

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 02/04/2024 7:47 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] White Horse Road Harvel Gravesend Kent

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments:

I fear this is all now somewhat late as the landlord has, over the last year, already converted the premises from its current use as a Pub to a single residential unit in anticipation of planning being granted. This is fairly plain to see if plain to see if you walk by in the evenings and the lights are on. At the least he could have tried to make it into the pair of cottages it once was.

One thing I find most annoying is that no attempt has been made to keep the pub in that there was no attempt to let the co-operative take it over or advertise it for another landlord.

The pub was for many years very successful with people from neighbouring villages coming into the village for the pub. It was known to be 'heaving' over the weekends. At some point 15 or so years ago as the owner got older there was a conscious decision to convert the pub into residential properties for financial gain. At this point the running down of the pub began. Repairs weren't done, quality of the drinks and food reduced, clubs and groups alienated, most noticeably the Harvel Hash House Harriers and the premise was periodically not open on busy nights. Over the last 10 years staff have all been paid in cash and the use of cards and contactless discouraged by a £1 or £0.70 surcharge on all payment which also allowed for flexibility in reporting profits and trade levels. Specifically, to show the pub was uneconomic/failing/had failed so could then be closed to become residential. The state of the building was allowed to degrade, toilets were in an appalling state and days of business reduced somewhat randomly. The building was extended for B&B purposes, rather than repair the existing building, but also allowing it to subsequently be more easily split into dwellings with a revenue stream attached in the future if it could not be demolished and replaced. All this is fairly well known and understood by those in the village, so I anticipate has been reported previously.

The B&B is now permanently occupied by the brother-in-law of the applicant's wife. He runs a car/van storage and repair set up in the car park or similar, it is hard to judge but is an eyesore. The front of the building has had doorways restored identifying the the original frontage and the two cottages.

The landlord often stated that he is 'owed' and therefore should be allowed to sell the property as residential. However, this rather naively ignores what being a landlord entails. Retirement, and the financial implications of this, like with all people, should be planned early not once you get bored with your career.

I object to the application as the village needs the pub, and the B&B is a nice addition in the form of an old-fashioned inn. Activities at present, including this application, are structured to simply rob the village and surrounding area of the focus of the village for the financial gain of one individual.

On an irrelevant personal note, I miss the pub and meeting my friends and others in the village, we all feel as if we have lost touch a little bit, and me more so than some as I am no longer as mobile as I was.

Kind regards