

STATEMENT A11 – Roland Oliver

Application no. 20/02864/F
The Windmill

To
Development Control Committee B – meeting on Wednesday 24 November 2021

Written statement from
Roland Oliver
Cotswold Road North

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The Windmill is a PUBLIC HOUSE.

Ownership of a public house entails a kind of stewardship on behalf of the local community and the generations to come.

The present owners enthusiastically bought in to that idea when they took on the pub and ran it well and profitably for ten years.

Then, for whatever reason, their enthusiasm diminished and they ran it less well and less profitably for a couple of years. They closed the pub, turned down at least one substantial offer, and removed the bar and cellar without consent.

A temporary dip in fortune hardly justifies the permanent closure of a public house that was flourishing only recently.

If you grant this application, it will provide an incentive for any disenchanted pub owner to run down the business in expectation of cashing in on failure by flogging the premises for flats.

That cannot be right.