

**Our reference:** COM594676377

**Application number:** 2024/0189

**Application address:** Heath Buildings, High Street, Oxshott, Leatherhead, KT22 0JW

**Name:** Mr Elliott

**Address:** High Gate 1A High Drive, Oxshott, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 0NG

**Comment type:** You support the planning application

**Date of comment:** 12 Mar 2024

**Comment:** I actually took time out to watch the last meeting and assess how the decision was made and what I was amazed by was the lack of clarity or honesty by people opposed to this project.

I'd like to make it really clear that in 5 years of living just 100 yards from this development, I have NEVER heard of Oxshott Square. It was abundantly clear that this was a term pulled from thin air to make it sound grander than it really is. I'd like to also make it clear that the only person who has ever put on an event in the "square" over the last 5 years is the person who is trying so hard to redevelop the land and make Oxshott a better place.

I then listened to people talk about a tree that in all honesty looks like it is dead. Moving this is apparently a very bad thing, yet in Oxshott woods we seem to be happy to chop down as many trees as we like.

I then listened to the defence talk about the shops below (5 businesses they said) and it made me wonder if they really knew anything about them. The majority of the shops remain empty, we even had a Vape shop that closed down. The nail bar hasn't lasted very long and the pop up shop is only there because of the work that James himself does to make it look busy. The florist is a great addition to the community but the shop is tired and in need of redevelopment.

With the development will come more local businesses, this is a good thing and new premises will help them thrive.

Let's all be clear, the high street needs investment and development. For that reason I am supportive that the person doing this is someone that lives locally and has a real vested interest in making it work. Rather than a big business that comes in and just focuses on the money that it gets out.

Change is hard, in business it is the hardest thing to do. What is clear is that if you don't change you will end up becoming the next Blockbuster Video, a relic that has no place in a modern world. This project helps us maintain community in the village while also making Oxshott a modern village that we can all enjoy.