

Design & Access and Heritage Statement

Driftwood Café, 44 High Street, Emsworth



Figure 1: View of Driftwood from High Street

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This application is for varying condition 2 of application APP/18/00721.

This application is being made to ensure Driftwood can remain a viable business whilst operating with the necessary social distancing measures and bring the opening hours of the 'Pod' in line with the rest of the café, including the outdoor seating area [courtyard].

2.0 SITE LOCATION

The site is located on High Street in Emsworth.



Figure 2: Aerial Map (from Google Maps)

2.1 Surrounding Context

The site is located on High Street in the small coastal town of Emsworth which sits within Chichester Harbour. The town is a popular destination for both tourists and locals alike. The site sits within the historic core of Emsworth and makes up Emsworth Conservation Area in which there are large number of listed dwellings, small shops and eateries. The town is well served by road, public transport and sits on the South Coast Cycle Route.

2.2 Conservation Area

44 High Street is not a listed property; however, it is located in the Emsworth Conservation Area and the Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The Emsworth Conservation Area Character Appraisal provides a description of the area.

3.0 DESIGN

3.1 Proposed

This application is for extended opening hours to the 'Pod' at Driftwood Café.

As a result of social distancing measures, the number of inside covers has been significantly reduced.

Extending the opening hours will therefore ensure it can remain a viable business.

3.2 Opening hours

Existing

The café and outdoor courtyard are licensed until 23:00 hours.

Planning approval [APP/18/00721 – condition 2] restricts the use of the 'Pod' between 09:00 and 18:00 hours daily.

Proposed

The Café intends to open until 22:00 hours which includes the outdoor courtyard.

This application seeks to vary the opening hours of the 'Pod' until 22:00 hours bringing it in line with the café and outdoor courtyard.

3.3 Noise Assessment

A sound test was carried out as part of application: APP/18/00721 - Retention of enclosed seating area and outbuilding for office use. Approved on 18 Jun 2019.

This established what effect the building has on dampening noise with the roof and doors open/closed. The results showed that the noise levels did not increase above the background noise level when 5m away when using a constant sound.

To mitigate against potential excessive noise in the varied hours:

- The doors and roof to the 'Pod' will be closed at 21:00 hours.
- Last orders throughout the business will be 21:00 hours with all staff and customers to leave the premises by 22:00 hours.
- The 'Pod' will retain the existing acoustic dampening treatments. Planted vegetation will continue to mature.
- No amplified music will be played in the 'Pod' at any time.

We also note that while the ongoing social distancing measures are in place, the Pod has a significantly reduced number of covers which will reduce the amount of noise in the structure as a result.