

Appendix C – To Reed Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting

Held on Wednesday 22nd July 2020

Email exchange with Planning Dept. at NHDC regarding The Cabinet

From: [Simon Ellis](#)

Sent: 17 July 2020 15:47

To: [Caroline d'Ayala](#)

Cc: [KENNETH LANGLEY](#); [Anne McDonald](#); [Richard Tiffin](#); [Chris Braybrooke](#)

Subject: RE: The Cabinet - Reed

Caroline

You will recall that the first planning application to convert the Cabinet to a dwelling was recommended for approval by officers based on an independent viability report that stated a public house use was no longer viable.

It was then refused planning permission by Committee, and the appeal was dismissed, after we had employed a different consultant who was a valuer to defend the Committee's decision.

So all I can assume is that Mr Newmham is using this officer recommendation to grant planning permission as his version of the Council's 'recommendation'.

It was not our idea or recommendation that he pursue that avenue, he did it himself, then applied for planning permission retrospectively, so I would suggest he is twisting facts to make a point maybe.

Can I say Caroline that after all these years I would appreciate a little bit more understanding and respect towards the professional integrity of my team please. Myself and colleagues have gone to great lengths to explain the complexity of the planning process to yourself and others and at all times have acted professionally and followed the evidence in their recommendations.

We are getting rather tired of this constant criticism and suggestion that we are on some way working against the Parish Council and the action group.

I have copied in some of my colleagues to this reply.

Many thanks

Simon

From: Caroline d'Ayala <dayala@reedparishcouncil.co.uk>
Sent: 17 July 2020 15:35
To: Simon Ellis <Simon.Ellis@north-herts.gov.uk>
Cc: KENNETH LANGLEY <langley@reedparishcouncil.co.uk>
Subject: The Cabinet - Reed

Dear Simon

I am contacting you in the absence of Ken Langley.

In an article in this week's Royston Crow about the opening of The Spice Cabinet Bar/Restaurant/Takeaway venture, the owner of The Cabinet, Richard Newman, is quoted as follows:

"At the start the council gave the recommendation for a house so I went up that avenue. But my intention at the start was to have a licensed premises – it's been an up and down road."

Article available here:

<https://www.royston-crow.co.uk/news/spice-cabinet-to-open-in-reed-1-6746651>

Councillors here in Reed have already been approached by different parishioners asking, is it true that Planning Officers at some point recommended that Mr Newman convert The Cabinet to a house rather than reopen it as licensed premises?

The matter is certain to be raised at our forthcoming Parish Council meeting on 22nd July. So, can you comment, please, on this claim by Mr Newman in the press about his past interaction with North Hertfordshire Council.

Regards

Caroline d'Ayala

Vice Chair - Reed Parish Council