About the application

Application number: 2023/90434	
What is the application for?:	change of use of ground floor of vacant public house (Sui Generis- drinking esta
Address of the site or building:	Babes In The Wood, 1039, Leeds Road, Woodkirk, Dewsbury, WF12 7HY
Postcode:	WF12 7HY

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes

I strongly object to the application for the change of use to the former Babes in the Woods, drinking establishment, to Community Centre with prayer room.

1, The application states work has not begun, as many residents will confirm this is not the case, with work men present on a regular basis since the property became vacant. Are the advertising banners/signs part of a planning application already approved and will they remain indefinitely? They are horrendous and not fitting for a once loved building and should not be allowed to remain and replaced with a sign more sympathetic for the building and area. This has defaced the already crumbing exterior of this landmark property sending out a negative impression to all entering and leaving Kirklees, not to mention the residents who have seen the decline of well-kept properties and surroundings in the area and now seeing a huge decline in the neighborhood appearance.
3, The proposals for access from Soothill Lane and Leeds Road to be re-open jointly, 12 hours a day especially at prayer times will have dangerous effects on the safety and the flow of traffic already at bursting point, making the pedestrian footpaths increasingly more hazardous with vehicles driving on/off and parking on the pavement,
4, Noise pollution will be increased to neighboring property with the call to prayer even without external amplification but also an unmeasured distance beyond, historically city wide? This needs to be assessed and the results published before accepting this proposal. The noise disturbance will be an unacceptable nuisance in the back of property in Woodkirk Gardens and further afield.
5, Described as a Community Centre with prayer room this will be totally unnecessary if recent planning applications for Heybeck Lane and land adjacent to Leeds Road are approved which include a Community Centre available presumably to all religions not just a prayer room for a minority.
6, A new Community Centre is planned to meet the needs of current and future developments of over 2000 dwellings on Soothill Lane, Heybeck Lane and Shaw cross with employment properties not just Friends of Soothill with a short term fix to meet the presently small demand will be inadequate for Kirklees Development plans, to be sustainable.