

Historic England South Designation Team
1 Waterhouse Square
138-141 Holborn
London
EC1N 2ST

Dear Mr Hawkins

THE CRICKETERS INN, 344-6 High Street, Sutton Your ref: 1436442

We are writing with regard to the Consultation Report circulated on 21 July 2016 concerning the potential de-listing of the Prince Regent pub in Sutton, Greater London.

Since the report was circulated, we have engaged with many hundreds of local residents on the potential de-listing of the Prince Regent pub, some of whom have contacted you directly.

Having reviewed your report, we have several comments which we hope you will consider and, where need be, amend accordingly. These points relate to the following:

The historic value of the Prince Regent pub

We are aware that the listing of the building is as follows:

HIGH STREET 1. 4430 (East Side) Nos 344 and 346 TQ 2565 6/86 II 2. No 346 comprises The Cricketers Inn. Early C19 probably. 2 remaining cottages of a cottage row; northern part [No 346] of 3 parallel ranges, easternmost range of early C20 date, middle range with plain tile gabled roof, front range in 2 sections with hipped tile roof to north and steeper tile gabled roof to south. No 344 with lower steeper roof now covered in corrugated iron. Weatherboarded cladding. Projecting additions to ground floor, late C19 to early C20 shop front addition to No 344, and brick pub front addition of similar date to No 346. 3 windows on 1st floor, one to No 344 and 2 casements to No 346. In left hand return to No 546, front range with a casement above and doorway below, middle range with a sash window above and brick extension below; rear easternmost range with brick walls. Included as the only remaining building of any antiquity on Sutton Green.

Listing NGR: TQ2576365014

In addition to this, we have attached an image from 'Sutton, a Pictorial History' by Frank Burgess which, at photograph 144 states that the timber clad of the building was erected in 1790. This is important for it highlights that the Prince Regent pub is one of the last areas of antiquity in this part of the High Street.

Its antiquity is important, for your principles for listing state that from 1700 to 1840, most buildings are listed due to their age and rarity. The PrinceRegent building can

reasonably be argued to fall into that category. However, since the initial listing in 1974, these buildings are now 42 years older and therefore their special historic interest has only increased. As a result, we believe that the state of repair of the buildings cannot be used to argue that a building does not merit listing. In fact, we believe it should be used as an argument to restore it and preserve its history whilst concurrently developing the premises for future community needs.

Developing this site is important for the community. The Prince Regent is the first landmark you see when entering Sutton from the north and given its history, it is synonymous with both Sutton Green on the right, and the local area and Town Centre more generally. Given its geographical location and history, it is in the perfect place to be kept and developed into a bustling family-friendly pub for the local area.

We believe that the name of the pub derives from the fact that cricket was played on Sutton Green, opposite the pub, rather than the more distant Gander Green Lane. Local residents feel very strongly that this direct link with the past is worth preserving.

Finally, we ask whether you would you be able to present us with the plans for the foundations of the listed building, along with the well in the car park which we believe may be of value? An ex licensee of the pub has confirmed the existence of this well.

Conclusion

As an overall comment, we wish to present our view, along with that of local residents, that the Prince Regent pub should not be de-listed. We believe this to be an asset of community value which has significant potential for community and social activities in what is a thriving part of the High Street.

Moreover, given the Prince Regent pub is one of the last areas of antiquity in this part of the High Street, we would be very disappointed if it were to be de-listed. A focal part of our Local Authority's plan for Sutton is to protect and enhance local heritage sites. We understand the need for housing developments too but not at any cost.

We have attached to this email some of the emails and letters that we have received from local residents, voicing their opposition to the de-listing and their wish to preserve this important part of our local heritage.

We look forward to hearing from you on this matter and would be grateful if you could acknowledge this email.

Yours sincerely

Cllrs Ruth Dombey, Marlene Heron, Steve Penneck, Ali Mirhashem, Vincent Galligan and David Bartolucci