

**Chapel House
New Road
Alton
Stoke-on-Trent
ST10 4AF**

Dear Sir/Madam

Application Number: SMD/2024/0030

Having read the documents associated with the above application we have some concerns over the refurbishment to change the use to a holiday let

1. Noise – the wall between the Chapel and Chapel House was built as a dividing wall between two areas of the same property. An access door was originally in place between what is now two properties. Sound proofing will be required to reduce the noise from a large open plan area in the Chapel having an impact on the residents of Chapel House. When we purchased Chapel House the Chapel was used for one service every four weeks and a prayer and praise meeting once a week. Noise from this was minimal and we welcomed the sound of the services as we accepted this as part of living in a house adjoining the Chapel.
2. Windows – There is a window from the chapel overlooking the small open space at the rear of Chapel House. This window currently has frosted glass and we are concerned that this will be replaced with clear glass. The window would look directly into our kitchen and upper hallway windows. This will be an issue if the stairs to the mezzanine bedroom give a view through this window.
3. External Noise – Other holiday lets in the close vicinity can lead to loud external noise, the Chapel has sufficient external space for guests to congregate outside.
4. Parking – The Chapel has no parking, parking has been suggested as being available in Malthouse Road. Malthouse Road is already used for parking by the residents of Chapel House, Stansmore House and the holiday let at Ash House.

Members of the congregation of the Methodist Chapel did park in Malthouse Road but this was not on a frequent basis. I believe that the members of the Chapel also had an agreement with the Soli to allow parking there when they held services.

In the past few years Yoxall Cottage has become a holiday let and this has also had an impact on parking in the road. As the need for parking has increased in the high street Malthouse Road is also used for overflow parking for the high street.

5. The final service held in the chapel was a carol service in December 2022. The Chapel was closed by the Methodist Church to the sadness of the longstanding members of the congregation. The property continued to be taken care of by the former members until it was sold in 2023.

Yours faithfully

Suzanne and Stephen Terry