
From:
Sent: 27 June 2024 12:38
To: Planning Comments (SMDC)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access

Categories:

Application Reference No. : SMD/2024/0030 Site Address: Primitive Methodist Church New Road Alton
Staffordshire ST10 4AF Comments by: Andrew Knight

From:
The Old Chapel
High Street
Alton
Stoke on Trent
Staffordshire
ST10 4AQ

Submission: Objection
Comments: Good afternoon.

These are my comments regarding the application.

The Chapel has no parking and parking on Malthouse Road is not guaranteed as it is already used by residents of Chapel House, Stansmore House and the holiday let at Ash House.

Members of the Chapel had an agreement with Soli House who allowed them to park on their car park when they held services which is on the same side of the road as The Chapel. In addition, these services were weekly events and at quieter times of the week, i.e. Sunday Mornings. For the Chapel to be used as a holiday let it would mean residents would be arriving and departing at all times during the day and evening and during the peak times of traffic through the village.

The parking situation is totally unacceptable and dangerous. Holiday makers will be turning up most days, will be unfamiliar with the road network, be carrying luggage and possibly have children with them, having to cross a busy and dangerous road.

As stated, this is a dangerous junction which is difficult and hazardous to cross. There is a blind bend, and cars travel very quickly down New Road from exiting this bend just past the Post Office on Smithy Bank. If parking is taken on Malthouse Road, many of those unfamiliar with the area attempt to turn down New Road from Malthouse Road which cannot be done in a single move in anything other than a small car and by manoeuvring onto the oncoming side of the road which is extremely dangerous.

The form X from highways states "Pedestrian access to the building is directly off the carriageway. While undesirable, this is no change from the existing access arrangement. Care will be required, but this should be clear to the occupants."

This clearly indicates that this arrangement is not safe and should not have a recommendation of "acceptance".

The officer who wrote this is neither familiar with the village nor the dangers that will be created if approved.

I believe a better alternative use of the property would be as office space where there would be use of the property only during the day and no overnight parking. It would also mean that the occupants would be familiar with the area and the road network. I believe there is a high demand for business space within the village and this would be a more appropriate use of the property.

Kind regards

Andrew Knight

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