

Tonbridge Civic Society response to

Planning Application TM06/03402/FL

Harvester/River Centre Development, Medway Wharf Road, Tonbridge

The society supports the application with the following comments:

1. The Tower would be a distinctive addition to this part of the town's riverside.
2. The area is now provided with large residential buildings – with further applications in hand – the Tower is an interesting feature and will contribute to the street scene by introducing a visual break in the 'blocks' of housing.
3. The scale of the Tower is acceptable in its relationship to the size of existing buildings and adjacent gasholders.
4. It will contribute to the enhancement of a previously derelict part of the town.
5. It sits well with the Town Centre improvements envisaged for Botany by Lock Associates.
6. Additional accommodation – especially for young people – in the centre of town is to be welcomed.
7. The proposed educational activity adds to the town's major 'industry'.
8. The society would like to see the implementation of sustainable design factors especially regarding water/heating/light, and the resolution of section 106 agreements and 'affordable housing' obligations.
9. It is hoped that an improved relationship with the River Centre complex and the riverside and the proposed coffee shop can be achieved by removing traffic bollards, signage and making more sympathetic improvements to this part of the highway.
10. There is limited access and capacity in Medway Wharf Road. Although access from the High Street is denied, this is not always observed. It is therefore hoped that that improvements will be sought, with possibly a connection to Cannon lane to create more flexibility in the town's road system.

22 July 2007