

Peter Taylor and Carol Bishop wish to strongly oppose Planning Application EP/3/22/PL

IMPACT STATEMENT : Imagine an immediate neighbour, holding afternoon and evening garden parties, 5/6 days a week, week on week! That has been our reality during the trial period. A 9pm ‘curfew’, does not make the disturbance more palatable or the effect any less debilitating and stressful.

If ‘Open Air All Year-Round Dining’ is Approved, it would have severe and continued impacts on our day-to-day quality of lives and we fear we will feel forced to move. Living next to the Restaurant was absolutely **no problem until ‘outside dining’ commenced**, we anticipated and accepted a degree of noise. However, living in the manner we were forced to during the trial profoundly **affected our health and mental health**. Now aged 79 and 82, we are **horrified and worried that** having bought our newbuild-final forever-close to all amenities-home in The Street in 2019, that this **application is being considered, so close to a house that is a mere 86cm (34 inches) from the boundary fence**, and was itself awarded Planning Permission, encompassing Bifold doors to the rear, designed to enable an open, outside living lifestyle.

We are upset and distressed to have to oppose this application, but we genuinely have no choice. .

KEY ISSUES : As those most adversely impacted by the outside dining adjacent to our border, we have several issues:

- The corner of our house is a mere 86cm (34 inches) from the boundary. Our Bifold Door is 239 cm (94 inches) from the boundary fence.
- The inability to enjoy our home, garden, and open plan kitchen/patio in the manner for the purpose intended.
- When the area is in use the sound experienced is not a low or indecipherable murmur but the continual sound of clear, understandable conversations.
- When the restaurant is busy, add alcohol and more people and the noise increases still further to intolerable levels.
- Unless we, our family, and guests want to listen to the minutiae of customers’ (sometimes unsavoury) conversations, we have had no choice but to stay locked up inside during the height of the summer.
- We have already suffered disturbed sleep on occasions from lack of late-night concern for the neighbours and erratic security lighting. Both instances reported to Mr Aru. A further 2 am instance was not reported as we were told he was on holiday. We decided to see how things progressed once the Trial was over.
- Our own privacy is impinged upon in both home and garden, as we never know who might be listening to us at any time.
- Our vista has changed due to the very visible Shade Sails, add to this potentially new lighting and/or outdoor heaters.
- We lack ventilation when we have to close the Bifolds, as we can barely open the remaining window more than (9cm (3 ½ inches) onto a shared driveway, because of safety issues.
- We dread the addition of cooking smells from the barbeque and wood-fired pizza oven still shown on the plans, and the possibility of shelters for protection from adverse weather being erected.
- We are deeply concerned that *there is no mention of operating hours within this application just ‘All Year Dining’*. May be coffee drinking from 9 am would take place?
- We are very preoccupied that with the removal of social distancing more tables, chairs and customers will occupy the space.

OTHER GROUNDS FOR OPPOSITION:

A) The 2nd key statement in the Application Description we feel is misleading and incorrect, please see the excerpt below:

(We had permission to use this space for the last 2 years and have not had complaints or issues with any of our neighbours, who totally supported us also with this application).

- Although permission given, the area was not used for outside dining until the Temporary Trial during the summer months of 2021.
- We, as neighbours, chose not to object to a temporary Covid solution, to support a neighbour’s struggling business during exceptional circumstances in the height of the Pandemic! Those exceptional circumstances no longer exist!
- We have not been consulted since and absolutely do not support an application beyond the original temporary period.
- The statement re.: complaints or issues with the applicants, is inaccurate. Complaints have been made in relation:
 - to **late night noise** from the area and to the **continual impact of the Security Light on all night and regularly flashing on and off throughout the night**.
 - the **introduction of above boundary height Shade Sails and the erection of a substantial Marquee for an extended period**, both changing the vista as **reported to the clerk of the council** at the time.

B) The original Application Decision is clear that :

- the original temporary permission was given **due to the exceptional circumstances during the Covid Pandemic despite objections from Environmental Health**. Those objections are still valid.
- The statement “**There would be no visual impact**, as the ground is lower on the restaurant side. **This is not the reality**, Shade Sails on tall poles were swiftly erected and a mini-Glastonbury dominates the view instead! Following discussions, adjustments were made just upon the boundary line, forcing us to erect trellis and greenery at our own expense to lessen the impact.

C) This is a predominantly residential street: the only other remaining commercial business that we are aware of is the Vets. There is minimal impact from the Legion on Ssea Road. In contrast, **noise from the new ‘Outside Dining’ area, has made us feel imprisoned inside our own home**.

D) Feeling forced to Move: We are tremendously upset and suffering huge stress and anxiety at the thought of moving. We presumed **life would return to pre Covid times now all regulations and restrictions have lapsed**, and the restaurant would now function as before. Instead, what had been a challenging temporary situation, could become an unbearable norm!

Plan @ 1:1250



Block Plan @ 1:500

