

Planning and Development Department,  
Town Hall,  
St. Mary,  
Isles of Scilly TR21 0LW

10th February 2021


Dear Sirs,

**Planning Reference P/21/010  
Beach Restaurant, TR21 0JY**

We have considered the plans of this proposed development and would like to draw your attention to the following concerns we have should this plan go ahead.

- The current building and its operation as a restaurant has blended in with the surrounding buildings and currently allows uninterrupted space for all beach activities which are so well established on this popular beach. As Porthmellon is the principal water sports beach on St. Mary's we are concerned that further development of this restaurant may curtail access to the slipway, the beach and the sea. Our fear is, should this application be accepted that it will be a 'thin edge of a big wedge'.
- The Islands Partnership is doing a great job of promoting these Islands as an ideal place to spend time outdoors taking advantage of the many outdoor activities on offer. The brochures and advertisements show stunning vistas of unspoiled empty beaches of which Porthmellon is one. We know that very many of our visitors like to walk these beaches and greatly enjoy the lack of a developed environment.
- Recently a worrying statistic hit the headlines that the UK population has the most overweight people in the world. Maybe it is worth considering keeping Porthmellon as an activities beach and not encourage eating at this venue.
- We do appreciate that there is a shortfall in the numbers of eating establishments on this island. Could this be rectified by reducing Council Rates on establishments away from the beaches. This would enable possible restaurant owners to cater for our visitors whilst making a reasonable living wage.

Yours faithfully,



Murray and Susan Hodgson