

Mr & Mrs R D Smith
Melody Cottage
8 Palmers Road
Emsworth
Hampshire
PO10 7DL

Dear Mr Chris Murray

Your Ref: APP/14/00669

Site Address: Unit 1 Palmers Road Industrial Estate, Palmers Road, Emsworth, PO10 7DH

Proposed development: Change of use from B1 to B2 use for motorcycle repairs.

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the above proposal, I would like our previous correspondence to be taken into consideration and the numerous hours and days we spent making the notes, diary accounts and photographic evidence which we were asked to carry out and that I raised in my visit to your Planning Dept. (Reference below).

This is **directly** in connection and relevant to the planning proposed for this case.

Ref: EC/DGS/00082//CMP

Daniel Gender-Sherry, Planning enforcement Officer, Development control.

As your excellent and understanding planning enforcement team of Havant Borough Council are well aware, we have, and continue to have grave health and safety, noise and privacy concerns for the usage of this site. Unit 1 "ASTEC" as it was formally known as was a quiet, industrial and office unit. (B1 Planning). They consistently adhered by your guidelines and were the perfect business to live directly opposite for 10 years.

JCB Motorcycles moved in to the property, which is not purpose built for this kind of business, and within days, the frontage was used as a noisy, open motorcycle scrap yard, forecourt and work shop area.

They have been working illegally for a year carrying out services not fit for B1 guidelines and regulations. Our previous correspondence has made this issue known to you and therefore the B2 planning proposal arrives...

Being retired, we are of an age where an afternoon nap is sometimes required, but the thought of trying to get to sleep or being woken by the intermittent yet constant motorcycle's revving being loudly shared with the street and for sometimes more than 10 minutes at a time brings us to tears, causes headaches, sickness and nausea. We openly welcome you into our home, to experience the embarrassment we, our friends and family have to face whenever they come to visit and have to shout to be heard from inside our own lounge and that is *with* the doors and windows closed.

This has become so bad of late that we are unable to make telephone calls, listen to the radio, or talk from our lounge when a bike is starting up and left to run which more often than not and this activity goes on throughout the day. We have had no choice but to wear ear plugs in our own home just to get some kind of quiet time.

We now feel uncomfortable and unsafe to be in the front garden during their "working hrs" Our grandson who we care for regularly suffers from asthma, and is unable to play out front safely, without inhaling motorbike fumes and the extreme noises hurting his sensitive ears.

As you can appreciate at this time of year it is a must to have the windows open, however the fumes and very loud revs of starting and running of fault finding engines makes this impossible. It is affecting our relationship, family, health and really are we are at loss to how we can possibly live here any longer with this awful situation. The house prices have dropped after the Motorcycle Company arrived. The frontage is a complete eye sore. We are embarrassed and quite honestly appalled by the dirty look, smell and feel it brings to our once quite road. It seems to also be a meeting place for bikers who drive in and light up a cigarette on arrival to chat.

We feel sadly let down and deeply upset that this company could have ever been approved to be situated in a residential area at all. They clearly have been trading on the forecourt, working on vehicles, creating health and safety issues, working outside the set hours and working guidelines that you yourselves have set out to them. These dates and times of out of hour work are all noted in the reference above.

The noise is at minimum 10 hours a day, 6 days a week and often until 7.45pm at night! Sometimes they are leaving the unit at 4pm on a Saturday. When clearly should be gone by 1pm. Workers are known to pop by on a Sunday which is our only day of peace...there really is NO peace from this company.

To be given the approval to be B2 would make a mockery of your guidelines, and who knows what health and safety boundaries would be pushed and further broken if they were given permission to do so, putting the residence of Palmers Road, Emsworth in danger.

We thank you for reading these notes and yet we understand our feelings and private thoughts do not fit easily into your categories of relevant considerations as noted in your recent letter dated 10th July 2014, so I have broken down the facts for you in some of your set categories. We hope you appreciate that we wanted you to understand how aggravated and helpless this issue make us feel and the intense affects it has on our lives on a minute/hourly and daily basis. It has become quite unbearable!

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

- FIRE HAZARD
- Workers and clients from motorcycle unit 1 and the tattoo parlour directly next door smoking on the forecourt next to full, 10 or more hot fuel tanks,
- We have witnessed fuel tanks being filled in open containers next to smokers without a care. This surely is tragic accident waiting to happen?

PRIVACY AND OUTLOOK:

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- Dirty, untidy, unorganised, Fume smells,
- Increasing motorcycle stock
- Comings and goings of clients resulting in not being able to have our doors or windows open as they can see right in to our property also because of fumes and increasing noise levels.
- Disturbed sleeping hours due to motor bikes arriving early and being worked on outside during the entire day and weekends.
- Negative effects on in our health, stress levels, social life, home life and family life.

HIGHWAY SAFETY AND TRAFFIC

- UNIT 1 Palmers Rd customers and worker's arrive at as early as 6.30am to drop off offensively loud motorcycles, clearly out of "office hours"
- A constant flow of motorcycle vehicles and on occasion cars are in and out and being worked on, all being discussed with numerous on lookers, customers and staff smoking outside on the road and forecourt.
- Parked bikes with oil and fuel just a cigarette's throw away, this is an ENORMOUS health and safety risk to the premises, public, street, residence, many with small children, our personal vehicles and homes.

NOISE

- [REDACTED]
- Motorcycles running intermittent yet constant and starting and running engines and revving of offensively loud motorcycles. Escalated as the noise echoes around the surrounding metal buildings.
- The loud noise of motorcycle's being dropped off and workers popping in and out of the premises on Sundays and out of working hours.

SMELL AND FUMES

- Motorcycle fumes, being poured out, on occasion clearly pointed in the direction of our houses.
- Cigarette fumes
- Both of the above preventing us to open our windows and doors or to be in the front garden.

We thank you and appreciate the time you have taken to read our comments, and are more than happy to discuss anything further with yourselves.

Attached are some recent photographs of the Unit 1 Palmers Road forecourt which as you will see speak for themselves under your heading Privacy and Outlook.

Yours faithfully

Mr R D Smith & Mrs V Smith

8 Palmers Road

Emsworth

Hampshire

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