

Formal Objection to Planning Application PA/2025/0128 *Please note, this formal objection is being received outside of the window as we did not receive the original letter advising us of the planning application.*

Name of persons objecting: Daniel and Heather Head (owners of 38 Gordon Close)

Address and contact numbers: 38 Gordon Close, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8RQ

We were made aware of this application for planning next door to our house by our neighbour, Daniel Allen (40 Gordon Close) on Friday 20th June 2025. Prior to this we had no communication regarding this proposal to erect one detached dwelling directly next door to our property. We have since spoken to the local council on the phone (on Monday 23rd June 2025) who sent us a copy of the letter (which we did not receive in any form) who advised us of your contact details.

Had we received the letter when it was sent on 4th February 2025 then we would have objected at the time. **As long standing residents of the community in Gordon Close, we have serious concerns regarding the impact this development will have, not only on our own property and quality of life, but also on the local environment and our community within Gordon Close.** Please find below the key details of our objection:

- Proximity to property; the proposed building will be very close to our boundary with very limited space between the building itself and our fence line.
- Reduction of light; the way the proposed building is designed and placed will cut off a major chunk of natural sunlight in our rear garden which is already on the small side. It notes the design fits in with the surrounding area which it does not, with the dormer on the rear being the main factor; it will overlook our garden from the height of the windows and the dormer will impose even more over our already small garden. Side elevation of our own property includes a window on the landing, if built, the proposed building will indefinitely block every bit of natural sunlight we have coming into our home every day, all day (since we are West facing and only have an hour or so at the end of the day in height of summer). Not only that, we will be staring at an unsightly brick wall within very close range to our property.
- Site characterisation; nearly every photo provided within the statement is nowhere near the estate, Gordon Close. Many photos in the statement aren't even relevant to Gordon Close and are from elsewhere around Ashford
- Privacy and community; where it states 'striking a balance between privacy and community of the estate', that is not the case if this building is built next door to our property, overlooking our garden and blocking all of our light. The 'community of the estate' also includes this piece of land where children, including our 5 year old daughter, often play games and football and run to and from the park. People often play fetch with their dogs on this piece of land. Access to the park up the public footpath will no longer be enjoyable and easy for children or dog owners with the pathway towards it being completed over-arched by the proposed property.
- Disruption during erection; this is an extremely quiet Close and the overall disruption on the residents of the close when constructing the new property (if approved) as well as a new entryway (if approved) will be overwhelming. I imagine this will have a negative impact on many of the resident's mental health and wellbeing. In particular, the elderly, those with already diagnosed mental health issues, who work from home on a daily basis, those with young children and babies and those with pets.

- Property design; The design of the proposed property does not fit in with the local estate at all, with the grey aluminium windows and grey slate tiles along with a red brick. This no-where near matches any house on the estate. Driving up into the estate this house would be an eyesore and be completely out of place in Gordon Close
- Ecology; The allotment hedgerow was so over grown in recent years and had many birds nesting in it. To our surprise, at the beginning of the year they were all cut back to behind the fence. This seems very coincidental in advance of the planning application. There are also plenty of hedgehogs, as they visit our garden frequently under the fence adjoining to the proposed land.
- New access; being on an already tight narrowing bend, opening up a huge four car driveway will just make that worse alongside with the already available on-road parking.

Can you please let us know either via email or telephone when you have received our objection? We are happy to meet with you in person at our property to discuss all these points in more detail.

Kind Regards
Daniel and Heather Head