

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Wye planning appeal
Date: 25 January 2021 16:00:47
Attachments: [Wye appeal.docx](#)

Dear Leanne,

I did ask a week or so back if I could speak at the appeal meeting as an Interested party.

I would like to speak for 3 minutes and have attached written copy of my contribution.

Many thanks,

Rosie Fletcher

[REDACTED]
Wye

Hello. My name is Rosie Fletcher.

I have lived in the centre of Wye for nearly 40 years.
I have brought up 4 children here.

There are currently nearly one thousand, five hundred children and young people being educated in or very close to our village every day, a huge number of young people for a village or even a small town.
I speak with this younger generation in mind and a huge sense of responsibility to make good use of and preserve what we have around us.

Part of their and indeed our education, is an appreciation of our immediate surroundings and of the village in which we live. It starts with a knowledge and familiarity of all things close to home and, as we grow and become more confident and knowledgeable, we learn ultimately to appreciate the wonders of the whole world, indeed of human civilization. To become civilized.

This appreciation of our heritage has always been a big part of the curriculum in Wye. Our unique geographical setting, the Church and the College.
I know this, as my children and I have had the privilege to be part of it, to teach about it and to benefit from knowing about it.

I concede nothing stays the same; that the built environment evolves according to fashion and needs. We cannot preserve the past in aspic. We cannot live in a museum.....

But, it is essential that we are mindful of our heritage, and that we remain humble as the custodians of what we ourselves have enjoyed.

The college has 600 years of unbroken history, the large part of the buildings we are discussing are listed by Historic England as Grade I. This is not some casual, academic designation in a textbook. It means they are exceptionally important. It means they are not only of local importance; they are of national and indeed of international importance. We all have a joint responsibility in maintaining these buildings, the people of Wye, the developers and ultimately, above all the planning authority.

We have a unique, a one - off opportunity to keep these buildings and turn them back to being a beating heart of a young, living, vibrant community.

Do we want our children to look back with regret and to blame us for our short-sighted actions that a spectacular group of historic buildings were allowed to be swallowed up and to become a private housing development, with the 15th century Latin School effectively turned into somebodies Garden Shed. For goodness sakes...

The county and indeed the whole country are littered with planning disasters from the past, and when we walk past them now, we all say, (and we have all done this).... How could THEY have let this happen?

Well, let me remind you, that in this context WE are THEY

Do you want this proposed travesty to happen on your watch?

Do you seriously want that on your conscience?

Well, I certainly don't want it on mine.