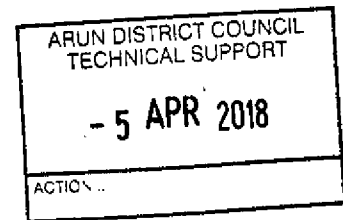


Terry Ellis, Media Member of AAG Management
14 North Ham Road
Littlehampton, West Sussex
BN17 7AR

Planning Department
Arun Civic Centre
Maltravers Road
Littlehampton
BN17 5LF.



31.03.2018

Planning Application: LU/67/18/PL

Objection from Arun Access for the Disabled

On behalf of the above mentioned Disabled Action Group we would object to the above Planning Application on the following grounds.

This application would severely restrict the pavement width outside the premises and render the previous safe space a danger to many types of Disability. For those in Wheelchairs and motorised Disabled Scooters and Buggies this could lead to problems at the edge of the pavement, at this point the pavement sloped towards the road and it is therefore more possible for the above to topple into constantly very busy main road, Surrey Street. This is also relevant to persons with sight disability who would have a big obstruction placed in their way. We have Members of our Group that have to walk using two sticks and they need a considerable amount of space to be and feel safe, the incursion of this space outside the George is not helpful.

The premises are situated on the main road approach to the seafront and the subsequent exit for people arriving at the station as visitors, who sometimes arrive in groups, during peak seasons and any restriction in pavement width could prove extremely dangerous. If people are to be allowed to sit outside the premises at these times the danger level is increased.



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The schematics show a pretty picture of tables for two as being the sideways width of the seating. As can be seen from the photograph on the planning application submitted with this application, this is showing tables for four. A public house is often a place where groups of people congregate and it will not be long before these tables and chairs are moved to allow more than two people to sit and talk. With the flexibility of the rope barrier this will allow this to easily happen. If this happens it will further decrease the passage for people going by.

The George Inn already has folding windows in the front on both sides of the main door. During good weather these are opened to allow an outdoor feeling to those sitting in the front area, surely this is sufficient for those pub goers who are craving for fresh air.

It is a well-known fact that open areas outside pubs and restaurants are usually occupied by people who smoke. We see no reason why this would not be the case if this application was granted. Although the application has said that ash trays would be provided, how long would it be before they disappeared and the floor surrounding the application area was used as an ash tray, with people complaining that as this is a private area, once the application is permitted, they would not be subject to action from the new Litter wardens, used so successfully by the local councils.

With a bank of smokers polluting the restricted passage way in front of the premises, this would not be seen as conducive to many residents or visitors who pass this way on a daily basis. The concentration of smoke in the air would not be good for health as we are all aware of the problems with passive smoking and that includes the smell from the smokers.

The levels of drink related and anti-social behaviour happening in Littlehampton, at the moment, indicates that with the new form of policing, if any trouble happens it is some time before the Cavalry arrives. If this would happen near or outside the George the outside furniture, being of a moveable and temporary nature, would provide ammunition for any melee. The furniture



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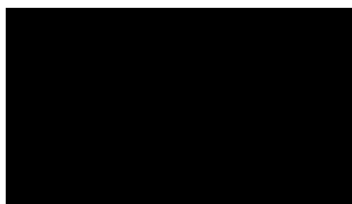
outside the White Hart Pub is heavy and not easily moveable and there is no furniture outside the Crown. Although the George employs door security, this is only on certain evenings, we must remember that we area Seaside destination and this invites all types of people, some who might have spent the day on the beach drinking and stop at the George for a last pint or three and we feel that the security of our Town is paramount.

Although a restriction could be put on outside drinkers to use plastic glasses, the use of plastic is now being discredited and stopped as much as possible, it is polluting our seas and beaches (a point shown by regular collection by the Littlehampton Beach Conservation Group during their regular beach clean-ups).

It can often be seen that some smokers already step outside the George with glasses for beer or other drinks, this would be compounded should there be outside seating. Glasses on the street reek of danger.

We trust that these points will be considered by the Development Control Committee and that this application will be rejected

For and on behalf of Arun Access for the Disabled



Terry Ellis

