About the application

Application number: 2022/92097	
What is the application for?:	Erection of two storey extension and alterations
Address of the site or building:	The Veterinary Hospital, 131, Somerset Road, Almondbury, Huddersfield, HD5 8HN
Postcode:	HD5 8HN

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes

Since Donaldson's surgery was built there have bee severe problems resulting from staff parking at the bottom of Longley Road. Staff are not allowed to park in the spaces provided on site because of a management edict. They park on Longley Road specifically at the end of the road near the roundabout. Staff park inconsiderently on both sides of the road, straddling and damaging the pavements throughout the day seven days a week along the first 200 yards of Longley Road effectively making Longley Road a single lane which makes access difficult and often dangerous for drivers and pedestrians alike. This congestion already creates problems and as Longley Road is a bus route with a bus stop at the bottom of the road, access for larger vehicles, buses and delivery vans, bin lorries etc., is made unessessarily dangerous and any increased level of traffic from Donaldson's will excascerbate the danger. Staff currently park close to residents' driveways every day which makes access and egress to homes needlessly dangerous because residents cannot see adequately up or down the road when driving out. On the latest planning application Donaldson's agents have stated that there are no issues with neighbours. This is blatantly not the case as they know very well. Residents have asked Donaldson's management repeatedly to allow staff to park on site where there is ample provision but we have been met with intransigence every time. We have approached Councillor Cooper who has also attempted to mediate on our behalf be he too has been met with the same inconsiderate response. The highways department are looking into the provision of residents only parking permits or yellow lines so dangerous has it become. Many parking spaces are available on site but they are never fully utilised. The relationship with Donaldson's management can best be described as frosty but to say there are no issues with neighbours is simply untrue.

I also note that photographs have been taken by their agents demonstrating on street parking on Benomley Road, Somerset Road and Foxglove but none have been taken of Longley Road where the real problem is and where they cause most problems. There is also a spurious assumption by their agents that cars parked along Longley Road on a daily basis are those of residents. This clearly is nonsense because the same Donaldson's staff park outside the same houses every day and most residents have driveways which they use. No checks have been made to determine if the cars mentioned belong to residents or staff which makes this assumption nonsense. I understand on Donaldson's original application when they built the existing building they stated that there would be ample parking on site for staff and customers, there are indeed enough spaces but they are not allowed to be utilised. Removing several to build the extension can only makes things worse for residents.