

From: <u>Tim Jones</u>

To: Planning (Isles of Scilly)

Subject: Planning Application Representation P/23/036/COU

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REPRESENTATION:

I am writing to express my objection to the second application for proposed change of use for Holgate's Green and the siting of a mobile hot food takeaway unit, along with a Land Rover and generator, as outlined in the planning notice. I firmly believe that this proposal is inappropriate and raises concerns that must be addressed to ensure the well-being and preservation of our community and its valued green spaces.

Holgate's Green holds significant importance as one of the few common park areas in the centre of Hugh Town. It provides residents and visitors with a peaceful seating area offering scenic views across the Harbour and Islands from St Mary's. Additionally, it serves as a cherished venue for various community events that contribute to the cultural fabric of our island, such as the Gig Championships, The Pride Event, and The Charity Fun Day in 2022.

My objection primarily rests on the potential adverse impacts of this proposal. The siting of a take-away food van, even for limited periods, would compromise the primary purpose of Holgate's Green as a public space for communal use. Furthermore, concerns arise regarding public health and hygiene, as such food vending activities can attract vermin and exacerbate existing issues with seagulls due to potential food waste. These concerns not only affect the well-being of our community but also impact the desirability and reputation of the area.

Another aspect of concern is the sustainability and environmental impact associated with the proposed siting of a Land Rover and generator. Operating a carbon-based fuel power generator contradicts the principles of green and sustainable development that our community strives for. The associated noise, emissions, and visual pollution would detract from the tranquillity and aesthetics of the surrounding area. It is essential that any proposed developments prioritise environmentally friendly alternatives to minimise the carbon footprint and preserve the natural beauty of our community.

Additionally, allowing the siting of one mobile food unit on Holgate's Green, even for short periods, will set an undesirable precedent, leading to future requests by other commercial food vendors seeking to exploit this valuable public space. This could undermine the aesthetics and charm of The Isles of Scilly and result in the loss of this green area for routine use by residents and visitors.

Considering these concerns, I urge the Council to reconsider the proposed change of use for Holgate's Green and the siting of a mobile hot food takeaway unit. It is imperative that the Council carefully considers the long-term well-being of our community and the preservation of our natural and cultural heritage. I kindly request that the Council explore alternative solutions, such as designating a specific food vendor area as part of the ongoing redevelopment of The Town Hall. The area behind Porthcressa, which is currently used by two food vans, presents a potential location that can be developed into a purpose-built, permanent food vending area with necessary utility services. This would allow for controlled and environmentally responsible food vending while relieving the strain on Holgate's Green and offer a destination of choice for the community and visitors to enjoy food vending in a controlled and sustainable manner.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I kindly request that you provide an opportunity for community input and dialogue regarding this proposal.