

## **LRA Planning Report for August 6<sup>th</sup> 2012**

**Cherkley Court and the Secretary of State:** Mr. Eric Pickles has dealt an enormous blow to those hoping to preserve the current chalk grassland by refusing to “call in” the planning application. The letter states that he has “carefully considered” the case and feels that this is a decision to be taken locally. We now await further developments.

### **Appeals:**

Only one: The owners of 2 Minchin Close are not allowed to remove a pine tree, nor reduce the limbs on a yew tree although they said that the tree occupied the only level and, therefore, useable stretch of their garden.

### **Decisions:**

One quite important one, (0732) land adjacent to Crestawood, Reigate Road, where an application for outline permission for access to 2 detached dwellings not yet built was refused for numerous reasons: The land is Green Belt and no special reasons have been adduced to change it to residential land, the A24 has not been agreed as the natural boundary of the Green belt .... and at least 8 others. The LRA did write objecting to this proposal.

Another one that we wrote about but did not actually object to was at 34 North Street (0626) where three small flats were requested at the rear of and over the shop, Adecco. There is a condition that all the spaces for parking are to be available prior to the first occupation of the development. This is not a wonderful solution to the parking situation there but is better than nothing.

Prezzos has been refused permission for the 4 illuminated signs it wanted to put up. We did write about this one too because of the possible effects on the people living opposite.

Just last Wednesday I attended a Planning Council meeting to object to the intensification of use of the northernmost playing field of St. John's school. (0339). Not unexpectedly, it was passed but some important modifications were agreed as regards the look of the fencing and the hours of use.

Apart from that, nothing really contentious, but one unexpected one, namely the four applications from Brook Willow Farm (0756, 0757, 0758 and 0762) all relating to the retention and re-use of unauthorized buildings have been withdrawn.

The others concern extensions at Ellen Cottages, Barnett Wood Lane (0667), at Woodland Cottage, Woodend (0680), at 12 Tanners Dean (0738), on the corner of Poplar Road for the repair and rebuilding of the perimeter boundary wall (0740) and the erection of a non illuminated sign for solicitors at 35 Bridge Street(0816).

### **Running List:**

(0961) St. John's wants to refurbish Churchill boarding house.

Tesco wants to extend Sunday trading hours to 9am to 10 pm on Sundays from 22 July to 9 Sept (but this has been generally allowed, anyway).

(0993), Fairmont House wants to deal with the tree overhanging the pedestrian crossing near Lidl. We did write about this before and they carried out further investigations.