

STATEMENT A10 – Imogen Taylor

I oppose the change of use of the Windmill Pub into flats. I would like to object to the Tap and Barrel being a valid alternative as stated in the planning officer's report. It is located 1448m away from the hill which is a 17 min walk via 9 streets.

We walked past the Tap and Barrel one evening last month to see a police van and ambulance in attendance with a man being removed on a stretcher. Reviews on Google describe this pub as a "Good place to get a pint and your head stoved in". There was an attempted murder at the pub in 2017 and an assault in May 2020. Therefore it is not an alternative to The Windmill, I would never go here as I would not feel safe.

The Windmill is special to me as my partner and I, who have been together for 10 years, had one of our first dates there. 10 years later and we live in a house round the corner. We are sad to lose the only place on the hill we would want to spend time with our family and we miss its film nights, quiz nights, board games and live bands.

As a GP working locally I am seeing a pandemic of loneliness, depression and anxiety. People need somewhere they can relax, build friendships and develop a sense of belonging. Therefore retaining The Windmill, which was a social hub in the community, is important for the wellbeing of those living on the hill. I am not going to find that in the Tap and Barrel.