

# 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 John Deans

Address: 58 Hertford Street Oxford OX4 3AL

## Comment Details

Commenter Type: Members of the Public

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

- Effect on character of area

Comment: The owners of the Wheatsheaf have made a statement to the BBC suggesting they are largely motivated by the inability to make money from their business during Covid restrictions. While these are temporary, the effect on Oxford's music scene and cultural life will be permanent if the Wheatsheaf were to be lost as a live music venue.

There is now no comparable space in the centre of town: the Wheatsheaf over the years has provided a space for local bands (some of which have become international bands), jazz and blues sessions and musicians from further afield. To keep Oxford a living city we need a council who will be proactive in preserving a music venue business in this space, and the first step must be to reject this proposal.

I know that there will be many responses identifying the inadequacies of the application and making the case against granting it based on the local plan. I just note that as a resident of the city, and as the owner of a city-centre business which wants to attract employees, further impoverishing the cultural life of the city in this way will make it a materially less attractive place to live and work.