

About the application

Application number: 2018/93591	
What is the application for?:	Erection of cafe/restaurant with bedrooms, interpretation facilities, car parkin
Address of the site or building:	Victoria Tower, Lumb Lane, Castle Hill, Almondbury, Huddersfield, HD4 6TA
Postcode:	

User comments

Type of comment: An objection
<p>Planning history of site: The applicants far exceeded the permission they had been granted to do minor alterations and updating to the hotel previously on the site. Following this they had to dismantle the building which had long weathered in and which supplied modest refreshments. There has now been no building there for a number of years.</p> <p>Visual impact: Although the proposed building is suggested as minimizing the visual impact, from wherever it is viewed it must be wholly out of keeping with the environmental, archaeological and historical attractions of a local site highly valued by the town.</p> <p>Public amenity: Accessible toilets would be useful but as one who has visited the site over many years I can say that I have never had evidence that their absence more recently has caused a problem. (I was very sorry to learn that when the base of the tower was to be converted for this purpose there would not be public access. Understandably day to day cleaning would be too costly).</p> <p>Free access to so wild and treasured an open area, with no modern encroachments is itself a huge public amenity.</p> <p>Access: The only access for vehicular traffic is a single track road with awkward passing places, quite steep and with two blind corners. There is no possibility of widening this road.</p> <p>Impact on listed buildings, conservation areas etc.: The suggested building would impact on views of the Victoria Tower from that side.</p> <p>The former hotel is now consigned to history. What is still there is a major archaeological, historical and ecological site, long listed by English Heritage and its predecessors, lying in a Green Belt reservation. Surely no other authority would contemplate permitting such a development in a site so strongly protected?</p>