

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 Robert bullard

Address: 7 harley road Oxford OX2 0HS

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Members of the Public

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

- Local plan policies
- Other - give details

Comment:Retailers (including pubs) may well be facing tough trading conditions at the moment because of Covid, but - that factor alone - that does not justify what would be a change in use of the property, from retail to accommodation. And in particular the 45% reduction in retail floor space.

At present, In the city centre, a reduction of retail space is occurring - and this proposal would damage this further. But for the sake of residents, shoppers and tourists, what little that there currently is (such as The Wheatsheaf) should be retained - in particular of this fairly unique kind, of which there is not an immediate replacement (eg by moving to the shopping centre).

What is more accommodation - larger, more appropriately located, and with 'more efficient' usage of space (as is the applicant's goal) - can and should be located outside the immediate city centre.

Finally, the retail space in question provides a fairly unique venue or music on a regular basis - of high quality, widely supported, which people travel into Oxford for miles to see, and which has gone on for decades, if not longer. This matter - and the thousands of people who would be affected - also seems to have been (totally) ignored by the applicant,