

**From:** Village Concerns villageconcerns2016@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Village Concerns Update 50 - Object to the Foresters Application Now  
**Date:** 29 July 2018 at 10:49  
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## **Object to Foresters Planning Application**

Please get your objection in by Friday 3 August. Numbers really do matter and we need as many objections as possible to try and force the planning department to call this matter into a committee decision. At present it is likely to be dealt with by an individual desk officer with no opportunity for us to have the decision made in public. Visit the Council Website at [planning.wealden.gov.uk](http://planning.wealden.gov.uk) and lodge your objection to to WD/2018/0543/LB, you can do this by clicking this link: <http://www.planning.wealden.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=141605>

The Parish Council sought a meeting with Wealden which was refused and as a result the Parish Council have indicated that they will be objecting to the Listed Building Consent.

The building was Listed because it is a historic example of a private dwelling that was converted into a pub. In the case of the Foresters this was 2 cottages and sufficient of the original cottages remains to show this. We ask that you consider objecting on the grounds that this application for Listed Building Consent proposes to remove 2 key elements of the interior that are specifically detailed in the Listing by Historic England. Harveys have already ripped out the bar and bar shelving and should be made to reinstate it.

Our suggested objections:

The application does not mention 2 specific elements of the building that are specified in the Listing. These are the “bar shelving” and “Art Nouveau fireplace”. The submitted

plans show both are removed. This does not comply with the protection specified in the Listing and they should be forced to change the internal plans accordingly.

The windows proposed at the rear of the property are large pane French windows. These are inappropriate for a Listed period building and should conform to the design of the existing period features.

The Application Form states that although a previous application has been submitted and approved, that no work has started. This is wrong and is why an Enforcement Investigation (C/2018/0048) was opened by Wealden that forced Harveys to stop work after they had already removed the bar shelving that was specified in the Listing Building status. The application makes no mention of this breach of the Listed Building requirements or that they were forced to stop work.

The Application Form states that they have carried out extensive community consultation. We are not aware of any consultation and believe that they should be made to prove their claim.

### **Are you still Incensed by the original decision to close the Foresters ?**

You may still have misgivings about the original decision for the change of use of the pub to housing. It is unlikely that any objections on this issue will be considered as part of this application. However, we encourage you to put in a separate objection based on your objection to the original decision. Just click on the same link and make a second objection. We feel that it is important that they realise how strongly we feel that they got it wrong. They should be ashamed that they did not

defer the original decision until after the Listing application had been determined. They should be ashamed that they did not seek any evidence to show that the pub had been marketed for sale as a pub nor did they ensure that Harveys consider credible offers to take on the business. The new Draft Local Plan proposes very strong protection for public houses in such situations. This protection already exists under the terms of the National Planning Policy Framework but was disregarded by the Planning Committee. Although the Draft Wealden Local Plan is only beginning its path towards adoption we believe that Wealden should reconsider their original decision based on this emerging Local Plan. It is a long shot but it might just shame them into action.