

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 5:49 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] Gravesend

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments:

This objection should be read in conjunction with the objections raised in respect of applications 20220594 & 20220597 one of which (the LDC) went to Gravesham Planning Committee and, despite a strong showing from objecting attendees, both were granted.

The owners intention, long before closing the business, was to convert this Public House, into a private residence purely so that they may profit from a higher selling price, than if they were selling it as a business.

In support of their current application, they assert that the business was not viable, that the community failed to support them and that the community have no need for this Asset of Community Value. That is incorrect. In truth, the existence of alternative community events, goes directly to show the need for this facility, the only Public House in this village, and purpose built as pub over 100 years ago. Objections were raised back in 2022 and are reasserted here.

It's noteworthy that the owner did not assert a 'lack of viability' back in 2022, and that prior applications, including 20140008 "Erection of two storey side extension to provide bed and breakfast facilities" were granted purely with the aim of improving business viability. We know that the owner took advantage of Governmental funding, during Covid in order to remain operating and originally tried to 'quietly close the doors' post pandemic, hoping that the village would not object.

A number of local individuals met with the Landlord, post closure, to see how a workable solution might be found so that he was able to retire, yet the business could remain open, operating viably and serving the community. It was as a consequence of this meeting, plus other facts, that have demonstrated their true aim. Convert it into a residence by any means possible and then sell it at a higher price. The B&B (prior application 20220594) is a complete sham, as the sole resident remains the Landlords brother in law. We are aware that at least one local resident tried to offer a 'house swap' so that the owners could retire (in Harvel) enabling someone new to take over this viable business. Her

communications were ignored by the building owners and she has now taken over another Public House nearby and which is operating successfully. We have heard from other potential buyers of the Public House who described the Landlord's asking price as unrealistically high. Their efforts to alienate customers and neighbours alike was simply part of their long term plan and it is partly for that reason, that you see a high level of objection. The limited amount of support for the application appears to follow a strikingly similar theme, that the residents of the village do not deserve a pub. That is both incorrect and contrary to almost 100 years of trading/ serving this community.

The owners contempt for both the Gravesham planning process, plus the local community is self evident as the building conversion work has already started and we suspect most of the Public House infrastructure has already been removed.

Kind regards