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Stoke on Trent
ST10 2BD
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Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
Planning Dept
Moorlands House
Stockwell Street
Leek
Staffs
ST13 6HQ

Dear Planning Officer

Re: Planning Application SMD/2024/0527 – Proposed Demolition of the Cross Inn, Cauldon Lowe

Apologies that I am just outside the deadline for making representations about this issue, *(the closing date being a few days ago)*. Nonetheless, I hope you will still have regard to my comments. I write to you as a long-term member of Kingsley Parish Council, (adjacent parish to Cotton and Cauldon Lowe) and long-term representative of the local village communities of Kingsley and Kingsley Holt.

On a personal level, my wife and I have sent many evenings enjoying the hospitality of the former Cross Inn at Cauldon Lowe. We were both saddened and surprised when it closed recently.

I wish to object to the above planning application for the following reasons:

1. **Historic:** As I understand it, the Cross Inn building was originally built in the mid-18th century and as such, we should be doing all we can to preserve this local community heritage asset. Once lost, it will be lost forever. To demolish the building as a site for caravans, (which could easily be sited elsewhere), is totally unjustified.
2. **Loss of Community Facility:** The loss of the Cross Inn as a public house was a big loss to the local community of Cauldon Lowe and the wider area. As the Local Authority, SMDC should be doing all it can to preserve existing community facilities.
3. **Negative Visual Impact:** The existing buildings, sited on the main A52 road, at its junction with the road to Cauldon, is located at the centre of Cauldon Lowe village. It is central to village life and the very nature of the village. To replace the existing buildings with an extended caravan site would have a very negative impact on the visual appeal of Cauldon Lowe as a unique Staffordshire Moorlands village.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

Kenneth J Unwin