

12 April 2023

Mr Steve Milligan  
East Suffolk Council,  
East Suffolk House, Riduna Park,  
Station Road, Melton,  
Woodbridge, IP12 1RT

Dear Mr Milligan

**DC/23/0879/FUL Erection of extension to Fisherman's Hut for storage and preparation purposes and all associated works. Hut 3 Crag Path Aldeburgh Suffolk**

I write on behalf of the Suffolk Preservation Society (SPS) regarding the proposed extension of Hut 3 to provide hot food. We are aware that there is a significant level of concern by the local community regarding the proposed change of use to serve hot food in this location. Whilst arguably fish and chips are very much part of the cherished local seaside scene, we fully acknowledge the concern that has been expressed by local residents and businesses regarding the potential impacts upon residential amenity in terms of nuisance, smell, litter and noise. We fully support those concerns and trust that any such negative impacts will be effectively controlled by Environmental Protection.

Notwithstanding the issues of amenity, we are concerned by the proposed design of the extension in this iconic seaside location. The host building is distinctive by virtue of its rustic simplicity. However, we are not convinced by the submitted design which shows a flat roofed link to a large, deep plan extension, resulting in a building more than twice its existing size. This is a prominent, albeit informal, beach front location and the built form will be seen in the round. The proposal will appear large and out of character with the surrounding much smaller, simple huts.

If the planning authority is minded to support the principle of this change of use and the associated extension, then it is essential that it is done in a sensitive and skillful way that enhances the character of this key part of the conservation area. An alternative approach might include a series of traditionally proportioned, well-articulated volumes that read as informal former fisherman's huts. The proposed deep plan, flat fronted block is wholly inappropriate and would fail to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the Aldeburgh Conservation Area. We strongly suggest that the advice of your inhouse conservation and design advisors is sought.

We trust that you will give these observations full consideration in the assessment of this planning application.

Yours Sincerely,

**Fiona Cairns**

**Director**

**BA(hons), Dip TP Dip BldgCons(RICS) MRTPI IHBC**

Aldeburgh Town Council

Aldeburgh Society

Aldeburgh Ward Councillor