

Attention: Colin Haigh, Head of Planning  
Planning Department  
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council  
The Campus  
Welwyn Garden City  
AL8 6AE

Dear Sir  
Application No: 6/2015/2060/EM of 27 October 2015  
Replacement of doors at 124 Sweet Briar, Welwyn Garden City, AL7 3EA

I refer to your letter of 30 December 2015 refusing the above application.

I wish to appeal this decision based on the following.

You state that *'the proposed replacement doors, by virtue of their design, would represent incongruous additions which would be to the detriment of the character and amenities of the Garden City'*.

I am confused over this as I was informed by a Planning Officer before submitting plans that windows were required to have Georgian glazing bars. I understood this and have replaced the clear glass as originally proposed with glazing bars. I assumed this to infer that by changing this aspect of the windows there would be no further opposition as this was the only area of conflict raised and addressed by yourselves at that time.

My property lies within the Beehive Conservation Area and in common with other Conservation Areas is one in which it is desirable to preserve and enhance the environment. This Area as stated falls under policies as prescribed by the Welwyn Garden City Estate Management Scheme.

The eight Conservation Areas and the Estate Management Scheme in general cover a wide area of Welwyn Garden City. There does not appear to be a uniform design for doors in properties in these areas as a whole. In fact I would believe that a visit to many Areas would lead one to appreciate that there is a wide difference in styles and material throughout.

This being the case there is no statement in your refusal to explain in what manner my proposed doors deviates from any norm that exists to make them 'incongruous'. As such my proposal does not conflict with your policy to preserve and enhance. In fact it could be argued that by acting responsibly to replace and modernise parts of my property is in fact consistent with the aims of a Conservation Area.

I am aware that although I am not applying for Planning permission the Estate Management Scheme does encourage energy efficient measures. The doors I am applying for permission to install will improve insulation, reduce my carbon footprint and add an extra security measure to my home.

I am therefore requesting that this appeal be presented to the Estate Management Panel at the earliest opportunity and wish to be able to speak in defence of my proposal when it next meets.

However I would appreciate an opportunity to speak to you before such a step is taken if you feel that this would be beneficial to both sides in order that the contents of this letter can be discussed and a mutual solution found.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Louise Viner