

Liz Pulley

From: Hamish Laing [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 June 2015 16:58
To: Neighbourhood Planning
Cc: 'Lucinda Laing'
Subject: Response to Wisborough Green Neighbourhood Planning Consultation

We have not submitted these comments on the designated form because the relevant page on your website is not responding today and one of your advisors has told me this afternoon that submitting comments via email is acceptable.

Policy DS3

"All house extensions requiring planning permission should follow the style and vernacular of the original building..."

We wholeheartedly challenge this policy.

The adaptation of a house over time is a natural part of its history, and Wisborough Green is very historical village which must allow its homes to change over time to enable it to maintain the essence of its community.

Good new design that is honest to its own period can work well alongside an old building and ensures that the new ages are clearly distinguishable. This approach can also make for exciting internal living spaces which suit today's lifestyle and add something of value that future generations will enjoy. Furthermore, modern building regulations mean it is unlikely one would be able to build an extension using exactly the same methods as those employed in the construction of the original house if it is of a certain age.

Good new design that is honest to its own period can work well alongside a new building and ensures that the two ages are clearly distinguishable. The Georgians never tried to replicate the Tudor style when adding to an older house; as a result, we have inherited "layered" buildings which are fascinating to explore and beautiful to the eye.

Most seriously, replicating the original architectural design can result in a clumsy pastiche. In contrast, for example, an ultra-modern glass extension juxtaposed against an old house can often be acceptable to Conservation Officers since the integrity of the original house is preserved because you can still see the old building through the glass. SPAB and English Heritage guidance is supportive of appropriate modern extensions that contrast with the traditional vernacular of an older building, uphold the originality of the building, sensitively tell the story of the building and allow the residents to live a lifestyle appropriate to current times

We trust this comment will receive serious consideration.

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