

Andrew King

From: Planning (Isles of Scilly)
Subject: FW: Planning application P/22/056/COU

From: Charlotte Smalley <PROVIDED>
Sent: 04 September 2022 22:41
To: Planning (Isles of Scilly) <planning@scilly.gov.uk>
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Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to express my full support for the planning application P/22/056/COU of the change in use of Holgates Green for Lily's Thai Takeaway van to operate.

Between the struggles of COVID and the closure of some establishments there is now a clear absence of places to eat in the evenings on Scilly. The recent influx of more visitors to the islands has meant that the demand outweighs our supply and people are struggling to find alternatives - especially as the pubs and restaurants that are open have to be booked weeks (if not months) in advance!

If we aren't careful we may see a decline in repeat visitors or even new ones if we cannot meet their needs. Lily's takeaway is a step in the right direction to solving this issue whilst also increasing the diversity of options on offer to our tourists.

Lily and Martyn are a local couple who have spent lots of time and effort to make their dream become a reality and it would be a huge shame if that ends for them before it's really even started just as a result of a small minority refusing to accept change. The van has been temporarily open a couple of weeks now and is already proving to be incredibly popular and an asset to the islands. It has so much to offer - delicious food, reasonable prices, a friendly atmosphere and a perfect location just to name a few.

They have worked hard to act upon what people have complained about and therefore factors like noise and smell are at an absolute minimum and hardly even noticeable to customers. Holgates Green is a brilliant location for this new business venture as it is central to town, offers a great view and has ideal outside seating for customers to use. The van takes up such a small area in the corner of the green that was rarely used anyway and therefore is not offensive at all.

There will always be people who complain or disagree as you can't please everyone, but this new small business should not have to suffer because of this. I cannot stress enough the importance of more options of food venues on St Mary's! Many of the people objecting clearly have not read the planning application thoroughly and therefore have complaints that are hugely over exaggerated. Lots also refer to all three takeaway food vans whereas this application is just for the ONE and should not be judged based on all of them.

We as a community should be coming together and supporting this new business venture to thrive and succeed. It is a lovely new option for locals to try but above all, it will be a solution for many tourists who cannot find somewhere to eat in the evenings. As a result this will improve their holiday experience and help to encourage returning visitors to the islands.

I hope to see Lily's van operating next year and in future years to come.

Thankyou for your consideration.

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