

Mr Thompson
Managing Director
Chartford Homes
Braken House
9 Kerry Street
HORSFORTH
LS18 4AW

Our Ref: GM/AP
21 August 2000

Dear Mr Thompson

Summercross Public House, Otley

With some time now having passed since our last correspondence I am writing to you, once more, regarding the future of the Summercross Public House in Otley.

I note that Chartford Homes have not so far appealed against the rejection of your plans to redevelop the site, nor have you submitted any alternative proposals. Clearly the future of the site, as well as the pub, remains a concern to local people so I would appreciate you informing me what your plans are for the Summercross. Soon the pub will have been closed and the site have been inactive for over a year . I am sure you will agree, this is a situation that must not continue indefinitely and is in no-one's interest.

I think everyone is aware that home building is currently facing a very difficult situation and I am not alone in wondering if this will influence your plans for the site. Regardless of whether or not you wish to comment on that, the simple business reality is that there must come a point when it no longer makes sense for you to continue to 'land bank' this site, paying rates and having to maintain it, especially as there is no guarantee you will be able to redevelop the site.

So I would welcome information as to your current plans for the Summercross site, if and when you plan to appeal and if and when you intend to submit alternative plans. I would also like to ask you if, considering the very comprehensive rejection of your initial plans and the level of opposition to the pub closure and redevelopment, you would consider selling the original building to a pub operator in order that this valuable community resource can be reopened? I am aware there has been some interest in this regard.

I trust in the meantime that Chartford Homes will fulfil its legal obligation to maintain the Summercross building. Whilst your hope may have been and may still be to demolish the building, you will be aware that it is in a conservation area and you are responsible for adequate maintenance of the building. I would welcome an assurance that Chartford Homes intend to do this.

Thank you for your attention on this matter and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely
Greg Mulholland MP
Member of Parliament for Leeds North West

Whilst Greg Mulholland MP will treat as confidential any personal information which you pass on, he will normally allow staff and authorised volunteers to see it if this is needed to help and advise you. The MP may pass on all or some of this information to agencies such as the DSS, Inland Revenue or the local Council if this is necessary to help with your case. Greg Mulholland MP may wish to write to you from time to time to keep you informed on issues which you may find of interest. Please let him know if you do not wish to be contacted for this purpose.