



**Arun District Council Planning Department
Online Document Submission**

11th April 2019

**HERITAGE STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CHANGE OF PERMITTED USE PLANNING
APPLICATION: 55-57 HIGH STREET, ARUNDEL, BN18 9AJ**

Background

The application relates to a former NatWest Bank building in a prominent location along the main High Street in Arundel, part of Arundel's Conservation Area. The building comprises a ground floor retail space with flats above and has been recognised by the Local Planning Authority as possessing special character. The shop currently falls within the A2 use class (Financial and Professional Services) – and its use in that class was established under the Use Class Order (Per correspondence we received from Samantha Allen, Planning Compliance & Monitoring Investigator, Arun District Council, 18th Jan 2019). This application proposes to change its use to A1; Retail.

The shop, which had been a bank for perhaps longer than 100 years, closed in late 2015 we believe and has since then been renovated under Arun District Council approved plans to create a commercial/retail space on the ground floor. Due to the evolution of retail banking it is unlikely that it will ever be needed as a bank again at this location especially with other banks continuing to close their retail locations both locally and nationally.

The retail space is located within the existing High Street retail landscape and enhances what is on offer to passing foot trade whilst complimenting the surrounding businesses. This request for change of permitted use to that of a shop instead of a bank will not change the setting of this beautiful building on the High St of Arundel, does not change any of the fabric of the building and will ensure that its role at the heart of the town continues. Hopefully Arundel shall thrive alongside.

END

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