

**Our reference:** COM599523374

**Application number:** 2024/0189

**Application address:** Heath Buildings, High Street, Oxshott, Leatherhead, KT22 0JW

**Name:** Dr Daya

**Address:** 21 Danes Way, Oxshott, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 0LU

**Comment type:** You object to the planning application

**Date of comment:** 25 Mar 2024

**Comment:** This "revised" proposal is similar to the original and there are some attempts to demonstrate a lower height and use of language to suggest the building will not be as large but really when looking at the detail are incorrect.

Issues:

1. Removal of paving and open public space. This will result in Oxshott High street being like any other with no recreation areas. In the 21st century, the need for space for public congregation has been highlighted to ensure a spirit of community and belonging and in particular mental wellbeing. A number of studies and scholarly articles have been published verifying this some listed below :

[www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1353829207000913](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1353829207000913)  
[evidence.nihr.ac.uk/alert/open-spaces-and-community-cohesion-improve-wellbeing/](http://evidence.nihr.ac.uk/alert/open-spaces-and-community-cohesion-improve-wellbeing/)  
[www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264275122000087](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264275122000087)  
[www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/17538330911013933/full/html](http://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/17538330911013933/full/html)

It also seems from the Highways response that the paving actually belongs to Highways and surely their approval will need to be granted first.

2. The height of the development exceeds adjoining buildings considerably. This will just darken the High Street making it without the open space even more unattractive.

3 Reduction of commercial units from 5 to 4 will reduce overall commerce on the High Street. This reduction borders on making the High St commercially non viable. One commercial unit on Oakshade road has already been lost to an overmassed residential development. Oxshott has had a large increase in the number of dwellings and with this a requirement for local commerce that is easily accessible without having to resort to use of a vehicle. A reduction in commercial units to accommodate a central staircase for a monstrosity of a building is not desirable.

4. The description of "rooms in the roof space" is misleading. It is in actual fact a proposed 167 sq m separate apartment dwelling with no connection to underlying properties.

I as a resident and also provider on Oxshott High St, strongly object to this development. Once open space is lost there is no going back and with the height of the building Oxshott will be just another unattractive undesirable concrete monstrosity lacking in character.