

From: Tim Warburton <>
Sent: 08 July 2018 23:36
To: Customer and Business Support
Subject: NP/DDD/0618/0480 - 1, The Gables, The Nook, Eyam - Mr R and Mrs S Williams.

Categories: Nancy

I have read with interest the previous and current planning applications to extend the above property and I write as the previous owner who sold it to Mr and Mrs Williams.

I fully acknowledge that as I now live in Buxton, the application will not impact on me directly, but I retain a connection with, and a fondness for, the village and I wish to make some observations.

I was always a little embarrassed that I couldn't afford to renovate the house or tidy and improve it's relatively large garden and that is why I decided to sell. I was delighted that a hard working young couple with a genuine love for the Peak District and it's villages wanted to buy my house. Mrs Williams teaches in Bakewell and Mr Williams has now brought his engineering skills, honed with a world leading company, to a local manufacturing firm, which will greatly assist them to preserve and enhance job prospects for local people.

I did advise them that obtaining planning consent could be a more difficult process in the Peak District than elsewhere and so if they had any general plans they should approach the Peak Park Planning Authority to seek some assurances before they proceeded with the purchase. They told me that they had done so and that a written indication had been received that an extension would be possible.

There are many television programmes across many channels which acknowledge that young couples cannot easily afford to buy their own home and which encourage them to buy somewhat dilapidated properties (which, quite frankly, is what I bought and then sold to them when my money ran out) and needing to be brought up to date and extended to make them suitable for modern family life.

Properties designed and built over a hundred years ago are seldom suitable for twenty-first century living and, unless they are of great age and/or of architectural merit, require updating and remodelling. I was always disappointed that I couldn't afford to buy a property with sufficient age and design appeal to give it the appearance of a beautiful house from the outside. I bought that property because of it's location and not because of the charm of it.

I had originally intended to extend the house myself, but my circumstances prevented me from doing so and I would have been saddened to have received the level of objections

their original application attracted. It is very positive and heartening to note that these objections have not been repeated and that one particularly considerate neighbour made very constructive and reasoned comments in response to both applications.

I also note that previously planning permission has been granted to enable whole houses to be built in the immediate vicinity. Number one the Gables is a relatively small house on a relatively large plot and in my opinion there is good and sufficient room to enable it to be extended without making it look in any way jammed in. I pose the question whether it would be either fair or reasonable to prevent the sensible renovation of the above house into one suitable for modern family needs when, very close by, permission has been granted for complete houses to be built?

I know that all planning applications are sensitive and this is especially so in such a beautiful area. No one who loves the Peak District wants to see it over developed or ruined by inappropriate building. On the other hand, the housing market difficulties faced by young people must be acknowledged or the Peak Park will drive out young families and village life and the vitality of the Park will suffer greatly. Mr and Mrs Williams have a young child and are imminently expecting another baby. They will send their children to the village school and are committed to working locally. They also join in many village events such as the church and the annual pantomime. They make a positive contribution to village life and this will only grow over the coming years.

I would submit that balancing all factors the only fair conclusion is for them to be granted planning permission, especially as they have made considerable amendments to their original application.

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