



Mr David Elmore
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

BY EMAIL

25th August 2020

Dear Mr Elmore,

**PLANNING APPLICATION 6/2017/1902/FULL AND 6/2020/1853/COND
BLACKHORSE HOUSE**

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing on behalf of Gascoyne Estates seeking clarification on application 6/2017/1902/FULL, for the former Jobcentre at Blackhorse House in Salisbury Square.

The most recent files uploaded were brought to our attention by Mary Lowe of the Old Hatfield Residents' Association. Her correspondence with you has confirmed that additional plans will be forthcoming relating to hard and soft landscaping. We are reassured that this is the case.

However, we are concerned that the hard landscaping as detailed on the available plans will not be consistent with the wider vision for Salisbury Square. You may be aware of Gascoyne's plans to regenerate the square more widely, with a consented scheme and materials palette under application S6/2011/1994/MA. We have recently re-engaged in pre-application discussions relating to a revised scheme, albeit utilising the same material palette.

In the interests of consistency and harmony in the built form, we ask that you consider the work undertaken to date in Old Hatfield when making decisions on the materials and boundary treatments for this scheme. We propose that a lighter palette than that proposed in drawing 879_PL_102 materials be considered. For example, the Marshalls conservation granite paving and setts which will be utilised in the wider square would be more appropriate. The curtilage of Blackhorse House could then be indicated with planting behind appropriate metal railings, as detailed in the Gascoyne Hatfield Design Codes.

Were this to be achievable, those living in and visiting the square would enjoy a degree of consistency and an altogether more coherent experience. Noting the good work undertaken to date in Old Hatfield, it would be beneficial if the approach for any redevelopment of Blackhorse House follows an approach which is consistent with the vision for the wider area.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony Downs
Hatfield Estate Director

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