

Statement from Wooldridge Group

We would like to address the concerns you have raised in your objections for the Café to re-open its doors. Since our acquisition of the Pier in November 2022 we have had various discussions internally about the use of the Café and how best it can benefit the local community. Whilst we have applied for a premises license with the option of on and off sale of alcohol, we are keen to use the venue for community events, local yoga groups and schools whilst also offering the space as a hub for the local charity groups if needed.

The fears around sale of alcohol have all been counter-acted with several measures we will be putting in place such as think 25, regular security patrols, no glass allowed off the premises and service to stop 1 hour before people would be asked to vacate the venue. Being seasoned hospitality experts, we are well versed in the importance of abiding by the regulations put in place within our license and would not do anything to jeopardise the local area or its residents but instead we want to be able to provide a unique offering.

Whilst we have applied for the sale of alcohol between the hours of 9:00 – 23:00 this is so we have the flexibility should an event require but does not confirm these will be the hours alcohol will be sold (which will be significantly less at the Café). Following on from concerns of anti-social behaviour, we will not be serving intoxicated people with registers kept if a refusal is made, signage will be heavily placed around the site asking any guests to leave quietly as to not disturb local residents.

Totland Bay Pier is a piece of local history and we are aware that the venue currently being sat there not being used is increasingly becoming an issue drawing interest from unwanted parties this has already led us to be the victims of crime with attempted break-ins. With the presence of our team being on the island we are hoping this will stop the current incidents from occurring at Pier. We are looking forward to working with and supporting the local community and are open for any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact myself directly at [REDACTED] where I can answer any queries/ concerns.