

F/24/97312 – Land adjoining 4 Brookfield, Providence Hill, Bursledon, SO31 8AU.

Context.

This fourth and best application for this site – the last piece of green lung left on Providence Hill that gave some credence to the rural setting of the Grade II* listed Bursledon Windmill - has produced the most considered and respectful solution to developing the site.

From a built heritage viewpoint the most important aspect is to maintain the 'agreed easement view to Bursledon Windmill' – a clear wedge emanating from in front of No.4 Providence Hill. This is one of the important views of the windmill highlighted in the Bursledon Windmill Conservation Area Appraisal SPD and as one of the last remaining semi-rural views is absolutely sacrosanct.

The Proposal.

In this scheme, not only has the view cone been preserved but the adjacent peripheral elements taken into serious consideration too, to enhance this important and virtually the last long view of this national treasure.

The change to residential C2 & C3 allows a significant portion of the central part of the site to remain building-free retaining a far more rural feel as one drives up Providence Hill and so much more appropriate for the setting of the Bursledon Windmill. Serious consideration has been given to the landscaping to shield the cars with absolutely no enclosed built form in the viewing cone of the Grade II* listed windmill.

The main building has picked up on the finishes vocabulary of the windmill and its associated structures together with that of Goslings Turning, which did likewise. The building is set well down into the ground making the most of the slope to lessen the apparent volume and is well articulated in both volume and material use with roof terraces helping significantly to reduce it's impact, not to mention the wellbeing of the residents.

The cottages too, toward the west end of the site, follow a similar pattern with the south-west elevation particularly well articulated to give interest and strengthen the individual identities of each cottage.

Conclusion.

Not only does this scheme preserve the view of the windmill, but it enhances it too, having taken great care to respect the setting and early responses to produce good looking buildings and a site that will be a credit to both the care sector and Bursledon. No objection.

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