Brick Bank

Almondbury

HD5 8RU

21.05.25

2025/62/90480/W

REFERENCE: Almondbury Working Man's Club (formerly) HD5 8RY

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have recently been verbally told of the planning application regarding the former WMC at Almondbury (opposite my house); and have found the application on the planning portal. I have my house opposite the site/former WMC.

I also make you aware that today the WMC signage at front still says "Under Offer" and has not been changed to 'sold' by the agents 'Michael Steel & Co'. I cannot surmise this error if it has been sold.

Quote from application 2025/62/90480/W:

"[The project aims to rejuvenate this historically significant structure, which has served as a local hub for social interaction and recreation], by introducing spaces for small businesses, educational activities, and cultural events."

My concerns:

1. The overall planning application is vague, thus lacks detail about the true intention for this location.
2. The vagueness of the application deliberately allows a large array of businesses to start at the site.
3. I am confused on what shops will exist, since there is a corner shop adjacent, Co-Op two minutes walk and an array of takeaways adjacent too.

4. I am confused about what educational activities will exist. Will these have a religious bias?
5. I am confused on what cultural events will take place. Are these so called cultural events going to be disclosed? Will they also have a religious spin?
6. My understanding is that this location likely will become a religious site (despite what is being said now). Yet, it is unsuitable for a religious hall. Firstly, it will create excessive noise such as from late religious events and/or prayer sessions. It is surrounded by residential homes on all sides. The same would be said if it is a religious school.
7. There is a lack of parking for it to be a religious hall. Indeed, currently users of the post office and co-op already park all along Northgate and Southfield Road.

Regrettably, points 4-6 speak to excluding some members of the community.

My aims: I hope that this planning application can be modified so that it positively affects all members of Almondbury. And meets specific noise conditions. I would only welcome shops that are needed by all members of the community.

Hence, specific planning aims for this site - not vague ones - with specific conditions, should be imposed by Kirklees Planning.

Regards kindly,