



ST ANDREWS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

6/10/19

To whom it may concern,

Re the proposal to develop Cornwallis carpark

Please find a response from the local residents in response to Hastings council's proposal to develop the Cornwallis site into an 80 bed hotel and restaurant.

In the short time this has been local knowledge we have garnered as many local views on this as possible. As may be expected there are divergent views on this which we will present to you as reflective of the local constituency.

The comments in opposition include:

- This site was initially earmarked for housing and green space development.
- It will bring a chain business to an area that has become known for its independent and unique roots up businesses. Thereby changing the nature of the area.
- Would it not be better to use building stock that is currently unoccupied before removing a utilized site that provides income to the council?
- It would put further pressure on local residents parking especially after 8pm.
- There are a number of disability parking spaces that would need to be relocated to ensure there is still access to amenities.

The comments in support include:

- It will improve safety in the area as there will be increased footfall both employees and customers by day and night.
- Decrease the prevalence of fly-tipping through having greater business presence.
- Contribute to local regeneration by offering jobs, and bring people to the area which is often overlooked compared to the Old Town and St Leonards. Starting to make it a destination in its own right and raising the areas profile, which is currently indicated as one of the two most deprived areas in town due to largely rented housing with a largely transient population that does not add to building a local community which the council was encouraging previously.
- By bringing increased visitors it will increase the demand for diversity in the offer of food, drink, retail and entertainment. This will also be of benefit to local people and may make the New Town a more attractive place to go out to at night and or to live in if the flats above shops were added to housing stock.
- Contribute to making the area less attractive to local drug dealers by having increased volume of people passing through.

Considerations required:

- The look / architecture so it is in keeping with the area which has a good attractive stock of older buildings.
- To increase the times on resident parking bays so that locals are not displaced by hotel visitors utilizing spaces after 8pm.
- The impact on Mann St and St Andrews Square residents whose gardens back onto the car park so that they are not overlooked. And the view from the other end of Mann St whose properties face the car park so they are not overshadowed completely.
- That the monies that StAR spent on the railings is reimbursed to them in full.
- The impact on residents of the build, dust, noise etc this is considered and or a contribution is made to the local community in the form of for example (Green planters in areas to be agreed with StAR).

The above recognizes the need for change and development however to consider the local impact especially on those who will be directly living alongside this should be of key consideration and part of the consultation process.

Knowing how Hastings Council values the views and contributions of its residents we look forward to working in direct consultation with you on this or any other project that directly impacts on us as residents. This would meet government initiatives that consider the joint work with local community groups to empower people to be involved in the development of the areas they live.

Chair