

Personal Statement

Steve and Christine Dilworth
Swan with Two Necks
Pendleton

As a family business, [REDACTED], we have been running the Swan with Two Necks since 1987. We [REDACTED] have worked extremely hard to develop the business in to what it is today. [REDACTED] Our pub won the very prestigious award from CAMRA of National Pub of the Year in 2013 and been a runner up on numerous other occasions. We pride ourselves not only on the range and quality of the real ales on offer but also the quality and range of our home cooked menu's, served throughout the week. We are pleased to say that the Swan with Two Necks is the hub of village life in Pendleton; we have hosted birthdays, weddings, funerals, anniversaries not only for the village community but the wider community as well.

The proposal we have submitted to the Council for approval has come about since the COVID Pandemic. In order to comply fully with the covid regulations in force at the time, we erected a marquee in our beer garden which is located at the rear of the pub. This gave much needed shelter for our customers when they were not allowed inside the pub and mandatory social distancing measures were in place.

The marquee has proved to be very popular with all our customers particularly during the spring–summer–autumn season and even after the covid restrictions were lifted. The marquee, which is taken down for the winter period, has allowed us to provide outside shelter particularly for customers with dogs who are not allowed inside the pub; we have been able to increase our footfall because we can also accommodate customers who enjoy the wider countryside pursuits such as walking and cycling without having to remove muddy clothing to go inside the pub. Perhaps the biggest advantage with the marquee has been to allow the whole community to come together outdoors to celebrate functions such as last year's jubilee.

Whilst the marquee has been a tremendous success, it is only a temporary structure and is subject to the vagaries of the Ribble Valley weather which can be unpredictable at the best of times. It cannot be used all of the time. As a consequence we, as a family business, consider it entirely appropriate that we look to provide a more substantial outdoor shelter in the beer garden that will allow us to continue to develop our business in providing both the village and wider community with a pub where they can relax and enjoy our hospitality. The proposed facility will allow us to increase

employee numbers by 3 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

We have engaged professional consultants who have prepared the planning submission for us; we are excited by this very modest proposal which we do feel will enhance the overall visitor experience to the Swan with Two Necks. We consider that the scale of our proposal is proportionate, is sited in the right place and is of a design and external appearance that will sit comfortably on the site without causing any harm to either the character of the pub as a building of townscape merit or the wider Conservation Area.

We would be grateful if, when deciding on our application, you pay due regard to this, our personal statement.

Regards

Steve and Christine Dilworth