

Appeal against the planning application – No 2021/62/91827/W

I would like appeal against / register my objection to, the planning application for the erection of single storey vehicle storage building to the rear of properties on Greenhead Avenue, planning application 2021/62/91827/W.

The planning application is a further expansion of non-domestic land use within a predominantly residential area. The development will not benefit the economy, environment or social amenity of the local area with its use.

The current aggressive clearance works have been undertaken prior to the approval of the planning application in a very presumptive manner that implies that the expected outcome of the planning application being granted. The works have so far had a significant and irreversible detrimental affect on the flora and fauna of the site and local ecology. The timing of the works has been especially significant and detrimental as it has been during the bird nesting season, potential breeding time for large native mammals and the hibernation / roosting period for bats.

The area is part of a quiet residential neighbourhood serviced by a narrow, no through road. The street of Greenhead Avenue has recently been impacted by additional residential development that has increased traffic flows due to the number of residential properties, a change in the type of residential properties and subsequently a shift in the demographic representation of the residents, to a younger age with greater car ownership. This has significantly increased the traffic flows on the poorly maintained highway structure of the road. Additional construction vehicles to any development would be detrimental to the environment and social aspects of the area, street and residents. Following the completion of such a development of a non-residential structure there is likely to be an increase in traffic from vehicles that are not suitable for the current road and environment. These include vehicles such as HGV's and low loader transport vehicles that service the site and transport the various vehicles and machinery that is in the garages.

The clearance of the site prior to the application and any granted planning permission is the second such area that has been degraded by this land owner in the local area. An area lower down on the street, that is a listed TPO area, TPO No 27/80/g1, has previously had many trees felled and removed in the past year, reducing the diversity and density of the woodland in that area. I believe that there is a protection order on this area and an owner of the land must have had to apply to work on trees in the area. The trees that remain are notably mostly ash trees that, when driving down the street, appear to show signs of being weakened by excessive and aggressive tree pruning and management. It is my thought that this was and is a planned act to degrade this area to a point where the trees are of such a poor condition that they will be susceptible to disease, such as ash dieback, and that the area will also be earmarked for a future proposal for non-residential development.

The site under the current application has seen an almost total removal of the mature trees and a cut back of other vegetation. The potential impact on the wildlife of the area, in the form of native bird species, insects, bats, badgers and foxes could already be significant.

The local area has often been visited by badgers, and is possible that this clearance work, and previous works, will have disturbed both foraging areas and potential sites for badger sets. During

recent weeks there has been less evidence of foxes in the area with a reduction in the nocturnal calling of the animals being heard through open windows.

As a resident of the area, I have always seen bat activity in the warmer late spring and summer evenings, as the bats have become active on the local food supplies of flying insects. I have yet to see any signs of bats hunting in the area around my property on Greenhead Avenue. It is highly likely that the clearance has disturbed existing bat roosts and food supplies to such an extent that the populations have either left the area, reduced in number or died out altogether.

The area is a residential area that has been greatly impacted by this work with constant and intrusive nuisance noise pollution throughout the working day during this clearance and groundworks. There are families with babies and small children that live in the area that have been disturbed by the noise of the activities. There is also the disruption to any residents working from home or retire or old residents that may spend their time at home during the day. Additional works associated with this development will bring additional disruption to the residents living and working within the area and impact on the emotional wellbeing and possible mental health of vulnerable individuals.

I don't believe that further development of this area is beneficial to the local area and the actions of aggressive clearance, on behalf of the applicant have caused significant environmental degradation to the land and area. To this I object to the this and any future planning applications for expansion of this property, and other sites around the current property.