

Dear Committee members,

There are a couple of points of clarification we would like to present to the meeting.

We would like to start by saying how important Langstone is to us. We have lived here for [REDACTED]. Over the years we have been involved in the Langstone Village Association, founding the Langstone Cutters Rowing Club, village fetes, community fundraising events and recently supporting the coastal defence initiatives. We hope that this shows that we did not take applying for a hardstanding/driveway lightly, but have found it necessary to pursue this due to the ever increasing demand for parking in a road/village that is clearly very lacking in on street parking spaces, as well as the need to be able to move to a more environmentally form of transport.

Towers Garden is no longer completely made up of verdant front amenity spaces with no boundary treatments, as is mentioned in the 2011 report. There are 2 hardstanding parking spaces, a gravel garden which is used as a drive and a garden surrounded on 2 out of 3 sides with a hedge. Our proposal for a hardstanding is in keeping with the 2 driveways already in place, and we are happy to add in a hedge which was suggested to us by our planning officer to soften some of the views from the approach entering the road. The size of this hedge can be increased to match the hedge of the property over the road, which can be seen to provide a robust level of screening if this is a favourable solution.

The demand for parking in Langsgtone has greatly increased since Towers Garden was built, and even since the report was written in 2011. During peak periods such as evenings, weekends and especially during pub opening times, the public park everywhere, including on yellow lines. This is both unsightly and dangerous for the visitors and residents. It is also very challenging for residents needing to travel during these busy periods. We have enquired to Hampshire County Council about residents parking but this is not something that they are considering at present. If we are able to put in a hardstanding driveway it will of benefit to, not only ourselves, but other residents and visitors as it will take the demand of one car off the limited on street parking. We have already experienced this benefit when the 2 driveways were installed in Towers Garden.

We currently have a dropped kerb and are therefore able to drive a car onto our front garden. One of the other properties that now has a driveway installed a dropped kerb first and whilst there was no drive the vehicles parked on the front garden caused a very unsightly muddy mess. We have always been careful to avoid this happening with our garden but are finding that we are needing to park on our front garden on a more regular occurrence, due to lack of on street parking, hence the need to turn it into a hardstanding to avoid this situation happening again.

We are keen to purchase an electric car, to move to a more environmentally form of transportation. It has been suggested that we have a garage that should be used for charging an electric car, but our garage is of an unsuitable size for modern cars and the garage block is also incredibly tight for manoeuvring to actually get a car into our garage. Its simple is no longer fit for purpose in modern times. Our garage is not directly connected to our house so getting the appropriate power supply for charging an electric car is not viable.

We would also like to point out that in the 2011 report Towers Garden and The Saltings are grouped together as developments with the same parking provisions. However, The

Saltings has 8 houses, 8 garages and 8 off road residents parking spaces. In Towers Garden, there are 14 garages for 15 houses. The only parking available is on-street parking which is shared with other Langstone residents, and visitors to the area. The 2011 report highlighted that on street parking is very limited, so the more capacity we can generate, the better, to provide a harmonious and pleasant environment to live in.

We hope that you will give these points consideration in your decision-making process.

Reggards

Rob & Jo