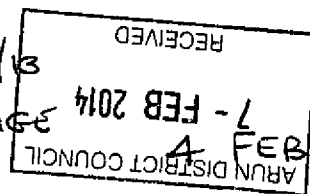


ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
PLANNING APPLICATION AW/336/13  
RUSSELL HOTEL CHANGE OF USAGE



4 FEBRUARY 2014.

My wife and I have just returned from a most enjoyable stay - our 2nd this year - at the excellent Russell Hotel. On this occasion, the hotel was fully booked (even in rain-lashed, flooded Sussex) and as usual the staff couldn't do enough for us and the other guests staying there.

We strongly object to the above planning application on the grounds that the Russell Hotel is a unique and irreplaceable establishment and should not be closed.

There are very few hotels in your town and none up to the standard of the Russell Hotel which offers first class facilities for both sighted and able bodied people as well as partially sighted and blind people with their assistance dogs. Bognor has no less than 60 residential homes and the conversion of the Russell Hotel into yet another home would be a body blow to the region as a commercially attractive seaside resort. It would also see the loss of 30 staff who will be dismissed. And all this to see the transfer of 15 disabled people to the top floor of the Russell with no clear plan for

the extended usage of the rest of the hotel.

Perhaps the current owners of the Russell Hotel should consider selling it to a larger hotel group who would be better placed to capitalise on the massive economic potential the hotel has to offer.

We hope to enjoy many more visits to your town. This will not happen without the Russell and we will be forced to take our trade to the other Vision Hotels in the U.K. (of which there are only 4 in total!)

How much revenue will be lost when those of us staying at the Russell no longer frequent the pubs, restaurants, theatre, etc in the area.

Clearly Ashley House residents need help - but not at the cost of losing a 1st Class hotel and tourist destination for the town as a whole.

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