

Correspondence relating to application 22/04904/FUL;

We note that Plot 1 now contains a single house with the drive exiting the plot opposite the entrance to our driveway, i.e. the arrangement when it operated as a business. This seems reasonable given the higher previous volume of traffic as a small business. However, the revised plans seem to have used this change as an opportunity to abandon the previous proposal to remove the current 50ft high leylandii hedge. The original plans were to replace it by a mixed species native hedge.

We have 2 objections to retention of the leylandii facing Station Road.

1. The boundary may well have started off a hedge but it is now composed of narrowly spaced trees which are very tall and wide because the hedge was presumably just allowed to grow. The plan notes the intention to reduce the height of the trees and asserts that they will then provide screening. However, the bottom of the trees are bare in many places providing little screening or environmental benefit. Leylandii plants do not regrow if cut back so the so-called screen will consist of a series of bare trunks (see picture). This will be unsightly and will not fulfil the claims of screening.

2. The original intention to have a mixed species native hedge is to be applauded because of its benefit to wildlife and would be in keeping with the modest public planting of the conservation area. Mature leylandii trees with the tops taken off would be a very poor alternative.



We are unable to attend the meeting tomorrow, please could you ensure the Planning Committee has sight of this. Apologies for any typos as we are writing this whilst on holiday using a phone.
Thank you so much,

We are in favour of the revised plans, with one exception. The new revised plans have omitted the previous proposal to remove the current 50ft high leylandii hedge. The original plans were to replace it by a mixed species native hedge. We object to this element of the revised plans. Not only does the leylandii provide no hedge at a usual hedge height, it will provide no screening at all, and equally importantly, it is not in keeping with the other private gardens opposite and nearby. Finally, the originally planned hedge would offer much more benefit to wildlife and local species, which surely is a very important consideration too.

We urge the planning committee to take these points into account in the meeting.