

## Robert Vickers

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**From:** webmaster@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 30 May 2013 23:16  
**To:** PI  
**Subject:** Planning Comment for 130218

Comment for Planning Application 130218

Name : Donside Community Ass'n (J. Fullerton - Chair) Address : c/o Tenant's First / Sanctuary  
23 Albert Street  
Aberdeen  
AB25 1XX

Telephone :

Email :

type :

Comment : We write to you as the Donside Community Association (DCA), an unincorporated association formed by the residents of Donside Village.

Our objective is the fulfilment of the underlying philosophy of Donside Village, as a thriving sustainable mixed community. It is with regards to this that we find the need to write to you to raise our serious concerns about the quality and direction of the development at Donside and, specifically, to strongly object to this planning application for the change of use from cafe and retail unit to offices.

We, and the residents that we represent, have been generally delighted with the location, apparent quality and stated ethos of the Donside Village development - up to now. Indeed, these are the major factors in residents' decisions to relocate to this new community.

### 1. Downgrading of community facilities

It has come to our attention that there have been, and continue to be, a range of amendments to the highly laudable development proposals for Donside Village.

Specifically, we refer to the downgrading / complete removal of community facilities at Donside, namely the Cafes, Retail units, Nursery and Recreation areas. We strongly object to the systematic downgrading of facilities, including the potential loss of the proposed cafe and retail unit into an office.

Our concerns are that the changes are piece by piece working to very much undermine those very elements of the development that help it to meet the above objective; a thriving sustainable mixed community. This is a family friendly community village site and as such families and other residents should have access to the facilities that make a community - social and retail spaces for people to mix and procure the services they require. Also, the additional office spaces are likely to have the impact of bringing more traffic into the site where many children live and play. This increases the risk of road traffic collisions, something that we are striving to avoid.

### 2. Lack of information / consultation

We do acknowledge and accept that changes to any plans are inevitable. However, we also raise our concerns that there appears to have been absolutely no element of consultation or, even at the very least, any information provided, to current or potential residents regarding any changes to the proposals.

Therefore, we have no information on the reasoning behind why these changes are being proposed. We have requested details of the reasoning behind these decisions from the developers.

While in many instances this lack of consultation may meet the letter of planning law, it does not meet the spirit of it, nor does it meet the community ethos that has been promoted here. We consider this current approach unacceptable as any changes to planning ultimately affects the quality of the lives of those actually living in the development; surely our views should be seen as valid and be actively sought.

3. False advertising

Despite the changes, the original development proposals, including the community ethos and facilities have been, and continue to be, promoted to encourage individuals, couples and families to buy into, and relocate to, Donside Village.

To most, any such relocation decision is a long-term life changing one and comes at a very significant cost to them. Without any doubt, for many such a decision has been strongly swayed by the prospect of the community facilities promoted to be offered onsite.

We have requested that the developers are more open about these changes and inform new and existing residents about the changes that have already been approved and those that are proposed or being considered.

4. Way forward

We hope to hear back from the developers on the issues we have raised, ideally with the assurances and information we have requested. And, further to that, with details of opportunities for the Donside Community Association, and the community we represent, to help make the most of the potential that this unique development and new riverside community affords. There is significant capacity and expertise within the existing community at Donside. There exists the real opportunity to capitalise on that and bring added value to the work that CHAP and Tenants' First / Sanctuary are undertaking here.

Yours faithfully,

Jane Fullerton, Chair  
Donside Community Association

P&SD Letters of Representation		
Application Number: 130218		
RECEIVED 31 MAY 2013		
Nor	Sou	MAp
Case Officer Initials: L.G.		
Date Acknowledged: 31.5.13		

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**From:** webmaster@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 29 May 2013 17:36  
**To:** PI  
**Subject:** Planning Comment for 130218

Comment for Planning Application 130218

Name : Gemma Ducat  
Address : 42 Papermill Avenue  
Aberdeen  
AB24 2PB

Telephone :  
Email :  
type :

Comment : I strongly object to an office block being placed next to my home. I moved into the Donside development under the impression that this was to be a nice family community not the centre of a work area. I disagree with the parking assessment:

The previously consented use of this space provided no dedicated parking, but as the main demand for parking for these uses would occur during the day, it was considered that parking could be accommodated in the residential spaces which would be less densely occupied. It has been shown that the demand for parking will approximately the same following the current application than with the consented situation. I am therefore satisfied that the parking arrangements are sufficient.

Parking is an issue during the day as with this being a family area a lot of cars are still in use during office hours. It is currently difficult to get parked without adding offices. There is not a sufficient bus route to this area for office staff to not drive. I would much prefer the original plan of developments that are of benefit to the local community. If offices are installed I will be moving out of this area as soon as possible. I actively choose to live in a community not a workplace and do not want additional traffic noise or issues parking at my home.

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**From:** webmaster@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 29 May 2013 22:39  
**To:** PI  
**Subject:** Planning Comment for 130218

Comment for Planning Application 130218

Name : Sarah Jayne Nolan  
Address : 2 Cruvies Courtyard  
Donside Village  
Aberdeen

Telephone :

Email :

type :

Comment : I object to this proposal on several grounds. Firstly, this village was created in order to provide a new village where a new community could take shape. A community of residents who could socialise and interact with one another in a relaxed setting. A cafe/bistro would have been the perfect setting for this. Instead this proposal would see residents sacrificing social amenities to serve people who are not residents of this new village. In the donside life website it reads 'It will be a new kind of neighbourhood where pedestrians come first,... Where everything possible is done to protect and support local biodiversity & habitats' This change of proposal seems a complete contradiction of the vision for a new village where residents can access social amenities and build community spirit. As part of a wider regeneration project surely the focus is on increasing access to social amenities not limiting them. Currently, there are no social amenities provided to the residents of donside village and already, merely one year on from the first residents moving in and instead of proposals to enhance this village, by providing means to encourage interaction and the building of a community, changes are being proposed to hinder any community development.

My second objection centres on increased traffic into the development that will be generated by creating an office building. What consideration has been given to the following points -

- What scale of office development is being considered?
- What is the level of increased traffic into the development for access to the office building?
- What parking provisions will be provided to users of this office building?
- How will the adherence to parking in office only designated parking places be monitored? So as to avoid office users parking in designated resident spaces.

This development was designed to favour pedestrians and this being a development mainly consisting of young families how can this proposal do that?

As far as I can see this proposal offers no benefit to the residents of donside village and only seeks to offer a detrimental alternative to what should have been a new community and a new way of living with access to amenities & facilities for residents.

## Robert Vickers

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**From:** webmaster@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 30 May 2013 23:36  
**To:** PI  
**Subject:** Planning Comment for 130218

Comment for Planning Application 130218

Name : Sinclair Laing  
Address : 44 Papermill Avenue  
Aberdeen  
AB24 2PB

Telephon

Email :

type :

Comment : I am writing to submit my strong objections to this planning application for a change of use.

This change is yet one more change that is amounting to a downgrading of community facilities at Donside. I strongly object to the systematic downgrading of facilities, including the potential loss of the proposed cafe and retail unit into an office.

I believe that these changes are working to undermine the elements of the development that help make it what it was designed to be, and could still be: a thriving sustainable mixed community.

As a community village we need the facilities that all communities need: social, commercial and open spaces for people to be able to mix, create cohesion and improve well being. Also, the commercial opportunities to generate income, employment opportunities associated with that as well as a place for local people to buy the services they need. Finally, I believe it's likely that the additional office spaces are likely to bring many additional people directly into the heart of the site which will in turn bring in increased traffic where local kids live and play. This increases the risk of accidents, something no-one here wants to see.

It's also incredibly disappointing, and seemingly unethical, if not bordering on illegal, that most residents, including myself, have bought into a site, at great personal cost, on the basis of specific facilities being promoted and promised in the advertising and sales process. Only to have those very services retracted at the last minute.

I seriously hope that the planning committee will consider my objection, and any others, and come to a decision that helps to halt the loss of the heart of our valuable new community and helps to secure the sustainable future of Donside.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

PI

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**From:** webmaster@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 29 May 2013 09:46  
**To:** PI  
**Subject:** Planning Comment for 130218

Comment for Planning Application 130218

Name : andrea bryant  
Address : 37 donside street  
aberdeen  
ab24 2pj

Telephone :

Email

type :

Comment : I OBJECT to this planning application.

I feel that allowing this planning application to go through would be a real pity to the community who live here now and those that will move in, in the future to Donside Village.

The advertising for Living in Donside Village was big on the fact that there would be a Cafe/bistro and a retail/shop.

Taking this away from the village is potentially taking away the heart and hub of the community side of living in the village.

Office space will be of very little use to the people who live in the village and money which would have been spent in it will now have to be spent elsewhere.

Was this marketing used to tempt us in then whip it away once we were committed to living there.

A village in my mind should have somewhere to meet up in a social capacity and a shop I am sure would be well patronised by young and old alike.

As above I OBJECT to this planning application.

PI

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**From:** webmaster@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 29 May 2013 10:05  
**To:** PI  
**Subject:** Planning Comment for 130218

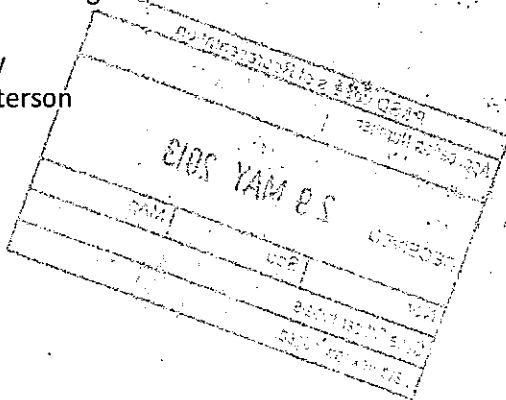
Comment for Planning Application 130218

Name : Scott Paterson  
Address : 10 Heartwood Courtyard  
Donside  
AB24 2PH

Telephone :  
Email :

Comment : I hereby object to this proposal as I feel that our community would be brought together by the previously approved "cafe/bistro and retail unit". This would be an integral point of our community and area. The offices on our site would be extremely detrimental to the attraction of our area. Should there be a block of offices, more access points onto the main road would therefore need to be created as we are limited to the shops currently present. Offices would reduce the feel for the suburban lifestyle presented by the adverts and brochures for those looking to move to the area and also contradict the promise we were given when buying property.

Sincerely  
Scott Paterson



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**From:** webmaster@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 29 May 2013 16:22  
**To:** PI  
**Subject:** Planning Comment for 130218

### Comment for Planning Application 130218

Name : Laura Crighton  
Address : 12 Calender Place  
Aberdeen  
Ab24 2pg

Telephone :

Email :

type :

Comment : As a resident of Donside Village I object to this change in planning application from the original proposal. When moving to Donside I was made aware that there was great effort being made to create a strong community here which up until now has seemed to follow through. It is a lovely area, full of children playing outdoors and friendly neighbours. This is a residential area and not a corporate one so why the thought that offices would be a beneficial use of this space occurred is beyond me. As a mother of a young child I feel very strongly that we do not need drivers speeding down our streets who are not residents that care for and respect the importance of this being a 'home zone'. The phrase 'home zone' should speak for itself. The original plan of a cafe and a retail unit is something inkeeping with the feel of our area that will benefit our whole community and is much more meaningful to us residents. The idea for offices in this space seems completely against everything donside was set up for and contradicts the purpose of the area. This will not benefit the residents one bit and is taking away something that would. If this planning application goes through this will deflate us as a community and completely take away everything Donside was created for and stands for. I hope you take into account my views of this awful idea as a resident and as a parent of a child growing up here and I hope the right decision for our community is made.  
Thank you, Laura Crighton



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**From:** webmaster@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 13 May 2013 15:05  
**To:** PI  
**Subject:** Planning Comment for 130218

Comment for Planning Application 130218

Name : Fiona Watt

Address : 8 Calender Courtyard,  
Donside,  
Aberdeen,  
AB24 2PF

Telephone : [REDACTED]

Email : [REDACTED]

type :

Comment : I object to this planning application, mainly due to lack of facilities in the local area. Donside was meant to be a self sustainable village but is just turning into a clump of houses and large office blocks. Tillydrone is already very poorly catered for and the addition of simply a few shops and a place to eat (which just do not exist in this area) would greatly add to the area. Instead currently a walk to Granholm is the only option for a meal out locally. The house we purchased was also sold with the idea of this lovely village square which seems to be slipping away. Tillydrone is currently an area for regeneration, so please can we stop halting all the projects that are are helping to achieve this!!!

**Robert Vickers**

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**From:** webmaster@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 20 May 2013 09:20  
**To:** PI  
**Subject:** Planning Comment for 130218

Comment for Planning Application 130218

Name : Joey Le-Morrison  
Address : 36 Donside Street  
Aberdeen AB24 2PJ

Telephone : \_\_\_\_\_

Email : \_\_\_\_\_

type :

Comment : I object to this plan.

Originally we were told upon purchasing property at the Donside Village that there would be a Cafe built to help bring enterprise and community spirit to the area. We already have the nearby community centre shut down, so having this door close on us is quite. To then fill it with landlord offices would leave many disgruntled residents as well as a wasted opportunity to assist in building a strong community who could assist in tackling any neighbourhood problems.

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**From:** webmaster@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 24 May 2013 12:57  
**To:** PI  
**Subject:** Planning Comment for 130218

Comment for Planning Application 130218

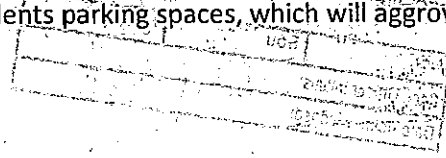
Name : Stacey Stagno  
Address : 34 Donside Street  
Aberdeen  
AB24 2PJ

Telephone

Email :

type :

Comment : I object to this new plans as we bought our new home at Donside based on the 'Donside Life' which promoted a community within the 'Donside Village'. If this new plans get approved there will be no 'community' or 'village' Donside will simply be another housing developemnet with offices. Offices within the developement will not benefit the Donside residents nor will it attract any visitors to the area. Using Grandholm as an example most of the units are sitting empty but the restaurant and salon businesses appear to be doing well. I have no objection to some office space in the developement. However, if it is soley offices then this is not in keeping with the original plans which influenced our decision as well as others i'm sure, to live at Donside. Parking will also be an issue as the office staff will have to use residents parking spaces, which will aggrovate most residents.



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**From:** webmaster@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 22 May 2013 20:54  
**To:** PI  
**Subject:** Planning Comment for 130218

Comment for Planning Application 130218

Name : David Holland  
Address : 20 Papermill Avenue  
Aberdeen  
AB24 2PB

Telephone : \_\_\_\_\_

Email : \_\_\_\_\_

type :

Comment : I object to the change of use from caf&#233; to office space as I feel that a caf&#233; will be really beneficial to the area. When we bought our flat here we were told about all of the great amenities such as the caf&#233; and nursery that were being included, and so far it seems like these are all being cancelled. I think a caf&#233; would be a great meeting place for the community and would be great for the area

## Robert Vickers

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**From:** webmaster@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 25 May 2013 00:10  
**To:** PI  
**Subject:** Planning Comment for 130218

Comment for Planning Application 130218

Name : Leanne Davidson  
Address : 12 CRUIVES COURTYARD  
aBERDEEN  
AB2

Telephone

Email

type :

Comment : I object, on the basis this is a gross misrepresentation of the the original plans for 'DonSide life'. I confidently speak for the surrounding residents when I say, you have let us down and manipulated the whole concept Chap have sold us. I had hoped for a good social life here and had planned my social activities with that in mind. Please take a moment to think what you are changing and who you are affecting. This is because there are no local facilities in the Tillydrone area that the residents will utilise. We rely solely on the local resteraunt in the the neighbouring, 'Grandholm Village', which is not ideal.  
A cafe/bisto would be a hub in our community which will boost the moral and social aspect of our village.