

THE HASLEMERE SOCIETY



20 May 2016.

Planning Dept.,
Waverley Borough Council,
Godalming.

BY EMAIL

Dear Sirs,

Inn On The Hill, Haslemere.
2016/0751

The Hotel is of historic interest and significance to Haslemere, built in the latter part of the 19th century after the arrival of the railway, although it is not a listed property. It is located in a prominent position opposite the station passed by considerable numbers of commuters and visitors using this gateway to the South Downs National Park. It is important therefore that the proposed extensions and alterations are in keeping with its importance.

The Haslemere Society welcomes the proposed works to create a venue not only for townsfolk but for the expected increase in visitors to the National Park immediately to the south.

The Society wishes to draw WBC's attention to the following aspects of the application:-

1) There is a very ugly retaining wall to the western frontage of the site with the ends of precast concrete floor units showing and generally the remnants of a demolished building. Whilst the new elevation drawing shows some 'greenery' hanging over this there is no specific enhancement proposal.

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To:- Waverley Borough Council re 2016/0751 Cont'd.

Any approval should be conditional upon agreeing specific and effective enhancement measures (not only introducing vegetation) for this ugly retaining wall facing visitors from the station and the public using this busy road through the town.

2) The walls of the proposed new construction to the west of the existing building are described as 'London Stock brick **or similar** and rendered quoins.' The front and gable walls of the existing building are of dressed/cut stone with larger dressed stone quoins, which have been painted white. At least the front elevation of the new structure should complement the existing masonry and thus be of similar stone construction. The feasibility of removing the paint from the existing stone quoins should also be investigated to enhance the appearance of this gateway to the National Park.

3) The proposed new flat roofed construction to the rear with timber cladding is totally out of keeping with the existing and other proposed new construction and inappropriate for the site. The Haslemere Society would recommend that slated pitched roof construction with matching masonry walls is adopted for this part of the proposals.

4) Whilst there is a store room shown adjacent to the kitchen there is no specific reference to a bin store. It is important that there is ventilated/open space of adequate size allocated for bin storage which should not be visible from the front of the property. It must be ensured that this provision is made.

The above comments are based on the objectives of The Haslemere Design Statement.

Yours faithfully,

John Greer (Vice Chairman)

