

STATEMENT

In reference to my application registered on 23rd February 2015 for planning permission of erection of fence (Retrospective) App No. 15/00135/P , and on 22nd April 2015 got the decision to refuse permission for the proposed development, I would like to ask the Local Planning Authority, in exercise of their powers, to review my case again.

In my application, I have set out clearly the reasons of erected fence and I am desperately seeking review of the Planning Authority's decision.

My property has and still remains to be a target for youths and local people purely because of the location.

- The existing rear garden boundary which is formed by a stone wall (1.30 – 1.40 metres from ground level) and remaining 1.20 – 1.10 metres by the wire mesh fencing does not give me security and privacy at all, make me feel helpless and vulnerable.
- The youths climbing on stone wall and pull out the wire mesh fence (I had to repair twice already). That was reported to the police, as they did a lot of damage.(see picture 3)
- At the back boundary wall of my property - this is a local gathering point used by youths and local people almost 24/7.They throw an empty bottles, cans, even used needles, lunch boxes, railings and more rubbish into my garden and all over the place. (see pictures 1 and 2)
- This back line is also used as a toilet.
- All groups have been verbal aggressive towards me, when I was in the garden. Again, the police has been informed, and I was given advice to put a new fence up to keep myself and my property secured.

The problem with youths and local people has been reported to Antisocial Behaviour Team, but unfortunately, they can not carry out 24/7 patrols.

I submit additional documentation with this form:

- Antisocial Behaviour Complaints letter
- Letter from my neighbour

The erected wooden fence which is the same height as existing boundary treatment measures some 2.5 metres in height:

- provides protection to the landscaping as well as providing security and privacy. It helps my property to remain hidden from prying eyes and dangerous

youths.

- can lessen the amount of noise that my back yard suffers from beyond the fence.
- reduces amount of rubbish throwing into my garden
- wooden fence is also one of the most affordable fencing options. Wood is naturally occurring resource.

The public back line, which runs between the houses of Balfour Square and buildings on the Tranent High Street doesn't create a sense of welcome, safety and security. (see pictures 4, 5, 6)

Lots of rubbish, damage to stone wall and long standing, antisocial youths has an imposing and negative effect on the character and amenity of the lane – not the erected fence, which clearly distinguish public space from private and protect private space.

Alternative to erected fence is to plant a hedge, but unfortunately, it will take years to grow a decent hedge, which left me unprotected and could put me and my property in danger. Also, I got feedback from previous owner, that the trees and shrubs at rear garden boundary have been set on fire several times and badly damaged by youths, so they had to be removed. (see the letter from neighbour)

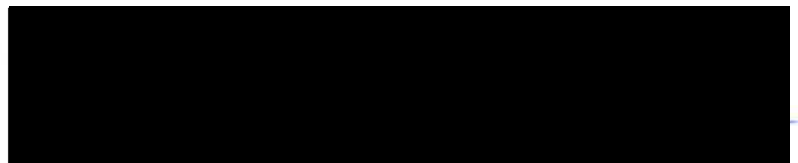
Under this difficult and dangerous circumstances, it is very beneficial for my safety to keep the erected fence and I would like to come to an agreement with the Local Planning Authority by adjusting my plans and achieving a compromise.

The new height of erected fence won't exceed 2 metres. When measuring the height of the erected fence, the height will be measured from the lowest point immediately adjacent to the fence. (It will be 1,80 metres, the highest point of new, erected fence)

Within the setting of the back lane, the new height of erected fence won't reduce the passive surveillance of the lane from the property to the east of this part of the lane, and also won't have a harmful impact on the openness and sense of security of this back lane.

The lower 1,80 metres height of the erected fence, can still protect my property, reduce the amount of rubbish throwing in the garden, and free my family from abuse.

Yours sincerely



PICTURE ①

EXAMPLE OF RUBBISH FROM ONE WEEK ONLY



PICTURE ②

EXAMPLE OF RUBBISH FROM ONE WEEKEND ONLY



PICTURE (3)

EXAMPLE OF ONE DAY (LUNCH BREAK)



PICTURE (4)

RUBBISH



DAMAGE TO  STONE WALL



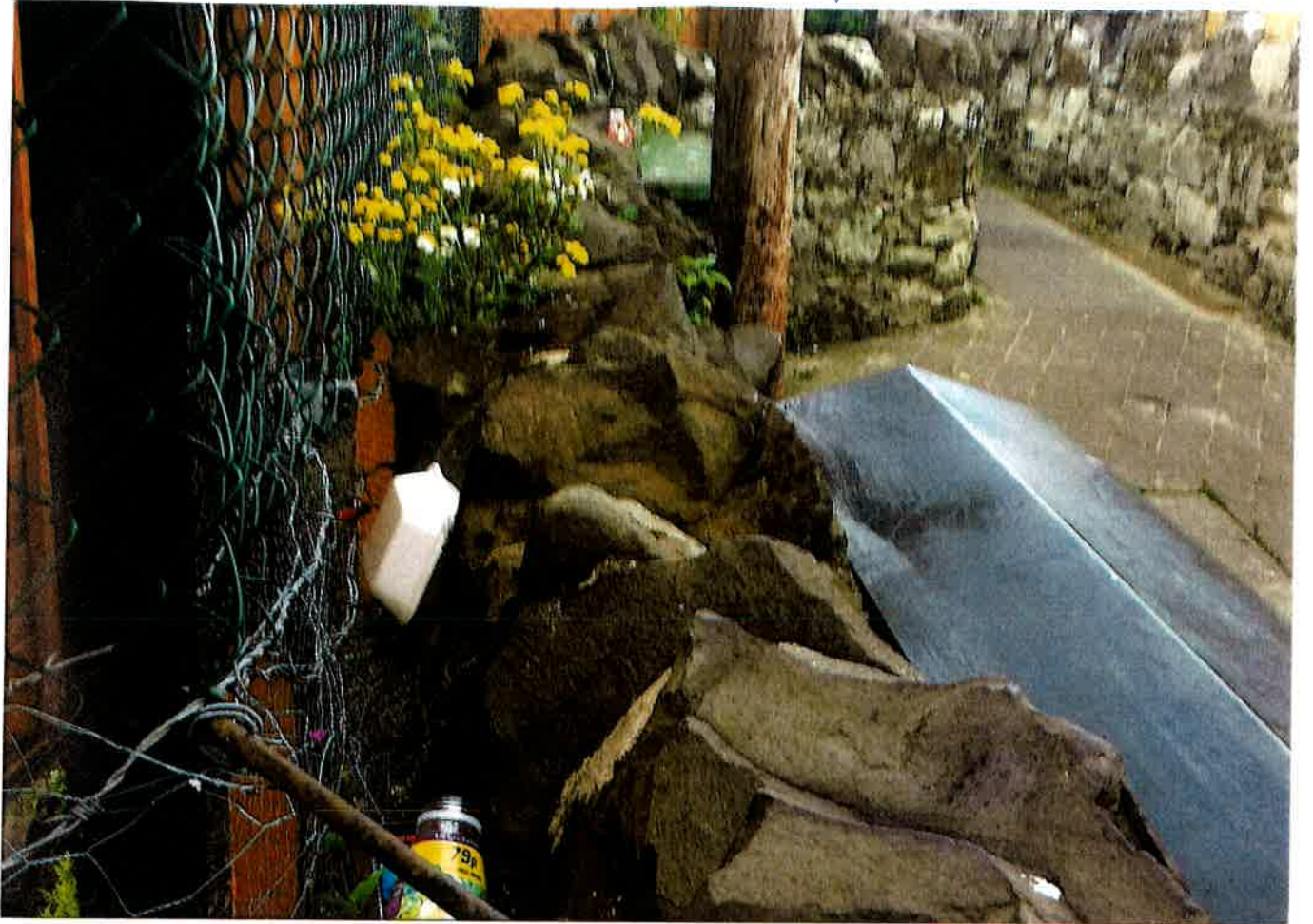
PICTURE (5)

BACK ~~LINE~~ LINE



PICTURE 6

RUBBISH THRU AT MY FENCE



[REDACTED]
Stranmillis
East Rathfriland
PH33 1DB.

1st June 2015.

Dear Sir,

Application Ref. NO.: 15/00135/P.

I refer to the above application for the erection of fence (retrospective) at NO. 6 Balfour Square, Stranmillis, East Rathfriland, PH33 1DB.

My Mother lived in this house for 66 years and during the latter years of her life she had to endure:-

1. Six trees set on fire several times so badly damaged they had to be removed.
2. Youths underage drinking and throwing their bottles and cans in the garden. Some were thrown and smashed at the back bedroom window.
3. Youths breaking down the walls on the lanes and throwing large ~~stones~~ stones in the garden plus throwing stones at the back door.
4. Schoolchildren at lunchtime from the Ross High School who congregate everyday at the top of the lane to have their lunch and throw polystyrene

boxes and juice cans from the chip shop in the garden.

5. Youths climbing on the roofs at the back of the Chip shop and the Allam Road building dismantling the tiled roof and using them as missiles.

Speaking to the youths to ask them to move on and stop throwing things over the wall was not an option as it would result in them being smart and shouting abuse. One drunk teenage girl threatened to jump over and attack me.

The Police were called endlessly about this and P.C. McRill visited my mother on several occasions and would be able to verify this.

The fence which has been erected being the same height as the existing wire fence would not only give the new residents privacy but help to free them from the abuse and litter that my parents had to put up with.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature]

Date: 28th May 2015

Contact: Mandy Smith/PC Jim McLeod

Ms M Pichniarczyk
6 Balfour Square
Tranent
East Lothian

Dear Ms Pichniarczyk,

Antisocial Behaviour Complaints

I am writing with regards to our discussions of 25th & 26th May 2015 and note your complaints about youth Anti Social Behaviour which takes place at the back boundary wall of your property.

PC Jim McLeod (Police Liaison Officer) has advised that this is a local gathering point used by youths from the local high school during their lunch hour; there have been long standing issues in this area for a number of years. Unfortunately your property has and still remains to be a target for youths purely because of the location.

The area has now been added to the hot spot list which means that the local Police Officers and Community Wardens will be carrying out regular patrols within the area to try and deter youths from hanging around.

We are unable to comment on the height restrictions of your fence but would suggest that the fence being in place is beneficial to yourself as it will prevent youths from being abusive and throwing objects into your garden.

Should you have any more incidents then please report this to the Police Scotland & the Anti Social Behaviour Helpline on 0845 601 8518 (24hrs) or 01620 829 917 (during office hours)

Yours Sincerely

Mandy Smith

Fa'side Community Warden