

About the application

Application number: 2022/93344	
What is the application for?:	Conversion and extension of existing building to form 10 one bedroom apartments
Address of the site or building:	School Of Dance And Performing Arts, 61-63, Moor Lane, Gomersal, Cleckheaton, BD19 4LF
Postcode:	

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes
HERITAGE This building was originally a Silk Mill and then later, around 100 years ago, converted to be a Dancing School, which it has been for most of its time since. I understand that the current Dancing School Proprietors are not the owners of the property and that they only rent the property. The idea of the change of use and development of the property is coming from the owners of the building. There will not be much left of the original heritage of the building as it will be “modernised” beyond all recognition. As for the addition of another building at the side of the old building seems like development for the sake of money. Surely a better use could be made of the building. The extension plans show that natural stone would be used, should these plans be passed then I would hope that this would be adhered to and not “fake” stone used or render. Kirklees is about to publish its Heritage plan – How does this total change – and unsympathetic modernisation of a building fit in with this? APARTMENTS In the plans it states that these apartments will be for rent – not owner occupied. I wonder if this type of accommodation is really necessary in Gomersal? The plans for the apartments, show 10 very small flats – I would not consider them large enough for a good quality of life – they could be described better as not much more than bedsits or maybe even “rabbit hutches”	

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PARKING

The plans for parking show spaces for 10 vehicles and 2 visitors, which I am given to understand is the National Guide Line, however there could be 2 cars per apartment and I would think more visitors than that. This will result in parking being even more of a premium on Moor Lane and Queen Street.

Admittedly some of the people using the Dancing School now park inconsiderately and even illegally around the junction with Dewsbury Road but this is only at certain times whilst this problem would be all the time with the apartments, mainly I think after work and weekends when occupants are at home and visitors come.

Without these plans maybe an improvement in the parking in the grounds for the Dancing School could be a possibility as well as entry and exit to the grounds?

LIGHT POLLUTION

The security lights for the new apartments will be triggered often with residents and visitors coming and going, resulting in unwanted lights being visible to residents in Moor Lane and beyond.

WELL-BEING & KIRKLEES EVERYBODY ACTIVE PLAN

This change of use would take away a valuable asset that encourages the activity and well-being of the local community. SURELY KIRKLEES SHOULD BE HELPING TO ENCOURAGE THIS and NOT allow this change of use.

COMMUNITY ASSET

The Dancing School fulfils a great need in the community with not just dancing, also yoga, Pilates, sport and theatre – it could be seen as a Community Hub and with the Cafe as well - it provides a place to meet and prevent isolation for all ages.

Removal of local business and enterprise and substituting soulless apartments will result in an area where might be accommodation but nothing to do and no community cohesion.