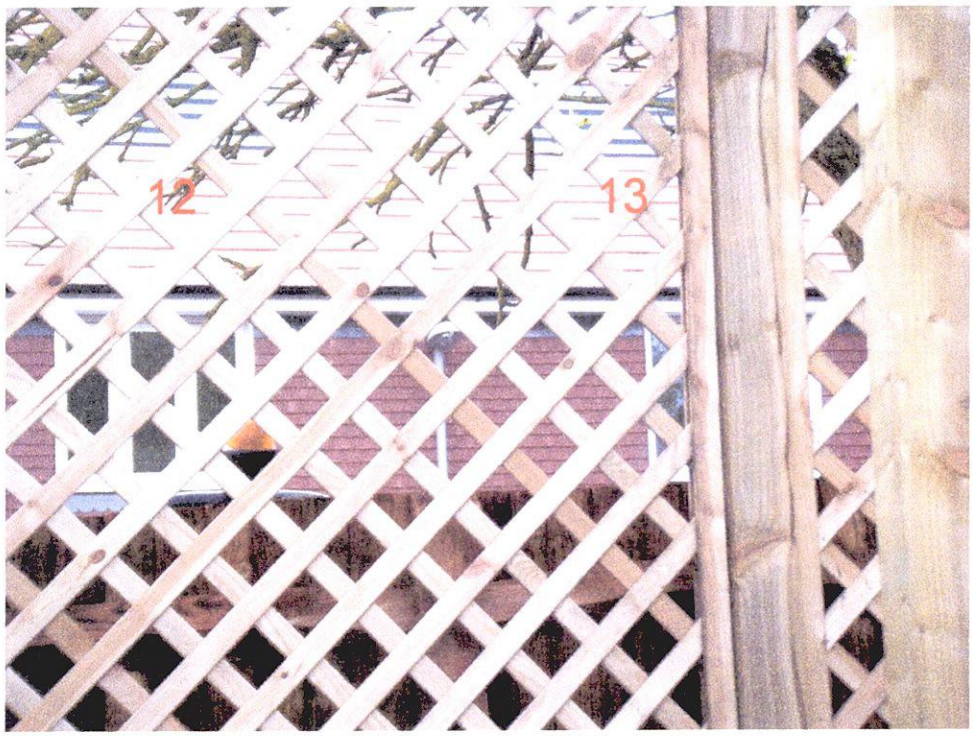
4A



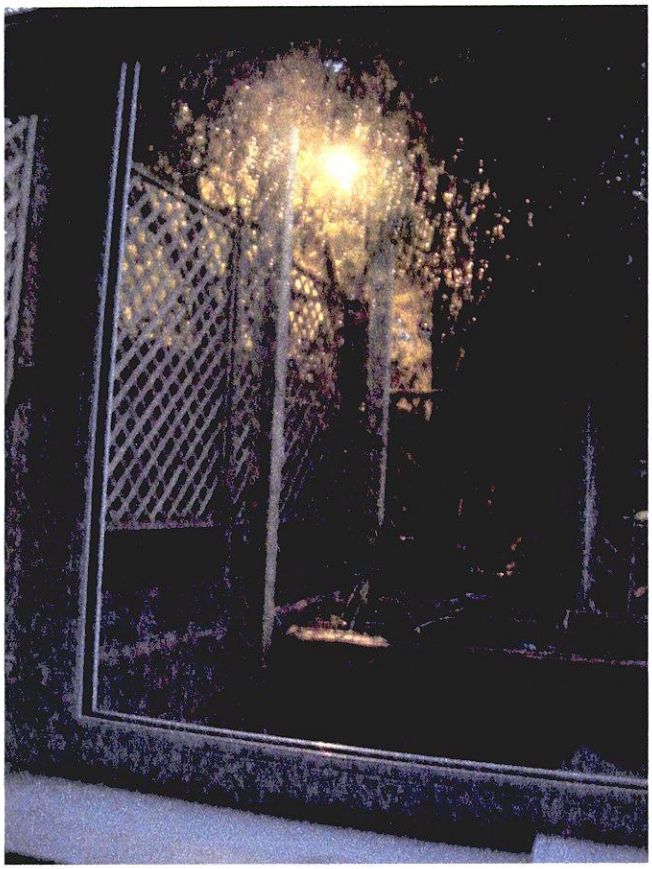
4B



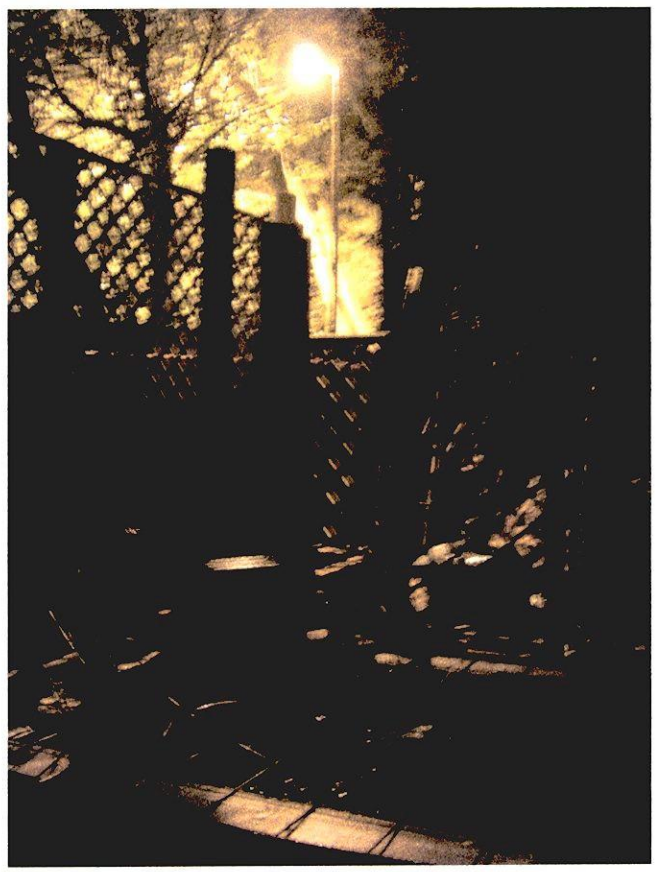
4C



5A



5B



6



Luminaire Schedule

Symbol	Qty	Label	Arrangement	Lumens	LLF	Description
▬	3	ST4 P 045W D 6m	SINGLE	4300	0.819	Stratum 450, 45w CPO-TW Lamp, Diamond Optic 5/25, 6m mtg ht
+	1	NEB C045W N 1m	SINGLE	4300	0.819	Nexus Bollard, 45w CPO-TW Lamp, 360° Cone Optic, 1m mtg ht

Calculation Summary

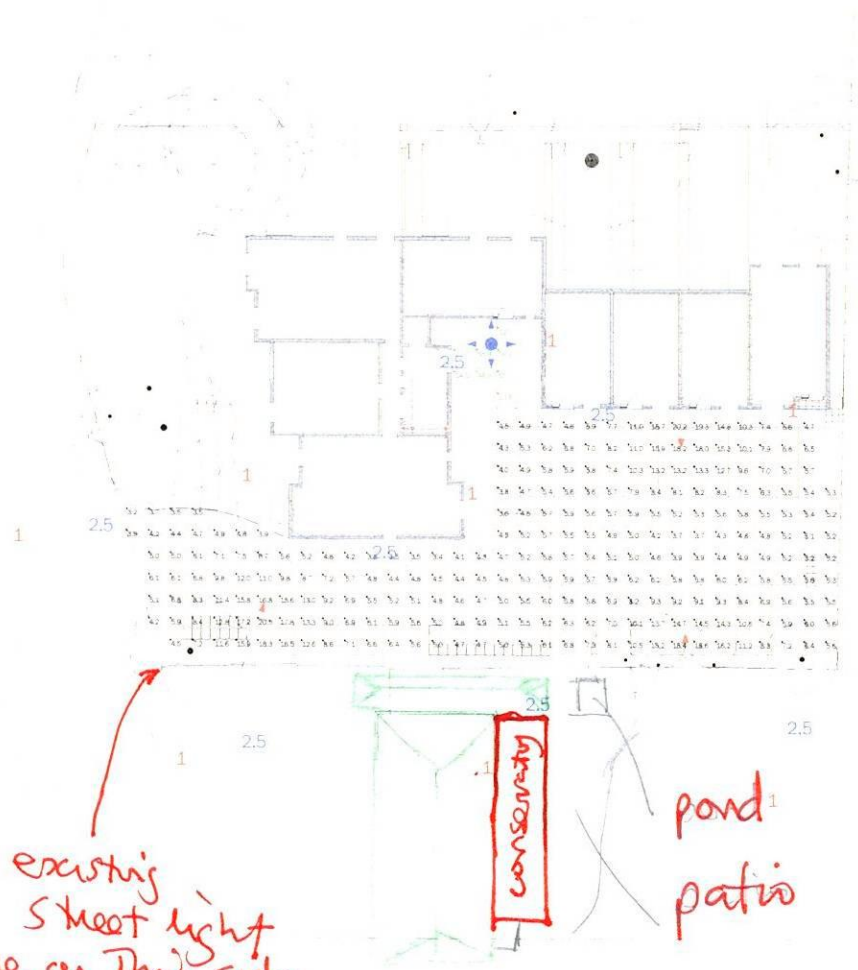
Label	CalcType	Units	Avg	Max	Min	Min/Avg
Pathway	Illuminance	Lux	50.43	120	13.6	0.27
Road & Parking Area	Illuminance	Lux	7.28	20.5	3.2	0.44

Luminaire Location Summary

Label	X	Y	Z	Orient	Tilt
ST4 P 045W D 6m	56.317	26.419	6	270	0
ST4 P 045W D 6m	56.609	10.351	6	90	0
ST4 P 045W D 6m	27.214	12.416	6	75.967	0
NEB C045W N 1m	43.236	31.827	1	270	0

Appendix 1

dark wooded area



existing Street light (first one on This side of road)

pond

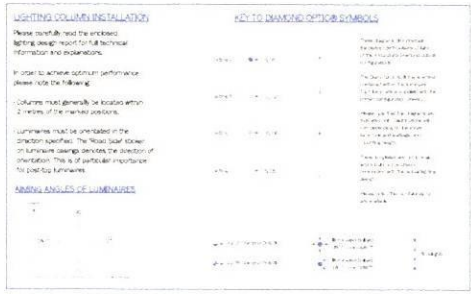
patio

2 storey living accommodation outlined in green

This scheme has been designed to

BS5489 - 1 2003
Lighting requirements for outdoor car parks.
Table 5
Light Traffic (shops, apartment buildings, cycle parks)

5.0 lux Maintained average illuminance (Eavi)
25% Minimum overall uniformity ratio (Uo)



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