

COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HARROGATE

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To : Head of Planning

fao: Mr M Williams
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Ripon Cathedral School.

Thank you for consulting me on the above proposal. My comments are as follows:

1. If we are to continue to improve our community and economy we need to invest in education at all levels. The present facilities at the school are not ideal, and give a poor first impression of what is on offer.
2. The school may be a charity, which does not seek to return a profit, but it is also a business and so cannot sustain losses. If significant physical investments are not made in the future then the likelihood is that the business may not continue.
3. The proposed investment will create more job and will also enable some of the part time jobs to become full time jobs. The proposal to use the new facilities outside term time to accommodate visitors is most welcoming. Such visitors (who are often young, well educated people) yield rewards by not only providing additional financial injections to the local economy during the period of their stay but often result in return (nostalgia) trips in later years.
4. The proposed investment will provide an educational resource for many Ripon children for years to come. A by-product is-the capacity to improve cultural and sporting facilities at the same time. This may be viewed as an overall long-term benefit to the city.
5. Adopting a purely secular approach, the provision of a choir of this standing regularly performing in Ripon Cathedral makes a significant contribution to our tourist sector. It is seen and heard by visitors from around the world. In a sense, it epitomizes all that might be expected by visitors to Ripon. The proposal will safeguard the future of the cultural activity.

The current proposal will help safeguard the local economy and is likely to create job opportunities, both directly and indirectly in the future.

G Fitzmaurice.

AEDO P&D.