
From:
Sent: 01 December 2021 17:01
To:
Subject: SMD/2021/0694

Gooday,

My name is Spencer Hodgetts and I live at 386, Ash Bank Road. Last night at the Werrington Village Hall, I attended the meeting held by the proposed developers of the above site and had the opportunity to inspect the large scale plans and ask some concerning questions.

I have written several times before regarding this potential development, and have always suggested that the narrow tongue of land between the Ash Bank houses and Salters Close be turned into a wild life area with lots of small tree planting - to the benefit of the associated houses as well as to wildlife.

Looking at the plans last night, it is clear that my property will be the most adversely affected, both from the close siting of the cul-de-sac road and also the proposed pathway to Ash Bank Road. Specifically: from the plans it would appear that the cul-de-sac will cut through into the old walkway path and be within 3 feet of my low wall boundary.

This would give me great concern as a loss of security and privacy as well as a temptation for (probably) children to use my garden as a short cut to Ash Bank Road. To be fair I mentioned this to the developers who conceded this and draw a line with the cul-de-sac road falling short of the pathway.

On the issue of the pathway, over the years (I moved here in 2005), falling leaves have covered the concrete with a depth of soil to the extent that I have planted Red Campion, Elder, many seasonal bulbs and wild flowers - which has greatly encouraged wild life. There is also a rapidly growing sycamore. Bordering the path is a wild bramble hedge, which is great for wildlife and also gives me security from potential miscreants. I would request that this hedge be kept in place, ideally supported with a tall fence for my security and privacy. Additionally I am concerned about the proposed pathway between the development and Ash Bank Road - with only a low stone wall at the Western side of my garden this would also give me great concern about security and privacy - again I hope that a strong fence would be proposed between my property and the footpath.

Turning to wildlife, when I moved here in 2005 there was scarcely a bird to be seen. Now with feeding, planting, nest boxes and the growth of the bramble hedges there is a strong flock of House Sparrow, breeding Robins, all of the common Tit Family including long tails, Finches including the elusive Green Finch. Frequent visit from a Greater Spotted Woodpecker, and also a Nuthatch. I really hope that this wild life is protected and hopefully increased.

I am fit and strong but at aged 75 - long term security and privacy has to be a concern for me. Moving would be difficult.

Thank you for consideration.

Kind regards,

Spencer Hodgetts 1/12/21