

Comments for Planning Application 21/00345/FUL

Application Summary

Application Number: 21/00345/FUL

Address: Wheatsheaf Yard, The Wheatsheaf High Street Oxford OX1 4DF

Proposal: Conversion of first and second floors to create 9no. student rooms, shared kitchen and common area. Formation of 2no. front dormers in association with a loft conversion. Removal of 1no. window to front elevation. Alteration to 1no. window and 1no. door to front elevation. Insertion of 1no. door to front elevation. Provision of bin and cycle stores

Case Officer: Tobias Fett

Customer Details

Name: Dr Mike Hobbs

Address: Penny Cottage, Church Street Beckley Oxford OX3 9UT

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Members of the Public

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

- Other - give details

Comment:Objection to proposal on the grounds that it would involve the loss of an important and cherished local live music venue -

The Wheatsheaf has been an important and highly-valued venue for live music for decades. Many local bands have started out there, and it has been the home of the Spin Jazz Club (winner of the best jazz club in the country in Parliamentary awards) for over 21 years. I have attended the Spin Jazz Club at intervals over those years, and on a frequent basis in recent years.

Losing the venue to this proposed development would mean the loss of the last dedicated live music venue in central Oxford. The proposal would be contrary to policy V7 in the adopted local plan, and in particular that part of the policy which states: "The City Council will seek to protect and retain existing cultural and community facilities . Planning permission will not be granted for development that results in the loss of such facilities unless new or improved facilities can be provided at a location equally or more accessible by walking, cycling and public transport ."

In view of the impact that Covid 19 has already had on the commercial, social and cultural vitality of the city centre, upholding this policy is more important than ever.

I urge the Council to stand by its commitment in policy V7 and to refuse permission for this application.