

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 27/01/2024 9:45 PM from [REDACTED]

Application Summary

Address:	The Amazon And Tiger Harvel Street Meopham Gravesend Kent DA13 0DE
Proposal:	Change of use to C3 dwellinghouse.
Case Officer:	Mrs Alison Webster

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED] Meopham. Kent

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Member of the Public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments:

Harvel is a quintessential English Village, with a village hall, cricket ground, duck pond and at the heart of the village, a pub, all within a stone's throw of each other. However, since trading ceased at The Amazon and Tiger pub, the village has lost its 'heart' and as a consequence village life has changed detrimentally.

Many activities started and finished at the pub, for example there were quizzes, theme nights with food and entertainment, beer festivals, family parties were often held at the village hall but always ended in the pub. The Harvel Singers finished their weekly evening practice at the pub, the cyclists met there and it was the home of the Harvel Hash House Harriers. This was a busy and lively place to meet up and as most people were local, everyone knew each other.

Sadly, since the pub stopped trading, all these events and activities had to cease initially, as there simply wasn't anywhere else to go. People had to make alternative arrangements in order to carry on the important social and well being aspects of village life, thus the Cricket Club allowed the runners to meet there, other events were held at the village hall and the Calor Field was used as a venue for music and beer festivals. More recently a 'pop up' pub held in the village hall had 60+ visitors.

People had to come up with options other than using the Amazon and Tiger and I believe this clearly demonstrates the need there is for a pub in the village, contrary to what the current landlord implies. These other arrangements, whilst seeming to meet the needs of the village, are not the same. The tradition, convenience, ambiance and atmosphere is simply not there.

This pub has existed as the centre of the village for over a century, it was built as a pub and has never been anything else. The current owners have wanted to 'move on' in their lives, and made this very clear, many years before the pub ceased trading. They are fully aware that the sale price of the property as a public house is significantly less than its value as a residential dwelling. As a consequence of this price difference, the landlord intentionally reduced the number of activities and opening times of the pub, for example, not opening on

bank holiday Mondays when there was an obvious demand, thus showing a lack of business intent.

There have been several offers to buy the pub, which have been turned down by the landlord, but sadly this only underlines the landlords intent in that he wants to sell the pub as a house for his personal gain whilst depriving his community of a valued and historic asset.

We look to you as planners to protect our environment and ensure that unnecessary development is prohibited. This is a public house that should remain as it was intended.

Kind regards