10 Wootton Village, Boars Hill OX! 5JL

Planning Committee Notification

Location: 2 Poplar Corner, Wootton Village, Boars Hill, Oxford, OX1 5JL Proposal: Retrospective approval for a five-bedroom dwelling with external amendments to windows, a new gable.

(Amended plans received 07 July 2022 to remove proposed car port) (Amended plans rec 23 August 2022 to resolve discrepancies with the proposal as built)

I recommend that this retrospective planning request be rejected and the developer is asked to restore the building so that it complies with the original approved plans.

The concerns raised regarding the original submission for a 2-storey dwelling were related to the property overlooking neighbours. Retrospectively allowing a third storey, with even higher windows – which would probably have been declined if submitted originally- makes a mockery of the Planning Department and the whole planning approvals process.

I complained in writing (to Ms Mangion) on 2 Feb 2022 when the build was at an early stage, that the construction was in breach of the application, and requested an inspection while building was halted. I was assured, 8 Feb 2022, that the Planning Office were looking into it and would appraise me of the outcome of their investigation. That certainly hasn't happened and here we are 7 months later with the planning officer supporting a retrospective application!

The history of the developer's application to build on this plot is full of applications, revisions, last minute withdrawals and now retrospective applications. For me it simply highlights a flawed system whereby unscrupulous operators can run rings around the planning process and not be held to account by the Council.

Regards, Robert Stephenson.

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