

WARD ISSUE: SEAFORD CENTRAL

Talland Parade, High Street, Seaford (Planning Application LW/11/1321 etc)

This development involves partial demolition of existing shops and apartments and building new accommodation at first floor level above a parade of shops.

Scaffolding approximately 4 stories above street level was erected over 5 years ago to facilitate the work. This scaffolding remains in place and dominates the views down the main shopping street and from around the town. The site itself also encroaches onto the pavement on the High Street and the row of shops is boarded up.

Work on site over that time has at best been spasmodic with unexplained long delays and has now ceased yet again!

Despite the very best efforts and diligence of LDC Planning Enforcement together with support from the legal department, the unsightly scaffolding and boarding remains in place together with piles of internal rubble after all these years have passed.

The patience of Seaford residents has long since been exhausted. The site is an eyesore and has a most negative effect on the quality of the town "space" and the experience of shoppers, retailers and residents.

In the absence of any positive commitment from the developer to complete the work and restore the roofline views will Lewes District Council:

1. Write to the developer in the strongest possible terms expressing the anger and frustration of Seaford residents.
2. Note that LDC Officers are engaging with the developer to understand the current stage they are at with the building works and the likely end date, including when the scaffolding will be taken down.
3. Note that Officers can only work within current legislation and any information supplied by the developer in relation to these points cannot be binding and prosecution for non-adherence is not possible.
4. In the light of this, will Lewes District Council write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government requesting urgent attention to this area of the Law to enable Planning Enforcement Officers to require developers to carry out work within agreed timescales on behalf of local communities.

Cllr Stephen Gauntlett
Seaford Central Ward