

Chalfont St Giles Parish Council

Helen Griffiths, Clerk to the Council

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Mr Andrew Ashcroft

Interim Head of Sustainable Development

Chiltern District Council

King George V Road

AMERSHAM

HP6 5AW

Dear Mr Ashcroft

Re: Planning Application CH/2018/0327/OA. Miltons Head Pub Site, 20 Deanway

Chalfont St Giles Parish Council object strongly to the above application. A development of this kind would necessitate a change of use from licenced premises/restaurant (A3/A4) to residential/gymnasium (C3/D2). This is contrary to The Chalfont St Giles and Jordans Neighbourhood Plan (which is currently going through final public consultation before referendum) Economic Policy 1 - Supporting the vitality of the Parish's Local economy:

Applications that would result in the loss of an A1 – A5 uses will be resisted unless market evidence is provided that demonstrates that:

a) The use is no longer viable, as demonstrated by at least 12 months vacancy despite reasonable attempts to let; and/or

b) The proposal would not be detrimental to the character and functions of the immediate vicinity.

Whilst the application suggests that the property has been actively marketed, the Parish Council dispute this for several reasons including that the site has not had a 'To Let' marketing sign displayed for the last twelve months (see attached recent photo of the site).

In addition, the Parish Council has a Petition of over 700 signatures from villagers who resist the change of use from A3/4.

The village of Chalfont St Giles currently has only one building dedicated as a Public House, where opportunities exist for meetings between members of the community. Former Public houses in the village are now restaurants and hotels. Chalfont St Giles is already well served by private gym and fitness centres and the Parish Council can see no evidence that another gym would be supported by local people in place of a public house.

The Parish Council believe that the Neighbourhood Plan and petition response demonstrate clearly that the current use is viable and loss would be detrimental to the character and functions in the immediate vicinity and request that this Outline Application is refused permission.

Yours sincerely

Gordon Patrick

Chairman of Chalfont St Giles Parish Council