

Supporting Statement

This statement supports our retrospective householder application for the erection of a 1.8 metre high close-boarded timber fence along the side and rear boundaries of our corner plot property.

Background

The fence was erected behind an existing low wall to enclose the primary garden area of the property. At the time, we were unaware of the requirement that fences adjacent to a highway are generally limited to 1 metre without planning permission. This application seeks to regularise the development and ensure compliance with planning requirements.

Positioning and Setback

The fence is set back behind the existing low boundary wall and is positioned entirely within our property. It does not encroach upon the highway or pavement. The fence provides a clearly defined boundary while maintaining pedestrian access and highway clearance.

Highway Safety and Visibility

A primary consideration for development in this location is the safety and visibility at the junction of the corner plot. The positioning of the fence has significantly improved visibility for both drivers and pedestrians when compared to the previous condition.

- Previously, mature hedging along the side and corner boundaries extended significantly over 15 feet in height and protruded into the pavement in multiple locations. The overhanging vegetation partially restricted pedestrian access and reduced visibility along the junction.
- The new fence is positioned behind the low wall and the existing hedging, creating a clear and unobstructed visibility splay along both roads.
- Drivers approaching the junction from either direction now have a far clearer line of sight, allowing them to safely judge oncoming traffic and pedestrians without obstruction.
- Pedestrian visibility and access have also been improved, as the fence does not encroach onto the pavement and creates a neat boundary line.

Photographic evidence of the previous condition and the current fence installation is submitted alongside this application to illustrate the improvement in highway safety, visibility, and overall tidiness.

Amenity and Character

The fence forms the boundary of the property's main garden, following the installation of patio doors under previous planning consent. It provides:

- Privacy and security for our family, including our young child and 2 dogs.
- A clearly defined boundary that enhances the orderly appearance of the property
- An improvement over the previous condition, where overgrown hedging created untidy boundaries and protruded onto public areas

The fence is consistent with the character of the surrounding residential area and is constructed from standard timber materials appropriate to a domestic property.

Trees and Vegetation

Existing shrubs and trees along the boundary remain in situ, with no removal or damage.

The new fence does not impact any protected trees or established vegetation beyond maintaining a tidy boundary line.

Conclusion

The installation of the 1.8 metre fence has improved visibility at the junction and along the side boundary, provided a neat and orderly boundary, and enhanced privacy and security for the property's primary garden. The fence does not harm highway safety, pedestrian access, or the character of the area. We therefore respectfully request that Wiltshire Council grant retrospective planning permission for the development.