

Andrew King

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

From: Grace Smalley <PROVIDED>
Sent: 31 August 2022 13:41
To: Planning (Isles of Scilly) <planning@scilly.gov.uk>
Subject: Application P/22/056/COU

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing in full support of application P/22/056/COU for the use of the proposed, small section of Holgates Green for a takeaway van. Not only would this be an excellent addition to the Strand, but it is a necessity for the island to increase the food venues for the undeniable demand that have been proven in the past couple of years in particular.

As many have already previously mentioned, we as a small community rely on tourism as the main source of income. However, with so many disappointed guests being turned away for an evening meal due to the closure of several establishments, something drastic needs to happen NOW to get the ball rolling back in the right direction and keep up with the increased demand.

Not only is it to be a lovely addition for locals to have this takeaway conveniently situated in town, but beyond all, it is vital to focus on being inclusive to a variety of demographics and diversities visiting the islands, by keeping up with the times and giving people a choice. It would be too easy to brush this aside and maintain a stale mindset of a small minority not wanting change within the community, and it is of absolute utmost importance to remember that the visiting tourists bring the majority of the islands revenue, and if we continue to ignore the tourists' needs, the island will flourish no more.

As it has been tried and tested in previous years for a small takeaway van, who was unfortunately moved on several accounts to different locations for trading (the park, the quay, the industrial estate), and now sadly forced to close, this example has shown how this is absolutely NOT an option for Lily's takeaway van to be moved from site to site. No one particular site will always be accepted by every person of the community and people certainly don't like change, that is until they want to go out for something to eat and cannot then get a booking for a table.

The comments regarding the change of use affecting future charity events and gatherings is a huge over exaggeration. Not only would I'm sure many people be glad of somewhere to get a take-out during such events, but the small space that this venue actually takes up has been massively misinterpreted by those perhaps not looking closely at the planning application, to suggest that this small van takes up a large portion of the green space. This is incorrect of course, and a judgement should not be made on the assumption that the other trading takeaway units will be moved to this area, and may be reminded that this individual application is about Lily's takeaway ONLY.

I find it so disappointing that as part of this small community we cannot seem to unite together and encourage a new small business, but instead try to find holes to pick at and deter the plans being finalised. So many of these issues raised have solutions: to name a few - grass churning: protective matting placed down that the grass will grow through, but that the vehicle would be able to drive onto the area and not have contact with the underneath mud - increased gull activity: there are already bins provided but what harm would an additional couple of bins be to a publically used area? - a loud generator: soundproofing has already been installed and the vehicle is facing out to sea away from properties and public benches - giving up green space: the existing space is very large and enjoyed by

many with plenty of space to spread out, with this corner in particular often not being used as the benches have always tended to be focused in the middle. There would still be an abundance of space should any events take place there. This is not the first time that certain individuals have taken to social media to push their objections onto others and urge them to comment against an issue, seemingly with horse blinkers on and not fairly encouraging others to evaluate the bigger picture. Who is to say that the suggestion for Porthcressa Bank will not also cause a huge conflict of opinion should this be suggested?

Ultimately, if we continue to bury our heads in the sand and ignore the ongoing issues on the islands such as the lack of food venues and accessible and realistic trading areas, I worry for the future of our community.

Thank you for your kind consideration and I and many others have our fingers crossed for a positive result.

Very best,
Grace Smalley
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