

■ Saunders Close
Northfleet
Gravesend
Kent
DA11 8SJ

10th August 2024

CONCERNING REF : **20240542**

Dear Mrs Lisa Fisher,

I am writing to oppose the extension of number 18 Saunders Close, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 8SJ . I purchased my own property in 1992 and have been a homeowner in this road for 32 years. I, as the home owner was not aware of any proposed extension until a letter from Gravesham Borough Council arrived on Thursday 25th July, it would have been preferable to be have been informed properly by the home owners so that this may have been **discussed amicably** before the plans were submitted.

This is a small road which was purpose built to house a small number of 1,2 and 3 bedroom properties and to have a light and airy feel to it so that we are not 'hemmed in' as you see on more modern housings estates now. While I acknowledge there have been extensions made to a few of the houses in this road these did not interfere with the look and feel of the road and do not violate anyone's privacy, cause parking issues (as they adapted their front gardens into driveways) or disturbed anyone's peace.

The issues I have with this extension (and **any side extension** proposed by number 18) are detailed in my objection on the official planning permission application though I have detailed them below again for your reference with photographs attached to illustrate the issue (as I could not include these in the original objection)

- Blocking sunlight – sun comes over the gap between numbers 19 and 18 in the winter months so an extension would make it very dark in our home during this period :



The photograph on the left shows the trajectory of the sun in January at 12:30 in the afternoon, its quite low above the houses opposite. The house on the left hand side is number 18. The photograph on the right is for illustration purposes only and shows the gap between numbers 19 and 18, the proposed extension would block out any sunlight into my home during the autumn and winter months as the sun is quite low in the sky in the mornings.

- Lack of privacy – there are already 2 windows that face our home from the upstairs of number 18 and adding a third also facing our house would be a serious breach of privacy from this property as the inhabitants would be able to see directly into our living room and the front bedroom of our property.



This photograph was taken in the front bedroom of my home and you can clearly see into the bedrooms of the opposite properties. The front bedroom of number 18 and the smaller box room face this way and adding another window facing home will seriously violate mine and my daughters privacy.

- Noise and general disturbances – this is a small cul-de-sac and most residents along this street work from home on a daily basis, our household included. The noise and disturbance from the work will not go unnoticed and would be a nuisance, especially if working unsociable hours. There is a person living in our household with mental health issues and noise of this magnitude would seriously disturb [REDACTED] routine and wellbeing given that our home would be directly opposite the works.

As you can see from the same photograph above, we are very limited with space in this road. Where would they be parking any work vehicles during the proposed construction? This would cause extra stress and strain on the road and to people living here.



My home faces number 18 and any noises would not be dulled, they would echo through the street and cause disturbance to myself and my daughter who work from home regularly. My [REDACTED] has mental health problems which is why [REDACTED] resides with me and not in [REDACTED] own property, this noise and disturbance would seriously deteriorate [REDACTED] mental wellbeing as there is no way to dull this noise and no guarantee that the

work would stop by 5 and start at 9 am every morning (and only occur 5 days a week....)

- Space – the original planning of the cul-de-sac was to have a open plan and airy feel to the road, the proposed extension of number 18 will defeat that objective. While there have been properties extended in the road they have not interfered with others space, light, privacy or parking necessities’.

I have covered this above in my opening statement.

- Lack of parking – the inhabitants of number 18 do not use their driveway for guests and allow them to park in the turning circle outside of their property. The space outside their property is not allocated as parking to anyone, it is a turning circle in our small cul-de-sac. The garage proposed is not wide enough to accommodate a vehicle thus resulting in number 18 parking outside in the turning circle permanently and also perpetrating that this is acceptable to their guests or at worst leading them to park outside other properties and block others driveway's such as numbers 19 and 17.

Again the photograph below is used for illustrative purposes. As you can see number 18 has a driveway to the side of the property – which 50% of the time they do not use. They park their vehicle outside the front of the property in the turning circle (showed in blue) and their guests do

not park on the driveway they again park either in front of the property (in the blue) or in front of the driveway (in green) which in turn blocks number 19's driveway.



The proposed plans for a garage on the site of the current driveway are redundant as even if alterations were made the proposed garage would no longer be big enough to house a car, therefore they would again park in the area marked in blue and their guests in the areas marked in blue and green.

Another objection I have to the extension is the changes to the front entryway, there seems to be a wide elevation at the top of the 'porch' that will either be made of wood and or metal looking at the plans, and I must object to this based on looks alone. This design is not in keeping with the classic look of the street and will look atrocious next to all the neighbouring houses. The 'over hang' (which is all I can describe it as) looks too big and will come out further than number 18s property and hang over the road which is also not in keeping with the look of the street.

Based on all the above points I'm afraid I must **strongly object to any side extensions on number 18 Saunders Close**, and myself [REDACTED] are quite willing and able to consult a solicitor on this matter if need be.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Christine Ann Stoneham &
Marie Stoneham