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RECEIVED BY THE
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

19 JUL 2017

Senior Officer: Planning and Development Management
Town Hall
The Parade
St Mary's
Isles of Scilly
TR21OLW
18.7.17

Dear Sirs,

Re: Ref P/17/054/FUL
Change of use to provide a fixed trading site for use by
mobile food and beverage business

I'm writing to strongly object to the above-mentioned planning application.

My objections are as follow:

1) Safety - This is a very busy thoroughfare, being one of the main roads in and out of town for both traffic and pedestrians - many of whom are children over here on school trips. Having the customers queue on the pavement between the 'van' and the wall will block the pavement and will result in pedestrians walking onto the road around the back of the 'van'. The traffic is quite fast and busy at this point and already gets congested because of the narrowness of the road. Your Street Trading Policy states that *any vehicle interfering with public safety, endangering the safety of pedestrians and creating a risk to other road users would not be allowed.*

2) Parking - The site will take up valuable parking spaces, already at a premium in town in the Summer months.

3) The appearance of the mobile food 'van' would have a detrimental impact on the character and appearance of the adjacent conservation area and several Grade 11 listed buildings.

4) It will have a negative effect on existing Guest House and self-catering businesses, the take-away shop and restaurants in this area.

5) It is totally inappropriate to have a mobile food van in front of the Catholic Church, especially during services, weddings and christenings. The Church is open to the public at all times during the summer and we see many visitors in the garden enjoying a moment of quiet reflection - as they do on the Green, where people have donated benches with this in mind.

6) Noise -It will attract customers on foot and in vehicles, causing them to potentially loiter consuming food and causing noise and litter.

7) Smells - when the burger van, for instance, is in operation by the park, we can smell it from our house, despite being told that action was taken to mitigate smells. We have also witnessed that it can be noisy. I know that residents near the park have had real problems with this. Your Street Trading Policy also states that *no noise or smell nuisance is permissible where it interferes with residents quiet enjoyment of their homes.*

6) Rubbish - We already have a problem with seagulls on Holgates Green. They spread rubbish from the bins over the road and swoop to take food from peoples' hands. The smell of food will aggravate this situation by attracting them even more.

In your meeting of the Licensing Committee on the 16th March 2017, you voted as NOT in favour of the site in front of the Catholic Church.

One Councillor also said that they would not want to support a site outside someone's sitting room window.

Another site was rejected as it was close to an existing Guest House and was taking parking spaces.

It was also said that the harbour view would be spoiled on the Strand.

ALL these points are pertinent to the site you are now applying for and I would question WHY they are no longer considered relevant.

It was also suggested that the preferred site would be near Porthcressa to 'consolidate and cluster with other food sites', but that there were cost implications. The Senior Manager for Infrastructure explained that these would soon be recovered from licensing fees, but a few members didn't want money to be spent. It begs the question 'is it more important to save this relatively small amount of money than it is to preserve one of the islands most beautiful, well-loved areas and to consider the well-being of the residents of Lower Strand?'

I have no objection to the operator trading (although I do question whether too many fast food outlets are what Scilly is all about). However I feel that there must be better sites, such as Porthcressa, the quay or the industrial estate.

I apologise that this is rather a long letter, but I wanted to be sure that all my concerns would be heard.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Brown', is visible on a yellowed piece of paper.

Andrew Brown