

APPLICATION NO: 16/00499/FUL		OFFICER: Miss Michelle Payne	
DATE REGISTERED: 23rd March 2016		DATE OF EXPIRY : 18th May 2016	
WARD: Park		PARISH:	
APPLICANT:	Mr Ashley Jones		
LOCATION:	Lypiatt Lodge, Lypiatt Road, Cheltenham		
PROPOSAL:	Part two storey, part single storey rear extension to form new dining room on the ground floor with extended kitchen over (revised scheme)		

REPRESENTATIONS

Number of contributors	2
Number of objections	0
Number of representations	0
Number of supporting	2

15 Kingscote Road East
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL51 6JT

Comments: 1st April 2016

My mother (who is suffering from Alzheimer's disease) has been a resident at Lypiatt Lodge (formerly Astley House) Nursing Home for some two and a half years. Ownership of the property changed hands about a year ago, since when the new owners Fidelia Care have undertaken extensive works generally, and refurbishment of the building, to a very high standard, such works being ongoing.

It is my understanding that Professional Designers have been asked to draw proposed landscaping plans for consideration, to redesign the garden area with the inclusion of a ramp to assist elderly, limited mobility, residents, to have access to the garden and enjoy seeing the plants and flowers.

Lypiatt Lodge caters for a very specialised area of care, for people with Dementia, Old Age, Physical Disability, and Sensory Impairment. The residents need specialized Nursing Care, the majority of them have very limited walking ability and indeed some of them are unable to walk at all.

I understand that Fidelia Care have applied for Planning Permission on the Lower Ground floor offering access to the garden, by enlarging an existing small sitting room to create a larger sitting/dining area overlooking the garden, to enable the severely disabled, and very elderly residents, to have a place where they can have space to see and admire the garden and to enjoy meals in that room, rather than all the upheaval and discomfort of moving them up a level to the existing dining room. Most of the residents in this Nursing Home are very elderly, mentally confused, disabled, end of life, people, often in great pain, who rarely, if at all, leave the building. In these circumstances the provision of such a room where they can see out and observe birds as well as plants and flowers, would be of immense benefit and definitely enhance their quality of life considerably. The provision of larger kitchen facilities would obviously assist staff in the preparation of meals and also enable more active residents to join in with cooking activities, again enhancing their lives.

I do hope that Cheltenham Borough Council Planning Committee will look favourably on the Planning Application in such circumstances thereby giving pleasure to the people who reside there, such plans being wholly for the benefit of those residents.

31 Oldbury Orchard
Churchdown
Gloucestershire
GL3 2PU

Comments: 20th April 2016

I have the role of "advocate" of an elderly resident of Lypiatt Lodge called Malcolm. Malcolm is my father-in-law and was diagnosed with dementia in the late summer of 2014. His condition deteriorated rapidly and in mid December of 2014 he was sectioned under the mental health act and incarcerated in a secure unit of a psychiatric hospital in his home town of Doncaster. Whilst in the unit his condition worsened and we were told he likely had days, possibly weeks to live. The unit was not dementia specific and it was clear that whilst in there the lack of condition specific care was a major contributor to his deterioration. As we had moved to Gloucestershire in 1999 it made sense to look for a care home here so that we could offer support. We have had Malcolm in Lypiatt Lodge for some months now, having transitioned through other locations, and have been able to see through the ongoing refurbishment of the physical environment due to the excellent personal care and genuinely happy anxiety free environment that Fidelia want to provide.

The proposed alterations will allow Malcolm (and other residents) to walk easily into the gardens. The proposed room will allow residents to sit in comfort whilst being much better connected to the outside environment and the positive stimulation that the sounds, smells, colours, air movement and textures bring. In the years between Malcolm's retirement and the onset of dementia he would enjoy sitting in his garden and quietly watch birds at the bird tables he tended each day and whilst it wasn't his way to articulate the pleasure it brought it is clear now to see him looking from his window the comfort it now brings and the calming effect on the torment of his condition.

As as an advocate not only of Malcolm, but also of protecting the very pleasant environment of Cheltenham and the county in general I ask you to consider that this development is not a financially driven gratuitous over development but rather a small investment with huge returns on the quality of life for Malcolm and the many others in coming years who will be wholly dependent on the foresight, vision and commitment of all of us with the ability and authority to make such differences.

Please support this application.