

From:

Date: Sun, 9 Nov 2025 at 19:46

Subject: Fw: Re Gardener's Arms planning application AWDM/1285/25

To: planning@adur-worthing.gov.uk <planning@adur-worthing.gov.uk>

MY APOLIGIES FOR SENDING THIS DIRECT ...HOWEVER I HAVE SPENT A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TIME ATTEMPTING TO SEND MY COMMENTS ON YOUR WEBSITE WITHOUT SUCCESS. SO HOPING THAT SOMEHOW SENDING VIA THIS ADDRESS MAY WORK AS ?? WHAT ELSE I COULD DO AFTER SPENDING SO MUCH TIME COMPOSING MY COMMENTS.

MANY THANKS L COLLIN

To whom it may concern

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to record my objection to the Application for Change of Use for the Gardeners Arms public house in West Street Sompting Village, from commercial pub to private residence.

We have already lost the other pubs in our area eg Joyful Whippet, the Balltree and must recently the Marquis of Granby (which by the way planning for demollishment was only granted by the Council on the proviso that the village still had the Gardeners Arms pub .. case ref AWDM/1478/21 approved 22/03/2022).

Alternative pubs can only be gained by a long walk / transport however the local bus service has been reduced especially in the evenings and on Sundays. The closure of the Gardeners would therefore isolate elderly and Immobile residents....

Neighbours, friends and ourselves have been customers of the Gardeners for many years , socialising , for drinks, meals and various events including quiz nights, darts, cribbage, raffles, birthday events, live music etc.

Many older residents have relied on the Gardeners for social contact, as well as for meals and drinks, rather than remaining at home alone. If the Gardeners pub is closed there is nowhere else in walking distance of the village.

Apart from that there is now a new estate of 400 houses being built just up the road from the Gardeners, which means there will be 400 more families as potential customers.

The Gardeners provides a valuable Community Asset as it has proved to be such a viable business.,always being busy and recent tenants were successful in maintaining trade, bids were made to purchase the pub and continue it's use... which demonstrates it's viability as a business and of being a valuable community asset.

The applicant does not appear to have provided financial evidence to demonstrate that the pub is not viable, and could not reasonably be made financially viable under competent management.

Historically the pub's car park has served as overflow parking for residents and unfortunately it's closure has already caused increased congestion in West Street and thereby posing risks to pedestrians. Only this morning I witnessed a lady with 2 children in a double buggy having to go into the road to continue her journey; in fact she was running along the road to avoid the traffic!! So worrying and sad to see....

I have noted that the planning application includes reclaiming the pavement in front of the Gardeners To provide a front garden.....!! Which is more alarming as it would increase the risk of

having to walk into the road, especially as it is a very narrow part of West street where visibility is quite reduced.

I urge the council to reject this application as the Gardeners is a vital part of Sompting Village social fabric; it's closure and change of use would have far-reaching negative impacts on community wellbeing....this does of course include the risks for those residents walking, those using pushchairs, wheelchairs, and mobility aids etc ...

Best regards

Lyn Collin
3 Edwards Terrace, West Street, Sompting Village .