

Comment for planning application 21/00369/F

Application Number	21/00369/F
Location	Kirtlington Post Office Stores 1 Troy Lane Kirtlington OX5 3HA
Proposal	Change of use of shop to residential, alterations to rear of property, alterations to front window and two new roof lights (Re-submission of 19/02888/F)
Case Officer	Shona King
Organisation Name	Jane Fanner
Address	The Stables, Mill Lane, Kirtlington, Kidlington, OX5 3HW
Type of Comment	Support
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I wish to support the application for the former Kirtlington post office and shop to become residential premises. The proposed alterations to the cottage will blend into perfectly in the location. The financial reality of running an individually owned village shop are no longer relevant. The shop premises were always far too small to be able to stock the wide range of products that customers now demand. The Co-op shop in Bletchingdon which is at least 10 times bigger than the tiny Kirtlington premises, has now taken all the trade that the Kirtlington shop previously had. Quite simply, a living cannot be made from the post office and if planning is refused for a change of use the the premises will deteriorate. The village has looked into the possibility of running a community shop from other premises but even with good will it has become apparent that such a scheme is not financially viable. Kirtlington is on the A4095, the existing premises have no customer parking with an awkward and narrow main road outside with limited visibility. The change of use will reduce traffic at this point. It seems obvious to me that the planning officers in their wisdom will be able to see that this is a modest cottage that became a shop many years ago and now needs to revert back to a home. The future of retail has changed dramatically. Since the advent of the Pandemic and closure of the shop last year, the entire village have found other ways to buy food and this is reflected throughout the UK.</p>
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Attachments	