Application 2024/92094 - 13 South Lane

"I am the owner of 9 South Lane, Holmfirth, which has 11 South Lane to its right, and then 13 South Lane to the right of that. These are all three-storey townhouses. My back garden is accessed via a set of steps that takes you to the same height as the roofs of all three houses.

The proposed alteration to 13 South Lane as documented in planning application 2094/92094, will allow the building of a roof terrace at the rear, that will look directly into my garden. The existing roof space that would be converted is of a height of around 6-8 foot above the level of my garden. To put it another way, if I was in my garden while the occupants of 13 South Lane were in the proposed terrace, they would be looking directly at me, as if the two gardens were joined.

This will directly impact my privacy, as well as the value of my property (I would not have bought it with the neighbours having a full unobstructed view of my garden).

I was not informed of these proposed changes until Thursday 19th September, when my wife was visited by a planning officer. The officer was shown into our back garden and has taken additional photographs which show how intrusive the proposed changes are.

We were also told by the officer that notice of the proposed changes will only be posted to the houses either side of 13 South Lane. However, the applicant at 13 South Lane, Jim McHugh, also owns 11 South Lane, and has not informed me of his proposed changes. Furthermore, the house to the right of 13 South Lane is number 17. To the best of my knowledge, this is an AirBnB rental property, so no one affected by the proposed renovations will have been informed, other than the applicant himself.

There are other comments on the planning application that object to the changes based on setting a precedence in a conservation area. I agree with those objections. These houses are around 160 years old, and I fear it will encourage others to apply to meddle with the look and structure of these historical properties.

To summarise, I am very upset that I was not consulted by the owner of 13 South Lane about the nature of these proposed changes, and if the work was to go ahead, I would deem it a huge invasion of my privacy."

Two Photos follow:

Photo 1 of 2

Photo 2 of 2