



CUCKFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Queen's Hall
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Richard Speller
Highways
WSCC

1st August 2019

Dear Richard

Pavement paviours outside Marshalls, Cuckfield

Thank you for your correspondence of 12th July 2019, responding on the above issue. The Parish Council is very concerned with the current situation, which we would wish to see rectified as soon as possible.

As we discussed some time ago regarding the pavement outside Cuckfield House, you recognised in those repairs one of the distinctive characteristics of the village is its clay brick paving, particularly through the Conservation Areas and noted in that Appraisal as well as in the Neighbourhood Plan. Developers have been forced through Planning to replace with clay brick, as observed through the Ashburnham Drive entrance (opposite the Rose and Crown).

The location of the recent repair adjacent to Marshall's is particularly sensitive, being at a very prominent crossroads location at the head of the village shopping centre and in the midst of numerous listed buildings. To highlight, this stretch of pavement is adjacent to the Grade II* manor house (1025522) and immediately adjacent to its forecourt sandstone wall, which is distinctive enough to have its own, separate Grade II listing (1286848).

Replacing the brick with concrete blocks therefore degrades these characteristics and impacts these listings, and we therefore cannot understand why it was completed in such a way – this is now the only stretch of pavement in the village with this material.

I'm sure you'll be aware of the understanding and agreement formed over many years with WSCC regarding repair and replacement of the pavements. Enclosed is a Cuckfield Society record from 1986, which documents concerns and agreements reached at that time.

In light of the above, Cuckfield Parish Council would therefore request that WSCC reconsiders and relays this important stretch of pavement in the appropriate style, along with an assurance that any future repairs will be likewise.

Yours sincerely

Andy Burton
Chairman
Cuckfield Parish Council

cc - Pete Bradbury, Robert Salisbury