

Bent Mead  
Shurlock Row  
Reading  
RG10 0PL

The Clerk  
Waltham St Lawrence & Shurlock Row Parish Council  
[wslparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:wslparishclerk@gmail.com)

29<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

**Re: Proposed Alterations to Bent Mead, Shurlock Row**

Dear Ms Streater,

I hope you are well. I am writing to the Parish Council in connection with Bent Mead, the home that we purchased from the Sturt family in February this year before the Covid-19 crisis hit us in mid-March. We understand and appreciate the interest of the Parish Council in planning matters such as this and thought that we would write to you to explain some of the background to the proposed alterations.

My wife and I have a young family and, having enjoyed visiting the Waltham St Lawrence and Shurlock Row area many times in the past, we decided last year to move to the area permanently.

Bent Mead is a lovely property and we feel very fortunate to own it. However, it has not been modernised for many years and needs attention. The works that we plan to do to the property are designed to make it suitable for use as a modern family home with working parents and appropriate space for two young children.

We very much like the style of the existing building and surrounding environment, especially the trees, and have sought to preserve the integrity of the house and ensure our plans are sympathetic to the existing property, while giving us a more spacious lay-out to enjoy family life.

We also would like to improve the access to the front of the house from the road as we find the current arrangements quite dangerous to road users and pedestrians, particularly when turning into the property from the Shurlock Row side. The sharp turn to access the gate currently requires a degree of encroachment onto the wrong side of the road, which is not far from a blind bend. On that basis, we would like to move the access point to a safer location in order to improve sight lines and soften the turning angle.

The Parish Council is obviously free to comment on the application via the appropriate forum, but please do let me know if you have any queries and I hope that the above gives some context. My wife and I very much look forward to integrating into the local community and contributing to village life as much as possible once we complete the works and move in.

Yours sincerely,

**Fergus Wheeler**  
07921578586