Anthony Payne

The Honest Boy

Blackfell

Washington

NE37 1LL

22 March 2021

**Supporting Statement for Planning Application**

This supporting statement is to accompany the planning application submitted to place seating on the land adjoining The Honest Boy public house.

The Honest Boy is an important community asset within Blackfell, Washington. Now under new management, it is our priority to ensure that the pub serves the community in which it is situated. Our vision is for the pub to be the welcoming community hub it once was, and our request to use the outside space is critical in enabling this.

The space will enable us to be more family friendly, allowing children to safely play using the adjacent play park facilities, whilst under continued family supervision. We feel utilising this outside space will be complementary to the existing facilities available in the immediate vicinity.

The entire hospitality industry has suffered as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Use of this space will be critical in ensuring our business remains viable in the foreseeable future. Safeguarding trade, whilst also enabling us to better manage social distancing and capacity. We also hope that by using the space, it will enable to create additional employment opportunities,

We wish to take a pragmatic approach to satisfying the needs of the wider community. Our plans are flexible, and open to feedback. We propose placing a number of picnic benches across the site, whilst retaining an open and welcoming feel. Our proposal includes erecting a low-level boundary perimeter fence (as outlined in red in the plan), to improve the safety and security of our fellow patrons and younger family members.

Kind Regards

Anthony Payne