# Residents dispute Nottinghamshire boundary wall as planning concerns arise



A dispute has emerged in a Nottinghamshire estate over a recently constructed 6ft boundary wall that has drawn criticism from several local residents, who describe it as an eye-sore. The wall was built as part of extension works to a home located on Mornington Crescent in Nuthall earlier this year. Among the objectors, some have referred to the structure as a "monstrosity," asserting that it should never have received planning permission from Broxtowe Borough Council.

In response to these critiques, the council has confirmed that the construction was executed in accordance with the approved planning application, which considered all relevant comments from local residents. The homeowner at the centre of the controversy, Jonathan Lewis, expressed his dismay at the situation, labelling the objections as "a nonsense". He stated that he had not received any complaints directly from neighbours, adding, "Nobody has come to me and said anything. They can come here. We have followed the rules to the absolute letter." He insisted that the wall complements the area and is not out of character with surrounding properties.

Anthony Wilson, a neighbour and the leading figure in the campaign against the wall, contended that it has been constructed higher and closer to the public footpath than initially proposed. "What has happened is an absolute travesty. Mornington Crescent is a suburban middle-class neighbourhood," Wilson stated, drawing attention to the impact the wall has had on the entrance to the estate and the overall aesthetic of the location. Wilson noted that 15 residents expressed objections to the wall and claims that none were contacted during the planning process.

Another local, Tony Pinkstone, also voiced his concerns, stating, "It’s completely destroyed the street scene. This estate was always attractive with open front gardens. I think it’s appalling and that’s the general view on the estate." He conveyed worries that the wall is devaluing properties in the area due to the perception it creates.

Broxtowe Borough Council reiterated its position regarding the wall, stating that it possesses valid planning permission and that assessments regarding the structure took into account relevant community feedback. The council also mentioned that a slight amendment to the wall's position had been approved as a non-material change to the original plans.

In a separate community issue, concerns have arisen surrounding the redevelopment of Tollerton Airfield, where plans are underway for 1,600 new homes. Campaigners have raised alarms about potential contamination from radioactive materials that may be present in the soil, remnants of the airfield's use as a dismantling site for old aircraft after the Second World War. Evidence has emerged suggesting the presence of radium-226 in dials of dismantled Lancaster Bombers, sparking fears of health risks associated with exposure to the radioactive gas radon.

Vistry, the development company behind the proposed housing, was granted the airfield site by Rushcliffe Borough Council, which allowed for its use until appropriate planning permissions are secured. A recent Freedom of Information Request has unveiled concerns from a geo-environmental report recommending thorough mitigation works should any ground disturbance occur.

Sarah Deacon, chair of the Save Nottingham City Airfield group, emphasised the necessity for a comprehensive investigation into the site's safety. She referenced other former RAF sites like Dalgety Bay, which underwent extensive clean-up due to similar issues with contamination. A spokesperson from Rushcliffe Borough Council confirmed that assessments for potential contamination are included in current applications for the site, detailing a proposed methodology for addressing any findings.

Vistry reiterated their commitment to conducting in-depth surveying and engineering assessments as part of the planning process. The Environment Agency underscored that any planning approval given will hinge on having a robust plan to identify and tackle contamination risks.

In another facet of Nottingham's local economy, the trend of taxi drivers from the city obtaining their licences from Wolverhampton has caught public attention. The disparity in licensing fees between the two councils is significant, with Nottingham City Council (NCC) charging £148 for a one-year licence, while Wolverhampton drivers enjoy a fee of only £49. This discrepancy has resulted in 701 Nottingham residents being licensed in Wolverhampton, although NCC has declined to disclose the number of local drivers it licences.

Concerns have been raised by members of the Nottingham Taxi Owners' and Drivers' Association about the impact of this trend on local businesses and taxi operations. Asif Maqsood, a group spokesperson, expressed frustration, stating that he has seen a decline in his business due to the influx of Wolverhampton drivers who may not be familiar with local road laws or geography.

NCC has acknowledged that the legislative framework prevents them from denying licensing applications based on an applicant’s residential address. Despite efforts to encourage drivers to obtain their licences locally, the council admits it cannot refuse requests based on geographical considerations.

As discussions unfold surrounding these topics, residents of Nottingham and the surrounding regions continue to navigate the complexities of local governance, planning, and community welfare amidst changing economic landscapes.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.ringroselaw.co.uk/personal-law/dispute-resolution/property-disputes/boundary-dispute/> - This URL supports information on boundary disputes, which includes issues with new constructions or obstacles such as walls. It highlights the importance of legal advice in resolving such disputes.
* <https://www.stevebutler.co.uk/Boundary%20Report%2001%20NOTTINGHAM.html> - This URL provides insight into boundary dispute resolution through surveyors, which can involve detailed plans and legal assessments, often relevant in cases like the Mornington Crescent wall construction.
* <https://www.broxtowe.gov.uk/> - This is the official website of Broxtowe Borough Council, which would contain information on planning permissions and processes, relevant to the controversy around the boundary wall in Nuthall.
* <https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/> - This website of Rushcliffe Borough Council would have details on the planning process for Tollerton Airfield redevelopment and environmental assessments, which are critical in addressing contamination concerns.
* <https://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/> - Nottingham City Council's official site will provide information on taxi licensing regulations and fee structures, shedding light on the disparities that lead Nottingham taxi drivers to seek licenses in Wolverhampton.
* <https://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/> - The Environment Agency’s website will detail guidelines for environmental assessments and plans to mitigate contamination, crucial for developments like the Tollerton Airfield project.
* <https://www.nottinghampost.com/news/local-news/row-breaks-out-over-prison-10071087> - Please view link - unable to able to access data