

PLANNING REF : 242654
PROPERTY ADDRESS : The Ridings
: The Ridings Limmerhill Road, Wokingham, Berkshire
: RG414BU
SUBMITTED BY : Mrs Julie French
DATE SUBMITTED : 22/11/2024

COMMENTS:

I wish to object to this proposal for the following reasons:
Firstly, this application follows previous applications, already declined, including 232621 which received hundreds of objections by local residents demonstrating the strength of feeling regarding a change to the public house and field. Most of these objections will apply to this new proposal.
Creating accommodation/hotel rooms in this semi-rural area is highly inappropriate, as it impacts on the local public house, a historic social hub for the community.

The premises have already been significantly overdeveloped beyond their original footprint, which I believe was a mistake and should not have been permitted. This new application only worsens the situation and should be rejected. It appears primarily aimed at creating access to the fields behind the property, which will undoubtedly increase usage. The proposed first-floor extension will have a substantial visual impact on the western elevation, and the addition of letting rooms will transform the premises into a 24/7 operation. As highlighted in previous applications, the mature thicket to the west of the pub should be preserved, especially given its recent apparent trimming. In conclusion, approving this application would fundamentally alter the character and purpose of the pub. Finally, the owners have shown blatant disregard for local wildlife and biodiversity by destroying ancient oaks to create access to Limmerhill Field. Many more trees and shrubs will likely be removed should this development proceed. It will be another disturbance to the natural environment and wildlife.