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24th December 2021

Bognor Regis Town Council  
Ms G Frost  
Town Hall  
Clarence Road  
Bognor Regis, West Sussex  
PO21 1LD

**Case Officer:** Maria Tomalova  
**Telephone:** 01903 737510  
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Dear Sir/Madam,

**Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)**  
**Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015**

Application No: BR/247/21/PL  
Site Address: Ancient Mariner Hotel 59 West Street Bognor Regis PO21 1XB  
Description of works: Change of use from single dwelling (C3) to 6 No self-contained flats (C3), a 10-bedroom co-living housing unit (Sui Generis) & insertion of 3 No new front windows. This application affects the character & appearance of The Steyne, Bognor Conservation Area.

Thank you for your internet representation made on 24th December 2021 which has been recorded as an objection with the comments as follows:

OWQC42867

**OBJECTION**

59 West Street occupies a prominent position in relation to West Street and the Esplanade. It is listed as a Building and Structure of Character in ADC's SPD and should be considered as a non-designated heritage asset within the conservation area.

Current ADC SDP re Conservation Areas states:

S1.2. Conservation areas are statutorily defined as areas of special architectural or historical interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance (Section 69 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990)

S1.3. Special features of these areas include not only individual buildings but various factors such as: historic street patterns and building layouts; the mix of uses; scale and detailing of buildings; materials; street furniture; vistas; and even the spaces between buildings.

S1.4. The principle of conservation is to protect and preserve those buildings, features, spaces, activities and uses which form the particular character and appearance of an area, whilst allowing for appropriate change and new development which preserves or enhances that special character.

S1.5. The Council's aims in respect of Conservation Areas include the following:

Protection of Conservation Areas from inappropriate and damaging development;

Where new development is appropriate, to encourage design of the highest standard and which respects the character of the Conservation Area.

Whilst acknowledging that the current use of this building is residential, the Town Council would welcome an application to turn this back into tourist accommodation, given its history as a hotel and the prime position it enjoys in our seaside resort.

The plans propose to provide 6 No. self-contained flats and a 10-bedroom co-living housing unit (an HMO by any other name), marketed to young professionals. There is disappointment at the lack of affordable housing in the proposal.

In total, 13 No. double bedrooms and 6 No. single bedrooms are shown on the plans. Were each bedroom accommodated to their full capacity then this would result in 32 persons residing at the property, with no parking provision included in the proposals. The proposed development does not include sufficient residential parking provision to meet the needs of future occupiers in accordance with the residential parking standards in use at the time and this will result in an increase in pressure for on-street parking spaces which will be harmful to the amenity of existing local residents in the town centre area. Due to a proliferation of smaller household typologies (and commensurate increase in population density) demand for parking has increased considerably which has led to amenity issues deriving from parking demands. Such amenity issues have involved anti-social blocking of driveways and overspill parking on roads which have prevented emergency service vehicles from using nearby streets.

No evidence has been provided to demonstrate whether or not there is existing spare parking capacity in the surrounding area. The proposal is therefore in conflict with Arun Local Plan Policy T SP1, the Council's Parking Standards supplementary planning document (January 2020) and the National Planning Policy Framework (2019).

Given the evidently small-scale gardens that surround the property, Members do not feel that adequate areas of open space, suitable for up to 32 persons, can be provided in this application, particularly in making provision for the drying of clothes outdoors and the storage of refuse.

Your views as made above will be considered before the application is determined.

Please be aware that Planning Services operate an 'open file' policy and will publish your comments on the website. Please make sure that you have only provided information that you are happy will be published in this way. If you have supplied information belonging to a third party, you must make sure you have their permission to do so.

The majority of applications are determined under delegated powers by officers. Further information on the decision making process can be found on the website at <https://www.arun.gov.uk/what-happens-next>.

Some applications will be determined by the Planning Committee, and I shall write and inform you of the date of the meeting and the procedures for public speaking if this is the case. However, if your representation has been received after the agenda for the meeting has been finalised and the notifications have been generated, you will not receive notification. In this case, you will need to track the progress of the application on the council's website <https://www.arun.gov.uk/planning-application-search>

Any comments that are received after the agenda has been finalised will be separately reported to the members of the Planning Committee.

Regardless of how the application is determined I will notify you of the decision.

Yours sincerely



**Neil Crowther**  
**Group Head of Planning**

For details of how the Council will deal with your data please refer to our privacy notices on the website  
<https://www.arun.gov.uk/privacy-policy/>

**If you have provided an email address, all correspondence including the decision notice will be sent by email. It is therefore important that you keep us informed if this changes during the course of this application.**

**To register to receive notification of planning applications in your area, please go to**  
<https://www1.arun.gov.uk/planning-application-finder>