From: [redacted]
Sent: 16 October 2024 18:05
To: Planning
Subject: Comment to the planning application DC/24/1416
Attachments: [redacted]

Categories: Comments Received

To whom it may concern,

Objection to Planning Application **DC/24/1416**

I am writing to formally **object** to the planning application DC/24/1416 for converting a shipping container into a residential annex and constructing decking at 14 Beechings, Henfield, West Sussex, BN5 9XB. My objections are based on the following points:

1. **Compromise of Privacy:** The current proposal undeniably compromises the privacy of the residents living in numbers 15 and 16 in their rear gardens and on the first and ground floors. The shipping container is on a bank, and its base is aligned with the 1st-floor level of the neighbouring properties. This elevated position allows direct lines of sight into these homes' private living spaces and gardens, significantly impacting the residents' privacy. While the proposed screening may help reduce the loss of privacy, it will make the project even more invasive and affect the natural light. [redacted]

2. **Loss of Natural Light:** The location of the container and its associated screening will significantly reduce the amount of natural light reaching the neighbouring properties, particularly their outdoor spaces. This overshadowing effect will diminish the quality of life for the residents by limiting their access to sunlight, which is essential for both health and well-being.

[redacted]

3. **Structural Safety Concerns:** It is crucial to question whether the container meets building regulations. The current situation is alarming, with the container installed on collapsing groundworks and no proper foundations. The container collapsing and sliding down the bank towards numbers 14 and 15 is a real danger. The concrete retaining wall is already cracking and leaning just a few months after its installation. [redacted]

[redacted]

4. **Unsuitability of the Shipping Container**: The shipping container is unsuitable for conversion into a residential annex. It is old, damaged, and showing signs of corrosion. Shipping containers generally make poor accommodation due to issues with condensation and inadequate ventilation, which can lead to unhealthy living conditions.

5. **Incompatibility with Local Character and Aesthetics:** The shipping container's flat-roofed steel industrial appearance does not match the design and appearance of the surrounding buildings. The proposed structure is out of character with the surrounding properties, which could negatively impact the neighbourhood's visual harmony and aesthetic appeal. Approving this conversion could set a precedent for similar applications, changing the neighbourhood's character.

I strongly urge the planning authority to reject this application. The proposed development poses significant risks to the neighbouring residents' privacy, safety, and well-being.

Thank you for considering my objections.
Yours sincerely
[redacted]