N.H.D.C.
26 MAR 2018

I50 North Avenue

Letchworth SG6 1DJ

Ref18/00534/FPH Planning permission for works on 52 North Avenue Letchworth

Dear Mr Ellis

We would like you to consider our strong objection to one aspect of the plans – that of the severe reduction of our privacy in our conservatory and garden. This will be as a result of the proposed dormer window in their roof from which our neighbours will be able to see through our clear glass conservatory roof into the room which is used as a sitting room and for dining. Additionally they would be able to see almost all of our garden. Currently, our garden is completely private. We have thick, tall hedging and mature trees at the end of the garden. As we have bungalows like ours either side of us this has always meant that the gardens cannot be overlooked. This privacy was a key factor when we decided to downsize for our retirement.

We do hope and trust that you will be able to find a solution to this – perhaps by adapting the position of the window or making it a rooflight like the other three that are proposed in that section of roof.

These bungalows were built at the very beginnings of the Garden City. They were small with 2 bedrooms and would not now be considered up to date in design. They had and have large gardens. They are ideal for active, retired people who may be downsizing or wanting one-level living, perhaps with disabilities. Most have now been extended and renovated like our own. However, by extending into the roof they will become much larger. We wonder whether the North Herts District Council shares our concern that the supply of bungalows in Letchworth is quickly diminishing as these become family homes with 3-4 bedrooms and costing a great deal more to buy. In the longer term this will mean fewer people downsizing so further diminishing the stock of larger family homes.

When you consider this planning application and reach your conclusions, we would be really grateful if you could put in the notification a reminder of the hours during which building works can take place, and the times when bonfires can be lit.

So far we have very cordial relations with our new neighbours and hope that this can continue through the extensive planned works.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

[redacted]

Maggie and Robin Nelson

50 North Avenue