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From: XXXXXXXXXXXX>

Sent: 15 December 2021 15:56

To: Lynda Deane <Lynda_Deane@BATHNES.GOV.UK>

Subject: York st

Dear Lynda

Thank you for taking my call this afternoon.

I'm writing on behalf of the Abbey Quarter Business Association as well as reflecting my thoughts and concerns following your email this morning.

As an association of over 60 businesses we have collectively supported the permanent closure of York St.

we wish to distance ourselves from any misleading comments that would indicate anything else. So be clear we (The Abbey Quarter Business Association) support the closure of York st from Stall st to Bog Island.

Public Safety;

The importance of York St. :-

Provides access and the main footfall from The Coach drop off to The Abbey, Roman Baths, Heritage Centre and the Abbey Quarter Businesses.

By being pedestrian only it increases the safety of the public and provides a more secure environment for visitors and shoppers.

More (and Younger)visitors are being attracted to the area with the heritage centre , introducing vehicles into the mix will, eventually, cause an accident. Too many times my colleagues and I have witnessed young children running into the path of white van vehicles or foreign tourists unsure of their destination and reversing back through York Street and not seeing the children behind them. Opening it up to vehicles is an accident waiting to happen.

City vibrancy:-

Despite the Covid restrictions and reduced visitor numbers the introduction of licensed tables and chairs has created a new vibrant atmosphere to The Abbey Quarter. This has meant that the economy in the area has remained stable despite other areas in the city suffering from the after affects of the pandemic. Removing the tables and chairs licenses to allow for vehicle access would be a retrograde step not only to the economy of the area but to the health and safety of the public.

Linda I hope you can see that we are supporting you my apologies for this being just a brief note but I hope it gets across the necessary points. We would like to take you up on your invitation to meet early in the New Year and help you put together a plan to take to the public enquiry the closure of York Street is as important to the businesses as it is to the access plan for BaNES.

We all look forward to working closely together soon for a positive outcome.

Kind Regards

Laurence