

14 Oct. 2019

PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT THE GEORGIAN HOTEL PLANNING APPLICATION WA/2019/1525

Dear Haslemere Society Member,

In April 2019 a previous application to develop The Georgian site was refused by the elected members of the Waverley Borough Council Southern Area Planning Committee by an overwhelming majority of 8:1. The Society submitted very strong objections to the application (recorded on our web site) as did many of our members. The developer has made a new application with a very similar scheme and is pressing to have it processed quickly. The last date for comments is indicated as 25 October. The Society's Planning Group is of the view that, except for a small change, it is essentially a repeat of the previous application. For all of the reasons provided in our last objection, we believe that this application should be refused again.

The application attempts to challenge the five fundamental planning reasons given by WBC for refusing the previous application in their letter of 29 April 2019, which the Planning Group considers were relevant and sound. Briefly these were:

- 1) Unacceptable loss of hotel use contrary to Local Plan Policy LT2 (2002) and Policy TCS1 of the New Local Plan Part 1(2018).
- 2) The scale, bulk and form of the proposal would result in unacceptable harm to the setting of Designated Heritage Assets and the Conservation Area and that there were no identified public benefits to outweigh this harm contrary to retained policies HE3 and HE5 of the 2002 Local Plan and Policy HA1 of the new 2018 Local Plan Part.

- 3) The Proposals would result in unacceptable harm to the residential amenity enjoyed by existing neighbouring residents contrary to Policies D1 and D4 of the 2002 Local Plan.
- 4) The proposal would result in unacceptable loss of trees that make a positive contribution to the character of the area and have a detrimental impact on the visual amenity and character of the area contrary to the 2002 Local Plan Policies D1,D4 and D7 and also Policies NE1 and NE2 of the New Local Plan 2018.
- 5) Failure to enter into a legal agreement to secure satisfactory provision and maintenance of a Sustainable Urban Drainage System or management and maintenance of the open space contrary to the New Local Plan Part 1 Polices LRC1 and CC4.

The purpose of this letter is to urgently alert our members to this further planning application relating to this important Haslemere asset and to encourage members to express their views to WBC Planning Department online using the above planning application reference, either to object or support it before the 25 October deadline.

Yours faithfully, John Greer.