APPLICATION STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE ERECTION OF MARQUEE AND CANOPY TENT WITHIN THE BEER GARDEN OF THE RED LION, 43A HIGH STREET, HEYTESBURY, WARMINSTER, WILTSHIRE. BA12 0AE

INTRODUCTION

The tenant, Mr. Tilley, purchased and erected both the canopy tent and marquee on the understanding that they were allowed under Permitted Development Rights. They were erected to respond to the need for covered dining in the beer garden in inclement weather and the requirement for a community space for local activities. The canopy tent has been in use for some time but the marquee has only been used for a few events.

PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Tilley was recently contacted by Mr. Williams of the Wiltshire Council Planning Enforcement Team following complaints of noise and loud music continuing into the early hours of the morning. However these claims are strongly disputed.
Following a phone conversation with Mr. Williams, Mr. Tilley was informed that he was in contravention of the Planning Laws and the PD rights he was referring to had been revised last year. Mr. Tilley was not aware of the revisions.
Consequently this application has been prepared and submitted to rectify the over site.

HEYTESBURY HISTORY

Heytesbury Village Hall used to be located within the Raymond Hall and following its sale and conversion to a residential property, the village has been without a village hall facility. There has been talk of a new village hall for some years now or the possibility of adapting part of the Church but to date its just been talk.

There have been two Public Houses within Heytesbury Village for a number of years and they have co-existed successfully until recently. The Angel Inn has recently closed and an Application for Change Of Use to a residential property is currently pending.

RED LION PATRONAGE

The Red Lion has been trading successfully for some time but the closure of the Angel Inn has increased the level of footfall and covers. The Red Lion also hosts a number of meetings of local organisations including the annual bonfire night committee and event.

The canopy/tent was erected for the protection of drinkers and diners using the garden both in inclement and hot weather. As this is generally throughout the summer, this will be erected in March/April and taken down in September/October.

The Marquee was erected, in part, to provide a space for local community events and activities together with providing a suitable venue for parties, festivals and wedding receptions. This space has proved very popular hosting the local beer festival and a wedding.

The marquee is proving to be an interesting venue for local people with bookings for three weddings, beer festival, village fun day and four private parties, so far, for next year. The Marquee will generally be erected for each event but if they are close it makes sense to leave it up. The bookings will run from May through to September. Mr. Tilley will post notice of forthcoming events on the board in front of the pub.

CONCLUSION

The provision of these facilities and opportunities within the village are clearly gaining favour with local people and, if controlled sensibly and effectively, will be an asset to the community. With the closure of the Angel Inn I believe that the applicants are endeavouring to engage with the village community to ensure that the remaining Public House in Heytesbury can continue to thrive.