

Our reference: COM567252711

Application number: 2023/2860

Application address: Land at 12 and Land West of 10 to 26 Claygate Lane Esher Surrey KT10 0AQ

Name: Mrs Smith

Address: 11 Cumberland Drive, Esher, Surrey, KT10 0BG

Comment type: You object to the planning application

Date of comment: 05 Dec 2023

Comment: I write to object to the above planning application for the following reasons:

1) Security – the impact on the security of mine and neighbouring properties is of real concern. It's not clear what type of border will be put in place to ensure security and privacy are maintained. At present, the woodland behind our properties is inaccessible and goes some way to protect us from intruders/trespassers – a problem that is increasingly prevalent in the area. Once the area of woodland is removed, there's no doubt our properties will be more exposed to crime.

2) Privacy/outlook – all gardens surrounding the development will now be overlooked. We'll also have a road immediately to the front and to the back of our properties which will totally change our outlook. The amount of light leakage from the new development – the road, houses, and proposed bicycle sheds will all need to be lit – will be significant, exacerbated further by the removal of border trees. I will have two houses directly facing into my house and garden, separated only by a narrow access road.

3) Character of the area – the new development simply isn't in keeping with the area in which it's being built where gardens back onto gardens. It seems that the developer is packing in as many homes as possible within the constraints of a very cramped site, including semi-detached houses, flats, and communal gardens.

4) Biodiversity - the site is currently a well-established area of biodiversity - it's not clear how the wildlife that this area supports is being protected?

5) Increase in traffic – myself and other residents already experience significant problems with leaving/accessing our properties during school drop-off/collection times. I often experience issues with reversing out of my driveway when numerous cars are parked too close to my property. Sometimes the road can be blocked altogether with cars parked directly opposite each other. Removing parking from Claygate Lane will only exacerbate this problem for our residents.

6) Risk of flooding – removal of an extensive area of trees and foliage, which currently soak up heavy rainfall, will require extensive water management in its place. This proposal significantly increases surface water run-off to Claygate Lane which is already at high risk of surface water flooding. The ground in this area is clay, which is non-absorbent so, should these water management measures fail, the risk of water running into neighbouring properties is high.

In summary, the proposed development will result in a loss of privacy and security, a significant

disruption from light and noise, the loss of a unique area of well-established biodiversity, an increase in an already significant problem with traffic, and an increased risk of flooding.

I therefore request that the planning application is refused.