

PLANNING REF : 243125
PROPERTY ADDRESS : Woodside Cottages
: Woodside Lane, Reading, Berkshire
: RG4 9DN
SUBMITTED BY : Mrs Becky Tilney
DATE SUBMITTED : 08/02/2025

COMMENTS:

I am writing this letter to formally object to the proposal to redevelop the neighbouring property, Thamesfield Retirement Village.

My recently widowed 82-year-old mother lives at number 4 Remenham Row and has done for many years. She and my late father moved there specifically for the privacy and quiet that the location offered.

You will have already seen the evidence from Retirement Villages Group (RVG) themselves regarding the fact that should the building be constructed to its current proposed plan, the height of the new property would result in up to 26% reduction of daylight for my mother's apartment. You will have also been made aware of the clashing aesthetic that is proposed in terms of building materials being suggested. I am sure that many have highlighted the incongruence of this structure with the rest of the architectural setting of Henley, obviously set within the Conservation and Green Belt area.

I am not commercially naive and understand that where there is profit there will be power. RVG are depending on this. I also recognise that the requirement for assisted living and retirement homes is growing as we seek to house our aging population.

Consequently, I am not objecting the building development entirely, I would like to see the development situated on the opposite side of the generous plot of the Thamesfield site.

The current location of the redevelopment would, without doubt, negatively impact the value of my mother's property - the invaluable privacy and solitude will have been lost as a direct result of this building.

Remenham Row is exclusively for the elderly and retired, these people crave peace, security and privacy and chose Remenham Row specifically to achieve this. The current design has been created with nothing but profit in mind - certainly not any degree of forbearance for the neighbours who will have to live with this unwelcome change to their quiet years.

If the current proposal goes ahead, my mother would be overlooked, be exposed to noise pollution and have her peace compromised. Indeed, many of those living in Remenham Row now are frightened of the consequences of this build.

Wokingham Borough Council Planners, as protectors of the public good, the mental wellbeing of these senior citizens must be an essential factor in your decision making.