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*Stephen & Marcia Avery,
The Annex,
4 Inglewood Close,
BOGNOR REGIS,
W. Sussex,
PO21 4LA.*

26th January 2014,

Ref::AW/336/13

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you to express my support for the proposed change of use for The Russell Hotel.

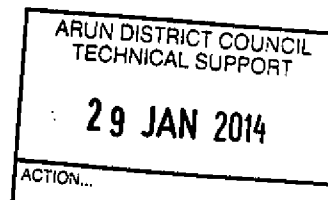
I believe that the proposal put forward by Livability will give this building a useful life. It will also afford much improved facilities for the current residents of the Ashley House home.

I also believe that the ideas and plans of the Livability proposal would be of great social benefit to the wider community.

Yours Faithfully,

Stephen & Marcia Avery.

29.1.2014



Simon

I note that the Russell Hotel Bognor Regis currently owned and run by Action for the Blind maybe sold to Livability Ashleigh House a Livability home currently housed elsewhere in Bognor Regis and is due to be changed from a hotel for the Blind to a care home, and we object to this change.

Whilst recognising that businesses need to be financially viable it is with disappointment and sadness to hear of this change and a great shame that ultimately a service for registered blind and partially sighted folk should be and the driven by financial goals.

The hotel and it's facilities have been a solace to sight impaired guests, their family and carers providing a safe pleasant and caring environment. We have personal experience of the hotel and it's services for many years both before and after the re build eleven years ago when our mother Mary Sene who was partially sighted, enjoyed many holidays at the Hotel. The current staff work together as a team and provide a pleasant, helpful and friendly atmosphere and I understand that should this proceed, 30 + staff would loose their jobs in an already difficult employment market.

The Leisure complex is a great facility for guests and the local community especially those with health needs and recommended by local clinicians to use this facility to improve their health, maintain their level of movement and assist with weight management.

The personal and smaller environment suits folk with various levels of disability: the ease of entry to the pool and the warmth of the water can make the whole experience more successful for the user.

Indeed these people could find extended travel or increased financial implications involved to a similar facility would be beyond their reach and their health and wellbeing could suffer.

I note with interest that the centre was dedicated and possibly named after Harvey Bridgewater ; If these funds were in his memory have his family been consulted and is there any relevant paperwork retained relating to the donation / dedication ?

NHS Sussex intimates that it is committed to commissioning high quality health care service for the people of West Sussex in their Strategic Commissioning Plan.

Their vision included within the 12 points ' Lifelong Health and Wellbing for everyone in West Sussex' and the 1st of their 12 points was 'To improve people's health and wellbeing

We see and hear constantly in the media of the concerns about the growing elderly population and the financial implications that will be involved.

We would urge that early consideration be given to retain the Hotel and the Leisure facilities for use by the aforementioned people and the local community thus providing a much needed service. It would seem short sighted to consider closing the facilities when there is nothing to replace them in the locality.

Sylvia and Tom Sene

75 Beaumont Park, Littlehampton, BN17 6 RF

