

Dickens' Country Protection Society



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Gravesham Borough Council
Planning & Regeneration Services
Service Manager (Development Management)
Civic Centre
Gravesend
DA12 1AU

2nd April 2022

Dear Sirs

Re 'The Old Parsonage', Butchers Hill, Shorne, Gravesend, DA12 3EB
Demolition of the existing conservatory and replacement with an orangery;
also demolition of the timber garage on the north side of the house and
construction of a kitchen extension. Planning Application GR/2022/0266

The above application has come to the Society's notice and the Society would like to make the following comments; The Society notes the site is inside the village envelope on the south side of Butchers Hill in the Shorne Conservation Area and the house is a Grade II listed building of some local importance. It is in a prominent hilltop location overlooking the village, although screened by trees.

The Society has no issues with the proposed kitchen extension at the northern end of the house which is in character and subservient to the main building.

The Society is concerned regarding the proposed replacement of the existing conservatory. The Society is unable to establish exactly when the existing conservatory was constructed and note it is not referred to in the listing. The conservatory is in character with the listed building and harmonises with it, with matching brick and attractive and forming part of the setting of the house.

The existing conservatory with its red brick dado wall, circular head feature to the window, tooth moulding at the eaves and the decorated ridge to the pitched roof has a pleasing appearance and period character. It is in scale to the house and complements it.

In the Society's view the proposed replacement in the form of a full height rectangular glass structure, with flat roof, surmounted by a rectangular lantern light does not harmonise with the house and would detract from the listed building.

In the Society's view if the existing structure cannot be restored, and extended if required, a more traditional approach is desirable possibly substituting aluminium for timber but maintaining the main features including the dado wall which gives the structure form and proportion, and the pitched roof.

Yours faithfully


Mrs P A Lippiatt
Hon. Secretary