

56 Broomhills  
Welwyn Garden City  
Herts. AL7 1RD

Planning Department at Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council  
The Campus  
Welwyn Garden City  
AL8 6AE

17<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Dear Sir

**Application No: W6/2015/0739/EM**

**Date of Refusal: 5 May 2017**

I write to appeal against the refusal of the above application. I appeal on the following grounds:

- I submitted my application in April 2015 and only now, 2 years later, have I received a response. This is completely unreasonable. I have been given 8 weeks to appeal against your decision which took 2 years to make. Why has it taken so long to reach this decision? Please confirm what are the stated timelines for response in your policy/process – providing written evidence of this - your website states approximately 8 weeks unless objections etc.
- Your reason for refusal states - *by virtue of the inappropriateness of the balance of soft and hard landscaping and the removal of the front facing hedgerow screening would harm the values and amenities of the street scene. The frontage results in visually prominent car parking in contrast with the rest of the street which, for the most part, retains soft landscape screening of parked vehicles.* - I completely refute this claim. The houses in my area are not uniform in any sense. They all look different, with the following versions: high hedges, low hedges, very small (50 inches or under) hedges, fences, walls or shrubs of some description. Therefore, the precedent to change the look of houses on the estate has long since been set.
- When we put in our driveway we specifically ensured that we balanced the hard and soft landscape – planting a hedge in between our house and our neighbour and also other green shrubbery. Many houses do not have any soft landscape at all, with it all having been paved over – including, but not limited to, my next door neighbour and her neighbour – (54 & 52 Broomhills). Again, this precedent has long since been set.
- I have listed in the attached document the houses in my **immediate** vicinity which have little or no hedge in place. I request evidence that these houses have either:
  - Received planning permission – in which case I would like to understand why they have been granted permission and yet I have been refused.
  - Have not received planning permission – in which case I request evidence that you have informed them of your refusal and told them to change it back as you have done me.

- I am happy to provide photographic evidence of these houses should this be required.
- I am also happy to follow up this letter with a Freedom of Information Act Request for this information. I am very aggrieved that I, Tina Mjekiqi, appear to have been singled out for this treatment and I question why.
- I stress that the attached list of houses is only in my immediate vicinity – either in Broomhills itself, or backing on to my property in Daniells. There are definitely many more on the estate and I am happy to walk the entire area and provide further evidence if required.

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However, I would like to put this issue to bed and therefore, as a possible compromise, I would be willing to put, next to the neighbours hedge (no. 58), a small trellis with planter in which I could put green shrubs to hide the bins. I believe this would look very similar to the many houses which have a very small hedge or plants of some description.

I have tried to contact you to discuss this compromise, but have not received a call back, hence I have submitted this appeal.

I look forward to your response, in a timely manner.

Yours faithfully



**TINA MJEKIQI**

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**HOUSES WITHIN THE IMMEDIATE 56 BROOMHILLS  
VICINITY WITH DIFFERENT LANDSCAPE**

**No Hedge**

Broomhills - 27, 30, 31, 33

Daniells - 207, 222, 226, 240, 241, 248, 250, 252, 254

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**Part Hedge or Shrubbery (under 50in – some almost non-existent)**

Broomhills – 9, 15, 17, 25, 36, 38, 62

Daniells – 195, 197, 209, 224, 228, 232, 242, 243, 244, 245, 257

**Fence – no hedge**

Daniells – 234

**Wall**

Strawfields – 1, 3

