

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: Mr Phil Garvey

Address: 26 Murray Road Wokingham RG41 2TB

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Members of the Public

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

- Effect on existing community facilities

Comment: Oxford has an enviable reputation as a vibrant cultural centre due to the wonderful mix of highly engaged, talented and supportive creative artists and promoters from the city and surrounding area. I am one of many people living up to 50 miles from the city who have regularly come in to the city for evenings of entertainment at venues including the Wheatsheaf, bringing our custom to local businesses, because of this high quality of local original talent. I have done this for over 20 years. This talent only thrives because there are venues to enable opportunities to these performers. They will still be needed when lockdown is over. Currently the Wheatsheaf is the only surviving major original music venue in the city centre. If it is lost this could cause fragmentation of the music community within Oxford as artists from Jericho area will not be able to get through buses to Cowley Road and vice versa. Also for visitors like me coming from out of town we will not have a reason to visit the restaurants in the city centre before gigs. The Wheatsheaf is a fundamental part of the Oxford music scene culture and has been for the past 30 years. It would be a seriously damaging decision to lose this facility. I strongly urge the Council to reject this application and require that the upper floor space at The Wheatsheaf is retained as a music venue and a critical jewel in the inclusive, exciting cultural home that Oxford has been for over a generation.