

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 Benedict Heaney

Address: 15, Northcourt Road Northcourt Road Abingdon OX14 1PW

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
- General dislike or support for proposal
- Information missing from plans
- Not enough info given on application
- Other - give details

Comment: It is clear from the poorly constructed documentation supporting the application that the developers have no understanding or possibly care about the damage inflicted on the Oxfordshire Music scene closure of this long-standing and important Music venue would have.

The Wheatsheaf is one of the most iconic Music venues not only in Oxford City centre but in Oxfordshire and much further afield. Closing it to convert the space into housing for students would be a huge error. Doing so would instantly bring an end to a long line of Music activity that inspires subsequent generations to explore the huge benefits that being involved with music brings to our lives.

The argument that losing it would have no impact must be rejected - the list of 29 Music venues in the immediate area given is flawed in many respects, one venue is even listed twice! Premises cited as other Music venues include restaurants, cafes, cocktail bars, rehearsal rooms and community centres. None of these are dedicated Music venues and must therefore be discounted. as not being equitable.

It is common knowledge and a point of fact that the Wheatsheaf is currently the only dedicated Music venue in Oxford City Centre. Even travelling further afield, there aren't many of those left.

The strength of feeling shown by the musicians and fans after the recent closure of The Cellar should be enough for the decision makers to leave this last venue alone.