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**From:** John Mullins [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 July 2020 11:55  
**To:** Colin Godfrey  
**Subject:** RE: 20NP0037 1 The Square Akeld

Akeld Planning Objection – 19.07.20

Regarding this third revised planning application from the owners of no 1 Akeld square, my continuing objections are listed below.

Now that the cluster of rowan trees have been removed from alongside no 8, then why is the lone cherry tree to remain in front of no 7? This is approx. 25 metres from the proposed garden and will not act as an effective windbreak. This should also be removed.

The most serious objection applies to no 6 where three large rowan trees (15m) will be planted in a line, plus another cherry tree (30m) in front of no 6. This line of trees, whilst providing moderate wind shelter for their garden, will severely block the morning to early afternoon sunlight to the no 6 garden and its hill-facing windows, making it a very dark and claustrophobic property indeed. This is no exaggeration. You should visit the property to see for yourself. Severe blockage of sunlight will occur throughout the year, particularly during the bleak winter months. This represents a significant and unnecessary living change for the owner of no 6.

Why unnecessary? The application is for change of land use from “agricultural” to “domestic use.” The owners of no 1 could plant their garden on this land without need to change the land use, a vegetable garden is in keeping with the current designated land use. So why the request for a change?

To plant trees. Their reason given is that the trees will act as a windbreak for their garden. Clearly the three romans along no 8 (now removed), nor the lone cherry tree in front of no 7 will not offer any realistic shelter. That they have chosen to place their garden in the most weather / wind-exposed position is to justify their planting of trees. A little orchard adjacent to their garden is fine. It effects no other property. But their planting of four large trees along no 6 will severely effect its sunlight year round. And it is unnecessary.

Simply change the position of their garden so that the square itself and / or their garage can act as a far more effective wind shelter than trees, plus wall or fence in their garden to protect it from the frequent north winds as well. Their adjacent orchard will offer no such protection from

the north.

The no 1 owners' intentions to plant an orchard across most of this land is revealed in their three revised applications. First, there were the three roans along no 8 and a cherry tree in front of no 7 and 6. Why do these two still remain? Because the cherry tree at no 7 represents a western outreach of their trees. If the change of land use is approved, these trees will naturally reseed while the owners will go ahead and plant more, whereby an incremental creep of planting will spread across this land. The innocuous "meadow" will gradually change into an "orchard". That these trees at no 6 and 7, which offer no realistic windbreak, still remain in their plans indicates their long term intention to plant more trees, if given permission.

Why would the owners of no 1 insist upon inflicting such a huge impact upon the neighbour's property at no 6? And originally on 6, 7 and 8? When it is so avoidable?

Mr. Godfrey, are the planners from Northumberland County Council involved in this decision? If so, can you please give me a contact name?

Once again, thank you for your time and consideration.

Mr. John Mullins, Akeld resident since 1988

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**From:** Colin Godfrey <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 17 July 2020 10:52  
**Subject:** 20NP0037 1 The Square Akeld

I refer to your further objection to the above planning application.

In light of the additional comments received, the applicant has now submitted a further revised site plan which has now also removed the tree planting along the western boundary. The full application can be viewed through this [link](#).

If you have any additional / revised comments in light of these revisions, then I would be grateful if you could provide them within the next seven days.

Yours sincerely,

Colin

Colin Godfrey, Planning Officer

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**Colin Godfrey, Planning Officer**

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