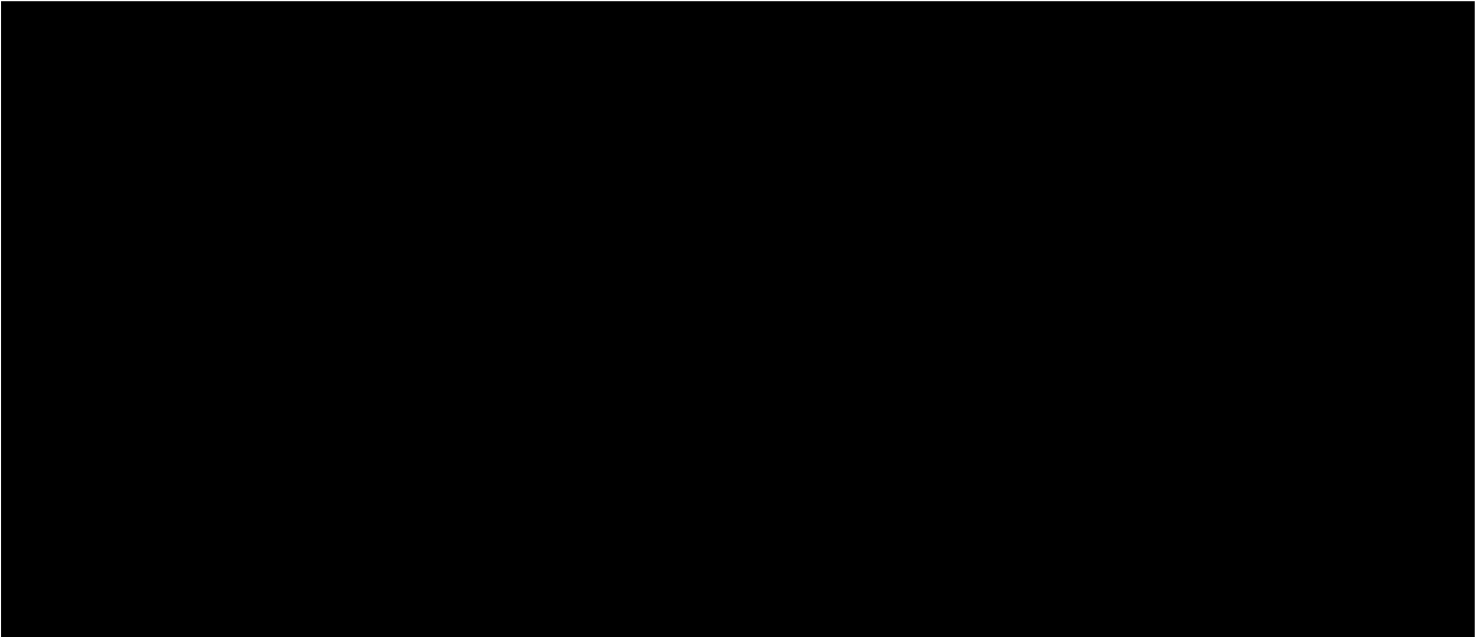




Sent: 10 January 2014 11:40

To: Planning

Subject: to insert please as your webiste is down

As per my my telephone conversation with Heather at planning this morning, it appears your system to add comments to the website is down

Please see the details I should like added below

With kind regards

Jim Norris.

10.01.14

Re; Application AW/336/13/

Applicant. James Norris

128 Melford Road,

Sudbury,

Suffolk,

CO10 1JZ



For/against. Support

see att word doc

I offer total support for this. A successful application will bring direct life improvement for my twin brother John, whose home for the past 18 years has been at Ashley House in Aldwick Rd.

From birth John has; unable to walk, little mobility, speech difficulties, limited hand movement, he is 1 of the residents at Ashley House who all have similar disabilities, is lovingly cared for by the dedicated staff.

He almost died when in the care of a London Local Authority, his very limited expectations from the cruel hand life has dealt him, culminating into a month in intensive care at King Georges Hospital Ilford suffering major internal surgery following neglect by falling through the gap in L.A. care funding .

Since being fortunate enough to get a place at Ashley Hse the care and dedication of staff, plus acceptance & friendship of the local community, has given him back a normal, life his albeit low expectations of what most people take for granted as a right.

Over the last 18 years, I've seen Ashley House, fall deeper into disrepair, to the point where it cannot be viably maintained to what anyone would call an acceptable standard. The cost of heating and power means that much of the charitable funding and grants are literally going straight out the poorly fitting windows!

Upper floors are for shot off due to fire/safety regs, the cost of making them fit for purpose is too high

Ashley House occupies a prime spot in a wide well-appointed, nice safe area, the current state however lets down the mainly high quality of housing stock in this part of Aldwick.

Missing the opportunity to redevelop this prime site, would be a let-down for the residents & loose new housing stock, in-turn bringing new opportunities to Aldwick.

The chance to move just down the road to a hotel which already caters for people with disabilities, has already had extensive repairs and upgrades to keep it in an excellent condition, seems such a logical and sensible answer to the very bad situation at Ashley House that is only becoming an even worse eyesore, and unacceptable place to live in.

As a commercial design/development consultant, I have worked on many projects over the past 30 years, involving millions of pounds up and down the UK. The relatively simple and minor adjustments needed at "The Russell" to help change the lives of all the residents at Ashley House by giving them a chance of escaping the ever diminishing what has been a loving caring home but is now an uneconomical "money pit".

Ashely House currently provides employment for 30 staff, mostly residents of Bognor, along with the residents, spend not inconsiderable sums of money in the local shops and facilities. Due to the residents disabilities, ALL of their personal spend/social expenses are returned into the local economy. Their lack of mobility mean residents will spend the rest of their lives in/very close to the local area.

The residents of Kings Parade, are as the majority of Bognor people friendly & aware of the disabilities of the users of the Russell Hotel who have been lucky enough to enjoy the local quiet, safe roads. So the 400 yard move of Ashley's residents to replace the current disabled visitors who have come to this location for over 10 years, will not present any social disruption.

Due to the current state of Ashley House, there is a big question mark hanging over how long they will be able to stay open, and offer a good long term secure employment to 30 local people, as well as the loss of spending by the residents, visitors and carers that are currently made in the local shops and services in the area.

The New Ashley now has the chance to give more people like John a lease of a new life, continue being loved & cared by staff, accepted into the local community by the good people of Bognor.

Please look at this application with sympathy and compassion for those much less fortunate than ourselves

James Norris