

From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
Date: 06 April 2023 18:44:54

Application Reference No. : SMD/2023/0132

Site Address: The Orchard Springfield Drive Leek Staffordshire ST13 6ET Leek

Comments by: Joe Hopewell

From:

Dale House
Mixon
Onecote
Leek
Staffordshire
ST13 7SH

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to you today to express my utter dismay, and condemnation of the planning application by one Mr. John Hurst intended to be located at The Orchard, Springfield Drive (Postcode ST13 7SH). This is for several reasons which are detailed below.

When perusing the diagram attached to Hurst's application, at the bottom of the illustration are some 'private gardens'; next to a bungalow designated number 12, these are in fact only one small garden that belongs to Ed Daly, a prominent member of the local community, an advocate for the rights of those diagnosed with disabilities nationwide, and finally a close friend of mine. Over the course of the last two years Mr. Daly, who has Down Syndrome, has relocated to 12 Springfield Drive away from his family home to live independently, staying within the town for its support network. After the family toiled long and hard refurbishing the domicile, it has finally become the ideal home for him to live quietly, peacefully, and privately. These three ideals have been a struggle, and now threaten to be eradicated should Mr. Hurst's application be greenlit. Mr. Daly is a keen gardener and all-round nature enthusiast; subsequently, he spends a considerable amount of time in his garden. A large three-storey extension to the building next door will tower over his private property, destroying any semblance of privacy in his day-to-day life, as well as drastically limiting the natural light available and altering the wildlife and natural feel of the property. This is a shocking oversight by Mr. Hurst, unneighbourly and inconsiderate.

Similarly, the 'alterations and extensions' proposed at The Orchard stretch the definitions of both words to incredulity. The resources and timeframe required to triple the size of Mr Hurst's house and construct an additional two-storey building on the border of Ed's property will disturb the peace for the entire road for a lengthy period. The necessary construction equipment, manual labour, and machinery will create a mechanical hubbub, doubtlessly disturbing not just Mr Daly, but every inhabitant of Springfield Drive -many of whom are elderly or vulnerable- for the months, potentially the year, required for such an undertaking. Considering that Leek High School is adjacent to both Mr. Hurst and Mr. Daly's properties, I doubt that they would appreciate such a noise disturbance as they conduct lessons.

The planning proposal in question will also be an affront on the eyes as well as the ears. A three-storey behemoth towering over a street of bungalows is a farcical picture to be painted, displeasing both local residents and visitors to our town.

Considering that this plan has been evaluated and rejected previously, it is clear that this development proposal has proven controversial and unviable for its entire history. I hope that my objection helps confirm that this will not change for the foreseeable future, and I pray that this matter is resolved in good faith.

Sincerely,

Joe Hopewell

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