

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: Ms Louise Gregory

Address: Apt 38 Leetham house Pound lane York Yo1 7PB

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Members of the Public

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

- Effect on character of area
- Effect on existing community facilities
- Other - give details

Comment: Whilst Oxford is renowned for its educational institutes and all that entails, the other world-class export and considerable contributor to the UK economy is music. It is doubtful that the city needs more student accommodation, and highly questionable as to whether a valuable community asset such as the Wheatsheaf should be lost in favour of it: the nature of big deal businesses who have signed and hosted the talent of Oxford's most famous musical kings and queens like the Sony's and O2 academies of the world are reliant on much smaller independent training grounds such as the Wheatsheaf, as well as a place for the community to come together for entertainment purposes and otherwise; a haven for locals in a place consumed by the student populous.

With other venues falling foul of the same fate in the city, its fast becoming a cultural desert. Other buildings could be built or reappropriated instead of one which is so highly valued by generations of Oxford musicians, local community, promoters and music fans alike. Rather like gov closure of libraries; once these things are closed it's rare they reopen elsewhere or are aptly replaced. As Joni Mitchell once sang 'don't you know it seems to go that you don't know what you've got til it's gone', I think at the rate of venue closure throughout Oxford for a number of years, the musical community is all too acutely aware of what is being lost. They only wish the authorities and landlords who have considerable means at their disposal would have a care and felt the same way.