

Comment for planning application 22/00256/F

Application Number	22/00256/F
Location	North Arms Inn Mills Lane Wroxton OX15 6PY
Proposal	Change of Use from public house to single residential dwelling
Case Officer	James Kirkham
Organisation Name	Emma Stephenson
Address	Radstone, Mills Lane, Wroxton, Banbury, OX15 6PY
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>The North Arms closed in 2013 and the buyer intended to turn it into a dwelling, which the village vehemently objected to. Oct 2016, it became an asset of the community, FDU then purchased it with the intention of returning it to a pub & restaurant as it had accommodated many students over the years, creating a healthy income and they knew it would be a viable money making venture. Along with villagers who used the pub regularly there was always ample footfall. After Covid struck, FDU lost their funding so were unable to continue with the project and sold it again. We are now in 2022, and the village has seen a huge increase to visitors to the village and college grounds, our Wroxton Facebook page reaches over 900 people who are very keen to see the pub back up and running. Interest which us residents have been keen to promote off our own backs but the village and visitors are crying out for somewhere to eat & drink. We as a village need The North Arms to remain a pub so we have our village hub back. Since the pubs closure the community has become somewhat fractured with residents not knowing who is who, whereas when it was open and many of us frequented it regularly, we knew the goings on in our community. Some residents have moved elsewhere as there is no communal meeting place. Personally, we moved to the village when the pub was still open and one of the reasons was because of The North Arms as it has strong personal memories, but not only that, it is of huge historical significance which would be a travesty if that was to become lost to the public. The failure of The North Arms not to be returned to its former glory as a pub & restaurant is not because of lack of interest, but one of greed and bad timing on the side of FDU. I would strongly urge you to deny planning to change the use as we as a village need our pub, we do not however need another wildly over priced home. The applicant claimed he bought it not knowing how much it would cost to renovate, which is why he made the decision to put it back up for sale. He will still need to spend the same if not more to renovate it, and turn it into a dwelling so it would seem, he never intended to restore it back to being our beloved North Arms. Please consider us as villagers, and the hundreds of visitors who need The North Arms back open.</p>
Received Date	31/01/2022 13:29:59
Attachments	