

Review ref. 180010LRB

From: JENNY SMITH  
Sent: 26 November 2018 16:09  
To: local reviewprocess  
Subject: Review ref. 18/0010/LRB

Dear Sirs,

I wish to re-iterate my support for this application for alterations and extensions to The Old Coach House, Ellenabeich, which I believe will integrate seamlessly into the Conservation Village. Were this development to go ahead as proposed, it is most unlikely that visitors would be aware that it was a recent construction, as the white rendered building and wall perfectly reflect those to be seen throughout the village, and the curved wall forms an appropriate echo of those seen at the entrance to the village.

The block wall faced with (fake) slate which surrounds the Seafari petrol tank development in the car park adjoining the Coach House was necessary solely for safety reasons because of the potential explosion risk and, presumably, was deemed to be the least-worse compromise between the needs of one individual applicant and the requirements of the wider historical area and its inhabitants. All that can be said about this wall is that it looks slightly less unsightly than the fencing originally proposed, and it is astonishing that this piece of "fakery" now seems to be setting a precedent for other proposals within the village (see application no. 18/01695/PP, which has received numerous objections).

The then Conservation Officer expressed disquiet at the appearance of Seafari's boundary wall, and the Conservation Area Appraisal issued last year was deeply critical of uPVC doors and windowframes, and of imitation slates; which, with modern materials and technology, are now indistinguishable from the "real thing" without close scrutiny. In the absence of our current Conservation Officer, a demonstrably and obviously fake slate wall should not be allowed to slip under the radar by default, just because one was permitted earlier purely to protect the public from an industrial risk.

Ellenabeich was designated as a Conservation Area in 1973 (one of the earliest designations), and given Outstanding Status in 1983. We should be deeply ashamed if 45 years of care by a succession of residents and Council officers were to be wantonly undermined by glaringly inappropriate intrusions "on our watch". Future generations would blame us, as custodians of their heritage; and rightly so.

I therefore urge you to rescind the condition imposed upon permission for this application.

Yours faithfully,

Jenny Smith  
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