

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 Harry Eagles

Address: 11 Rivers Street Bath BA1 2PZ

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

Comment: Like many others who have added comments, I strongly object to this proposal.

Although I moved away from Oxford last autumn, before that I lived in the city for 8 years, and the Wheatsheaf was a huge part of my social life in the city. Small music venues like the Wheatsheaf are both an integral part of the social and cultural life of a city and a crucial part of the wider musical infrastructure that enables up and coming bands and artists to flourish.

Oxford makes a big deal of its musical history, having given the world Radiohead, Foals, Ride, and other big-name bands, but the actual state of venues in the city has been under great threat recently, with the Cellar closing two years ago. If the Wheatsheaf is forced to close as a music venue, this will be one of the final nails in the coffin of Oxford's music scene, and it will mean that the city centre no longer boasts a single dedicated music venue.

Furthermore, as other commenters have pointed out, the pub as a whole makes a lot of money from the music venue, and if the latter closes, this historic, characterful, and much-beloved pub may struggle to survive.

Social venues are being stripped away constantly in this country, and it would be a travesty if one of Oxford's key music venues disappeared to be replaced with a paltry 9 student flats. The value of a small music venue, both from a cultural point of view and as a social space, is incalculable.

For this reason, the music venue at the Wheatsheaf must be protected.