

17/00913/FUL | Erection of Visitor Centre comprising cafe/restaurant, tasting room and bar for distillery and public conveniences (Use Class A3). | Oxford City Council Depot South Park Cheney Lane Oxford

The Divinity Road Area Residents' Association understands that there may be mixed reactions to the proposed plans in what is a very prominent area of South Park, adjacent to the DRARA area, while others may be in favour or firmly against. The DRARA committee does not object to the principal of a development of this kind and generally welcomes the day-time benefits such a facility could bring, but has a number of objections to the current proposal.

- Size of the development: This is a larger development than some DRARA members were expecting from publicity in relation to the distillery plans; the committee is concerned about the viability of the enterprise and future uses/operation of the site if it changed hands or the proposed usage failed.

- Hours of operation: The intention to operate the cafe/restaurant until late in the evening, with late-night drinking, has the potential to create anti-social behaviour and noise in a residential area (both from the site, e.g. evening use of outside seating, and from patrons leaving the site).

- Traffic: The site is served only by buses running to and from the city centre and Headington -- Divinity and Southfield roads would be one of the principal routes for visitors from East Oxford and Cowley etc. There is a likelihood of additional car and late-evening pedestrian traffic through these residential streets, and extra pressure on parking in Warneford Lane and Cheney Lane.

- Kiosk: The potential for adverse impacts from take-away sales of food and alcohol – alcohol should not be available from the kiosk. Greater detail on the proposed operation of the different elements of the site should be provided.