FAO Liz Chippendale

Planning application number 2019/90190 (erection of 3 dwellings within a conservation area and adjacent to 1 Lowgate, Kirkburton)

Further to earlier comments about this application, I now note that amendments to the original application have been received and that some comments supporting the application have been made. I feel it is important to ensure that an accurate view of the situation is the basis for decisions being taken.

The amended plans seem to attempt to make cosmetic changes to the application, and not to address the specific objections which were based on real concerns about the detriment which would be caused to the immediate area. Indeed, detriment has already been caused to the area by the partial destruction of the green space and the impact on the habitat of birds as has been pointed out by several people previously.

The amended plans comment about parking space for 8 cars and yet talk about adding only 6 cars to the area, an area which is already congested with parked cars and where those who currently park cause obstructions to through traffic as well as existing residents. Lines of sight are made worse because of cars parked adjacent to the proposed building site and too close to the junction of Lowgate and Lowtown, and I can see no way in which the amended plans will adequately address that risk.

The new plans still propose the erection of 3 dwellings, with all the added concerns about drainage which have previously been expressed. These proposed properties will still overlook and crowd the existing properties, and will still be out of keeping with the local area. The original objections remain relevant.

Finally, as reasonably intelligent neighbourhood residents, we are more than capable of forming and voicing our own opinions and concerns without having to be encouraged to do so by elected representatives. To suggest otherwise is not only a slur on them but also on us.

28 July 2019