Gosport Waterfront and Town Centre SPD.docx

From: Jana Bek Sent: 18 September 2017 18:22 To: Planning Policy Internet Subject: Gosport Waterfront and Town Centre SPD Consultation Draft

Dear Planning Officers Enclosed are my comments on the above plan together with my contact details at the end. Thank you for the presentation on 24 August. Yours sincerely Jana Bek

Sent from Windows 10

## Gosport Waterfront and Town Centre SPD

1. Vision – 'vibrant, attractive, harbourside destination and a key gateway to the Borough'

A welcome idea for improving the look and shape of Gosport to come.

## 7. Character Areas

# Area 1: Bus Station and Falkland Gardens

Broadly agree with Council's proposal to revamp totally. A good place for a café/restaurant and Tourist Office.

A landmark building would be nice if tastefully done and it's not so high that it is too dominant in the setting.

### Area 2: Gosport Waterfront

A major weakness in developing the Gosport waterfront is the retention of Endeavour Quay which is adjacent to the Falkland Gardens and Gosport Ferry port. This will certainly not be a welcome sight for tourists and is very offputting. Is there any way it can be screened off to hide it?

### Area 7: Trinity Green

The proposed new developments in front and behind Seaward Tower and Harbour Tower are totally opposed to the spirit of the Council's vision of a *'vibrant, attractive, harbourside destination and a key gateway to the Borough'.* 

The green open space between Trinity Church and the Towers is beautiful and visible from the waterfront. Cramming in a new development will make the area look ugly and increase pollution. It is most unlikely that you will maximise harbour views with this proposal.

Objections to this proposal are:

First, it will increase noise levels for local residents which is significant enough already. A new development will bring several years of disruption, noise and pollution during the building stages. This will be followed by 1 or 2 cars per house requiring parking spaces and continued pollution in this heavily population area. Second, it appears as though some of the parking spaces at the back (harbour side) of Seaward Tower would be lost. Parking is a major issue now for both these Towers and residents should get more not fewer parking spaces.

Third, the idea of 2 cafés/restaurants behind the Towers is the wrong place for them. Many people enjoy the esplanade with its trees and beautiful beds of flowers not to mention the ability to sit on benches and take in the view. It would be far better to enhance the cafes/restaurants at the Submarine Museum and Explosion Museum which are visited by tourists and also to add one at the new Bus Station.

# Area 9: Gosport Lines

Proposals to create a Gosport Lines Walk and open up spaces to the public while preserving its historic features is a wonderful idea. I would urge the Council to start work on this as early as possible as it would be a magnet for tourists.

### <u>General</u>

Is there any chance that the **Gosport Gallery** could be moved to a more prominent site? Currently, it is tucked away behind the library at the top end of the High Street. It is a wonderful gallery.

Jana Bek