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20/02/17

RE: 17/00169/LBC, 5 Hall Row Charlestown Dunfermline Fife KY11 3EG

The Forth & Borders cases panel would like to make the following comments on the above application, we hope they are useful.

The applicant wishes to replace all the windows with uPVC windows. There is presently a mixture of different types of windows including timber, aluminium and uPVC. Council guidance on replacement windows in Conservation Areas is clear: owners should "Retain and repair existing traditional windows where possible" and "Ensure that replacement windows on the front and all sides of the building visible to the public match the original in every detail including materials, design, opening method and paint finish" (Windows in listed buildings and conservation areas: Planning customer guidelines, published by Fife Council, 10 Feb 2014)

It is clear that any replacement must be in wood, not uPVC, and refurbishment of the original windows would better meet council guidance if possible ("retention of original features is always preferable in historic buildings or areas because it retains character and authenticity.", *ibid*)

Accordingly, the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland wishes to object to this application in its current form.

Yours faithfully,

Alastair Disley
on behalf of
Forth & Borders Cases Panel

President: Simon Green MA FSA FSA Scot

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