

Anger as pub faces demolition in new plan for housing development

JOE COOPER
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER
Email: yp.newsdesk@jpmmedia.co.uk
Twitter: @yorkshirepost

A PUB described as “the best survivor of its type in York” looks set to be demolished to make way for a housing development.

Council officers are recommending that Moorside Developments’ proposal to flatten The Magnet in Osbaldwick Lane is approved.

The plans would see two rows of a total of eight two-storey homes built on the brownfield land in its place.

Constructed in 1934 by John Smith’s Brewery in-house architect Sir Bertram Wilson, The

Magnet is one of the generation of ‘improved’ public houses designed for the spreading suburbs and housing estates during the 1930s.

The pubs, with their emphasis on better amenities and supervision, were the brewers’ answer to the bad image that had befallen the old-style Victorian drinking houses.

The proposals have attracted significant criticism from Osbaldwick Parish Council, York councillor Mark Warters and the York Civic Trust.

Coun Warters said the previous owners of the pub, which closed in 2018, deliberately neglected the building to make it

look unappealing and there had not been a genuine attempt to market it for sale as a pub.

Objecting to the plan, he said: “I fully recognise that the viability of public houses is under pressure as never before with the on-going pandemic restrictions, but it is wholly wrong to suggest that there has been no interest in the building as a pub prior to the current situation and there has been no shortage of interest in schemes to retain the building.”

It was an “audacious attempt to tear down what was a perfectly good building before the current owners’ deliberate neglect”, he added.

Previous plans which were

submitted in 2019 were withdrawn because the developer could not show that enough had been done to find a new landlord for the pub to justify knocking it down.

A viability assessment or trading accounts from when it was last open have not been provided, but according to the planning agent, the previous owners, pub

“An audacious attempt to tear down what was a perfectly good building.”

York councillor Mark Warters.

company Enterprise Inns, said that beer sales at The Magnet had dropped by 23.5 per cent between 2012 and 2017.

The council commissioned its own independent review of the marketing process, which found that it had been sound. York Theatre Royal and a church had initially expressed interest in buying the building, but neither went on to make an offer, the report to the planning office said.

There was no interest from any pub operator, independent or community pub and no application was made for the pub to become an Asset of Community Value.

A council report states: “It

is concluded that should an interested party wished seriously to purchase The Magnet, they would have come to light and a sale progressed.”

But the council’s conservation consultant noted: “The loss would be locally-significant in terms of the architectural and historical interest of the Osbaldwick Lane and Tang Hall area and significant within the city as a whole based on the assessment by CAMRA that it is the best-preserved example of an improved pub.”

Councillors on the area planning sub-committee will vote on the proposals on Thursday next week.

Lorry driver jailed over M62 crash that killed woman, 51

A LORRY driver has been jailed for causing the death of a woman in a multiple vehicle crash on the M62 motorway in West Yorkshire.

Nicholas Liever has been sentenced at Leeds Crown Court in relation to the collision, which happened in 2019.

The court heard that Liever, 49, of Clifton Road in Fishtoft, Lincolnshire, was driving a Volvo HGV which collided with a Volkswagen Passat, an Iveco Vehicle Transporter and a Volkswagen Touareg at about 10.40am on September 5 2019, on the eastbound section of the motorway in Huddersfield. The driver of the Passat, 51-year-old Karen McDonagh, of Goole, suffered fatal injuries in the crash.

An investigation by West Yorkshire Police found that Liever had been exchanging text messages in the time leading up to the collision – sending the last one at around the time of the crash.

During a police interview, he told officers that he was not distracted at the time of the collision and claimed that it was unavoidable. However, Liever pleaded guilty at the court hearing to causing death by dangerous driving and was jailed for four years and four months.

Speaking after he had been sentenced, Det Con Jenny Stanley, of West Yorkshire Police, said: “This is yet another example of how dangerous using a mobile phone at the wheel of a moving vehicle can be.

“Liever has admitted responsibility for causing this collision and now has some time to reflect on his actions, which resulted in the death of a much-loved family member and impacted on the lives of those involved in what was a traumatic incident.”

Seafront golf course plans given go-ahead

PLANS FOR an 18-hole adventure golf course as part of a scheme to regenerate a seafront have been approved.

Redcar and Cleveland Council has given the go-ahead for the attraction as part of the wider scheme to breathe new life into the seafront of the Coatham district of Redcar.

The improvements, which will also include an outdoor play area and a picnic lawn and public open space, are intended for an area of land on the north side of Majuba Road to the west of the town’s boating lake.

They had been paused while a business case was prepared for a mooted 5,000-seater arena to be built on the former Coatham Bowl site on the opposite side of Majuba Road, which the council said would “fundamentally alter” its plans.

But the arena plan involving a business, Coatham Arena Limited, was recently rejected by the council.

Artist set to throw open doors of studio

AN ARTIST from North Yorkshire who uses her work as therapy is opening the doors of her studio to the public for the first time this summer in the biggest event of its kind in the UK.

Hayley Mills-Styles, from Scarborough, works with textiles to help manage Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and will be taking part in the North Yorkshire Open Studios in June.

Specialising in embroidery, Ms Mills-Styles creates textile drawings and objects that tell stories, exploring topics including mental health, local history and memories.

She is a member of the North Yorkshire Open Studios, a not-for-profit organisation supporting hundreds of painters, sculptors, print-makers, jewellers, ceramicists and photographers in the county.

She said: “I am thrilled to be showcasing my work this summer. I want to show that where there is art and creative expression, there is hope, and to encourage people who are struggling to take up paints, pens or a needle and thread to help improve their well-being.”

The open studios takes place on June 4 and 5 and June 11 and 12, Ms Mills-Styles’ work will be available for sale at 13 Scholes Park Avenue in Scarborough. More information is available at www.nyos.org.uk online.



JUST SEW: Scarborough textile artist Hayley Mills-Styles, who uses art as therapy, is opening the doors of her studio to the public for the first time this summer in the North Yorkshire Open Studios event. She says she hopes to ‘encourage people who are struggling to take up paints, pens or a needle and thread to help improve their well-being’.



PICTURES: TONY JOHNSON

Blueprint revealed for £210m ‘cultural heart’ of town regeneration

COUNCIL BOSSES in Kirklees have committed to re-imagining the centre of Huddersfield as part of a much-heralded regeneration project.

The initial blueprint, the biggest regeneration project in Huddersfield in half a century and set to cost £750m, was unveiled almost three years ago.

More details have been revealed that detail what could be achieved, principally within the 7.8-acre site dubbed “the cultural heart”, which is estimated to cost £210m of the total £250m budget already allocated to the overall project.

Huddersfield Council’s cabinet member for regeneration, Coun

Peter McBride, stressed the blueprint is vital for the town centre to be adapted to “thrive in the modern day”, adding: “Huddersfield’s Cultural Heart will do that and more.”

Plans include a new multi-storey car park, which is expected to cost £10m, on the site of the former Alfred Street multi-storey

that served Queensgate Market and the town centre.

That 10-level car park was closed in 2020 and demolished in 2021. A replacement “temporary surface car park” using 115 of its original 588 spaces and costing £875,000 has been created but has not yet opened.

The proposals also include

a venue to accommodate up to 2,200 people – lower than the previously publicised capacity of 2,500 – alongside the car park.

The Grade II-listed Queensgate Market is set to become a food hall, while shops on Princess Alexandra Walk are due to be removed to create a public square. The existing 1940s Huddersfield

Library is listed as a museum and art gallery.

The so-called Huddersfield Blueprint focuses on regenerating six key areas including the Station Gateway, St Peter’s, Kingsgate and King Street, as well as New Street, the Civic Quarter, and Queensgate and the piazza area.



Sensational value short breaks by coach

Reader travel



DURHAM

Holy Island & Beamish



3 Days only
£169

Fri 6 May '22

A historic city, an open-air museum which brings to life the North’s heritage and a mysterious island crouching across a causeway, regularly cut off from the rest of the world during high tide...this short break has stunning Northumberland stamped all over it!

Your break includes

- Return coach travel from Castleford, Dewsbury, Leeds & Wakefield
- 2 nights at the 3-star Holiday Inn, Washington with dinner & breakfast
- Free excursions to Holy Island of Lindisfarne & Bamburgh
- Included visits to Durham & Beamish Living Museum

Single Supplement £50

ANDRÉ RIEU

Live at Wembley Arena



2 Days only
£199

Wed 18 May '22

Enjoy an unforgettable evening as André and his Johann Strauss Orchestra take to the stage of Wembley Arena to fill the night with expressive recitals of classical favourites and emotional arrangements of modern songs for a truly special musical experience.

Your break includes

- Return coach travel from Castleford, Dewsbury, Leeds & Wakefield
- Overnight stay at a selected 3 or 4-star hotel outside London with breakfast
- Ticket to André Rieu concert at Wembley Arena
- Included visit to London

Single Supplement £35

THE QUEEN'S

Platinum Jubilee Celebration



3 Days only
£199

Fri 3 Jun '22

Union Jacks at the ready! Enjoy a piece of history on our trip to London for Queen Elizabeth II’s Platinum Jubilee Weekend. We celebrate in style with an afternoon tea cruise, a guided open top bus tour of London and also experience the Platinum Jubilee Pageant!

Your break includes

- Return coach travel from Castleford, Dewsbury, Leeds & Wakefield
- 2 nights at a selected 3 or 4-star hotel outside London with breakfast
- Free time in London for shopping & sightseeing
- Afternoon tea cruise with free time in Windsor
- Guided open top bus tour of London
- Included visit to the Buckingham Palace area for the Platinum Jubilee Pageant

Single Supplement £70

COSFORD AIR SHOW

& Severn Valley Railway



2 Days only
£149

Sat 11 Jun '22

Enjoy a fabulous two-day break with a journey on the wonderful Severn Valley Steam Railway, followed by an action-packed day at the annual air show at RAF Cosford. Perfect for all ages, the show offers non-stop entertainment both in the air and on the ground!

Your break includes

- Return coach travel from Castleford, Dewsbury, Leeds & Wakefield
- Overnight stay at a selected 2 or 3-star hotel with dinner & breakfast
- Heritage train journey on the Severn Valley Steam Railway
- Admission to the RAF Cosford Air Show

Single Supplement £35

For more information, or to book, please call
03332 342 519 Quote JPM

or visit us online at
nationalholidays.com/JPM



Operated by Just Go Holidays Ltd trading as National Holidays. Coach package holidays and short breaks are subject to National Holidays terms and conditions. Your booking is protected by Bonded Coach Holidays (BCH) and the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT); this is a government approved consumer protection scheme. Tours offered subject to availability and government guidelines. Errors and omissions excepted. Prices per person, based on two people sharing a double/twin room. Calls to 033 numbers are free within inclusive minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply.

