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**From:** planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 19 April 2018 14:52  
**To:** Planning Comments (SMDC)  
**Subject:** Comment Received from Public Access

**Categories:** Blue Category

Application Reference No. : DET/2018/0010 Site Address: First and Second Floor Old Court House High Street Leek  
Staffordshire ST13 5DZ Leek

Comments by: Steve HammersleyThe Situation

From:  
39 Junction Rd

Leek  
Staffordshire  
ST13 5QN

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: Dear Sir

I am writing to you to object to the planning application for The Old Courthouse on High St/Field St, Leek,  
Application Number: DET/2018/0010

I am one of the current tenants on the first floor of the building (Courts 1 & 2). I am also part of a not-for profit live music promotions organisation The Situation. Our base is in Leek and we have been promoting live music in Leek, Stoke and further afield for the last 7 years. We have enabled local musical talent to make their first steps into the music industry by giving them a platform to perform to an audience and by providing guidance, support and access to rehearsal and recording facilities. We host regular events at The Foxlowe Arts Centre and have also hosted events at several local pubs.

The studios at The Old Courthouse have been improved and developed over the 4 years we have been tenants and are now well-established. A lot of work and effort has been put into them. We also have four other neighbours on the premises who are also involved in music production which makes the building an important creative hub in the town. I feel it would be wrong to dislodge this hub as we work closely together and are adding something to the cultural capital of the town.

I am sure you are aware of the increase in activity in the town relating to live music and entertainment. The Situation host a minimum of 4 events a year and we also have the Leek Blues Americana Festival, Leek Arts Festival and an ever-increasing programme of events at The Foxlowe Arts Centre. All of which attract locals and people from out of town.

The studios at The Old Courthouse are very much a part of this growing cultural activity in Leek and I request you reject this planning application in favour of supporting the existing use of the building.

Steve Hammersley