

Subject: Objection to hard standing drive requests at No. 1 thru No. 3 Towers Garden, Langstone, Havant
Your Ref: APP/24/00130

Dear Ms Lacey,

I am writing to object to the proposed requests for hard standing drives at the properties of no. 1 through to no. 3 Towers Garden in Langstone, Havant. The request, as I understand it would entail digging up the three front lawns of the properties and adding dropped kerbs directly in front of the houses.

As a homeowner in Towers Garden, the house was bought because of it's position in a historical and village and also for it's attractive setting. The houses have large picture front windows which lend themselves to the view onto the front gardens.

When the houses were built 60 years ago I do appreciate that most families would have had 1 car and that probably would have been kept in the garage. Progress means that most families have 2 or sometimes 3 cars but people know the parking situation when they buy in Langstone. A lot of the garages are not used for cars and instead used for storage a lot of the time, this has a lot to do with the sizes of the garages. They can probably only fit a small or mid size car so, if you have a large car then that will be an issue with living in Langstone, but people know this.

To quote your own **HBC Langstone Conservation Area Review - Character Appraisal and Management Plan from July 2011** <https://www.havant.gov.uk/media/7546/download?inline=>

'However, one difference is that the front gardens are open plan with an absence of walls and fences. Off street parking is arranged in discreet courtyards allowing front gardens to be laid to grass. Collectively this provides an attractive environment enhanced by trees which are reaching maturity, adding to the visual amenities and contrasting with the hard landscape treatment elsewhere. As a result of the tight layout within the residential core of the conservation area, namely Langstone High Street, Tower Gardens and The Saltings, there is minimal provision for off street parking. The majority of properties in Tower Gardens and The Saltings have allocated parking spaces located in separate garage blocks. Although properties in these two roads do have front gardens which at present are not enclosed by boundary treatments, none of these front plots have been converted into off street parking areas. The majority of properties in Langstone High Street do not have allocated, off street parking provision and as such, parking occurs on the street and in the adjoining cul-de-sacs. There are now generally a greater number of vehicles per household and in response to the resulting pressure for parking during evenings and weekends, on street parking in the conservation area is limited. Yellow lines are in situ to prevent the parking of vehicles within visibility splays.'

HBC recognise the open planning of the roads and gardens **'providing an attractive environment enhanced by trees... adding to the visual amenities and contrasting with the hard landscape treatment elsewhere'** but also acknowledging the parking issues associated with people having more cars by addressing with yellow lines might to certain areas to prevent unauthorised and unsightly parking.

I lived in Southsea for 10 years and accepted that I would not be able to park outside my own house and that my car size was an issue if I wanted to get it in smaller spaces. I accepted that as I chose to live there and knew the issues when I bought my house.

I 'm surprised why HBC hasn't given Residents parking to both The Saltings and Towers Garden to deter the pub parkers which just adds to the frustration.

If you let the hard standings move forward what's to say others will want to do the same, then completely changing the appearance of the road and making it just like everywhere else. It will no longer be unique in it's attractiveness which would then see the demise of house prices when your main view outside is of someone's car parked just outside your window.

So please see this email as my objection as a homeowner in the village.
Thank you,

