

From: Felix B

Sent: 26 February 2021 13:47

[REDACTED]

Subject: Objecting to Wheatsheaf closure

Dear Anneliese,

I am writing to ask if you will join calls in Oxford objecting to the planning proposal to turn The Wheatsheaf music venue into student flats, I have attached the reason for my objection below.

I look forward to hearing from you,  
Felix Bartlett

Wheatsheaf venue is a cultural bedrock for the Oxford Music Scene and it's rich history of promoting young artists including and musicians who have gone on to; headline the major festivals, contribute songs and soundtracks to TV series and films we all love, and the song we all listen to, engage and make a connection with on our radios and records. The proposal is a direct threat to the lifeblood and genesis of future Oxford artists having that same opportunity to continue making these contributions to our local and national cultural history.

Furthermore, The Wheatsheaf venue has acted for many more bands, young artists and young people as a community centre and a place to express themselves and their art. Helping many to have a positive and creative outlet in their lives. The loss of such a venue for the sake of a handful of student flats is not just an attack on the cultural importance of the Oxford Music Scene but, a direct attack and removal of valuable opportunities for creative people of all ages, especially the young.

There is plenty of land in Oxford of far less value and importance than this small space and Oxford University with an endowment of over £6 billion has enough wealth to make anywhere viable. To allow this proposal to go ahead would show a clear disregard and care for all the artists, gig goers, promoters, sound engineers. As well as all those who have never even been or heard of the venue but have benefited from the wealth of musical talent it has helped nurture to listeners across the globe, for the sake of a few student rooms.