

Interested party 43

Comments

My name is Linda Martindale. I am a cleaner. I have worked at Remenham Row for twelve years, usually two mornings a week, for Bill and Margaret Johnson at no. 7. Twelve years of ordinary working visits, in every season, is a long time to get to know a place and I am writing simply to describe it.

It is the quietest place I work. With the windows open I hear birds, the gardeners now and then and little else. There is hardly any coming and going. The residents are elderly, most days the only cars that move are theirs and, apart from those of us who come in to work, nobody from outside comes in.

The houses are light and the residents live in their front rooms during the day. At no. 7 the curtains are always back when I arrive and I cannot remember once having to work around closed curtains or blinds. Walking through the estate to the house you see the same thing at the other houses too, open curtains and people in their front rooms looking onto the gardens. There has never been a reason to draw them. The estate is private and quiet and that feeling of openness is a large part of why it suits elderly people so well.

I am also there right through the winter and my route to the bin store takes me past the mouth of the gravel pathway leading to numbers 1 - 5. Once the trees are bare, from November until the spring, you can see the wall and the roof of the building behind them from there. Even in summer, with the leaves out, the roofline still shows above the wall.

I understand a three storey building is proposed just over that wall. I will leave the planning arguments to others. I would only say that for the houses nearest that wall the first thing to change would be the curtains. Front rooms that have never needed screening from anything would be in direct view of the new flats and the openness I have described, which is the whole character of the place, would be gone.

I believe the Council was right to refuse this and I ask that the appeal be dismissed. If you do visit the estate you will see for yourself how quiet it is.

Kind Regards,

Linda Martindale [Close](#)

Supporting documents

No documents
