

Consultee Response

HCC

Manning, Lindsay

From: Mcgowan, Jack
Sent: 18 July 2016 16:26
To: handl, planning
Subject: FW: PLANNING APPLICATION 16/01835/PP - 32 MacLeod Drive [OFFICIAL]

Classification: OFFICIAL

Please upload email from the community council as a representation

From: Davies, Sandra
Sent: 18 July 2016 15:00
To: Mcgowan, Jack
Subject: FW: PLANNING APPLICATION 16/01835/PP - 32 MacLeod Drive [OFFICIAL]

Classification: OFFICIAL

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From: Nigel Millar [<mailto:millarnc@btinternet.com>]
Sent: 16 July 2016 16:30
To: Davies, Sandra <Sandra.Davies@argyll-bute.gov.uk>
Cc: Clarke Rodger <talisman5678@gmail.com>; Kathleen Siddle <kathleen.ralph@virgin.net>; Millar Nigel <millarnc@btinternet.com>; Noble Stewart <noble84@btinternet.com>
Subject: PLANNING APPLICATION 16/01835/PP - 32 MacLeod Drive

Dear Sandra,

Helensburgh Community Council (HCC) supports a dwelling house being built on this elevated site as it will make a welcome, albeit very small, addition to Helensburgh's housing stock. The proposed house will occupy a wonderful site at the N-W edge of the town and, if suitably developed, will offer stupendous views across the Clyde Estuary. In fact some of the best views from any site in the town.

However HCC considers that the proposed design does not do justice to this almost unique site. While it harks back to more traditional house designs in Helensburgh it does not exploit the site to anywhere near its full potential. Any house on this site **must** :

1. Sit comfortably in and take full advantage of its development setting 5.4 LDP9 (A)
2. Provide the owners with the most wonderful views possible. LDP 5.5.2

LDP 5.5.2 states : *“Good design does not necessarily mean traditional design. Encouragement will also be given to contemporary and energy efficient design that compliments the surrounding landscape and townscape but also looks to a new architecture for the 21st century.”*

On the contrary the proposed design only meets these requirements in a rather unambitious and perfunctory manner. The proposed dwelling house is inoffensive and ordinary, looks off-the-shelf and is similar to many others in various other locations in the town. Simply put It does not do justice to its site.

HCC recommends consideration be given to the following suggested improvements :

- Greater use of balconies, french doors
- An outside terrace facing the Clyde Estuary
- The front door and porch to stand out and be emphasised more
- Bay windows on the south face of the building – upstairs and downstairs
- To alleviate problems for any with mobility problems the steps to the front door are made deeper and shallower.

On the other hand the installation of solar panels is to be commended.

Please do not think HCC is being over critical; far from it. Its core argument, however, is that this unique site cries out for a building of superior design.

Nigel Millar
Convenor, HCC Planning Group

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