



## Bath Heritage Watchdog

contact@bathheritagewatchdog.org

APPLICATION NUMBER: 17/03185/FUL

ADDRESS: 20 Union Passage

PROPOSAL: Use of public highway for the siting of 2no tables and 8no chairs

CASE OFFICER: Hayden Foster

DATE: 14 July 2017

COMMENT: OBJECTION

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Bath Heritage Watchdog strongly objects to this application.

Although this application is for the siting of tables and chairs on the pavement to this property, it actually raises further and more serious issues than that in the documentation.

Firstly we do not consider that more tables and chairs in what is a very narrow passageway is desirable. This is a popular area with residents and visitors alike and any furniture, etc on the pavement causes considerable pedestrian obstruction. Whilst it is appreciated that Bens Cookies have tables & chairs, we do not consider this should be increased in number, especially at this building which is closer to the end of the Corridor.

The proposed tables and chairs look flimsy, poor quality and quite frankly cheap and tacky. They have no place in a World Heritage City.

Our concerns are two fold. Firstly this looks to be a café. Previously this has been A1 retail and we have yet to see an application for a proposed change of use. Given the plethora of cafes and food outlets within close proximity we do not consider another is desirable. In addition there have been several reports recently where such establishments are now closing down. This clearly shows that the city is at saturation point and that there is insufficient business to support another one.

This is also a listed building. From the photo provided in the documentation it is clear that work has already commenced, not least to the shop frontage which has been painted a hideous luminous shade of daffodil yellow. This would not be acceptable in Bath, but is wholly damaging to a listed building.

The applicants need to be contacted urgently to inform them of these misdemeanours and for no further work to take place. Unfortunately this is yet another case where previous inaction on enforcement leads people to think that anything goes.