

Entrance 2 is used primarily by Ambleside opticians and kept locked when we close business between 5.30-6.00pm.

Entrance 3 at the Rydal Road, and the garden path is used primarily by Ambleside Opticians and Giggling Goose, leading to our respective premises. Residential tenants access Rydal Road through the garden as shown.

Ambleside Opticians and Giggling Goose now also share an outside toilet used by staff and customers, accessed from their respective properties as shown on the diagram. This toilet was originally renovated and used primarily by Ambleside Opticians. The Goose used an internal toilet until this broke, upon which they sought permission to share the outside facility. We came to a mutual agreement that because we had carried out the complete renovation, they would see to the cleaning and hygiene of the facility as they had a far greater proportion of customers using the toilet.

The car parking area is solely for the use of the residential tenants and not the business owners or their staff, with exception for us, as we both live and work here.

Ambleside is a safe and peaceful village, which is one of the main points of attraction for me as a business owner and resident. My husband works away from home and I am on my own for long periods. I have had the luxury of living beside my place of work, and I frequently work late nights at the business premises. I have always felt extremely safe going from one premises to the other, even very late night. It is a very quiet, peaceful and secluded area where the residents keep themselves to themselves.

The basis of our objection to the alcohol license into the late hours of the night are set out below:

Public Safety

This is a great concern, both with regards to physical safety, as well as mental and emotional well-being, arising from an inevitable increase in the number of unknown patrons of the Giggling Goose who would be loitering at various points of the premises late into the night.

There are concerns that patrons would loiter in groups at entrance 1 (North Road) to smoke etc. An identical problem would arise around the outside toilet area where they would queue to use the facilities, as well as taking the opportunity to smoke in this area. They may potentially loiter in the car parking area, and this would make us all feel very unsafe not knowing who may be around should we need to access our vehicles or any entrances.

I would be forced to pass congregations of people when either going between my two premises, or when I use the North Road entrance 1 to go shopping etc, particularly later in the evening or at night which is a very common pattern for me. The area around the car park is not very well lit, and whilst this is not a problem at all now, I would be very worried if there are strangers frequenting an area that we presently feel very safe using.

All the above-mentioned entrances and areas are currently quiet, safe and people-free which allows me and the residents to use these at any time of the day or night in absolute confidence for our safety. The gathering of strangers, some of whom would be intoxicated, or rowdy, would be a huge violation of this fundamental right to feel safe, physically and mentally.

Prevention of crime and disorder

I, as a business owner, feel very concerned about the safety of my premises. We have invested a huge amount of money in the renovation of our part of the premises, more than anyone else. Ambleside Opticians comprise the main building premises, as well as the small unit at the North Road entrance which was undergoing the next phase of renovations.

Both premises have large glass windows and doors which may be viewed as easy targets for break-ins. We stock luxury brands of eyewear and have extensive equipment including hospital type eye scans worth tens of thousands, and I am very worried about the increased risks of criminal activity posed by people gathering around our entrance points.

Currently, during busy daytime periods, there are often long queues of people waiting to use the outside toilet facilities. Whilst waiting, they often approach our windows and doors, sit on our window ledges, smoke and loiter. This situation would be many times worse, particularly as there would be no physical supervision of our premises after work hours.

We are also concerned about probable rowdy behaviour, and fights breaking out under the influence of drinks. There are a number of single females resident who would feel unsafe, even from within the safety of their homes.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

It would simply be a factual statement if I said that we treat these premises as if we owned them. I feel privileged to work at such beautiful premises and dedicate a lot of time and finances in the upkeep of as much of the property as we can, even if it falls outside of personal gain.

It is also simply factual that currently, all shared areas are dirty and littered, cleaned and cleared predominantly by us. The toilet is kept dirty and unhygienic despite the understanding that the onus would be on the café based on the agreement to share as outlined above.

I am unsure if anyone else would be as concerned (sadly), however, I feel anxious and alarmed at the thought of the premises becoming littered with cigarette butts, alcohol glasses, broken glass, food packets and such like. I am also concerned about the toilet being left in dirty, unhygienic conditions which they often are. There have been very recent incidents where the facility was left in an unfit condition by café users. There was very little done to remedy this despite complaints. I believe the situation will only escalate.

I am also concerned about additional food/waste disposal. There have been several incidents where the café staff have left bin bags on the floor or have thrown the bin bags in our bin when their bins have become full. Other rubbish has been left against the wall despite requests to remove this as it is a magnet for rats. It is also highly unsightly from our main window which looks on to this area. (Rubbish is lying there whilst I write)

We have concerns about the increase in noise levels both from people as well as live entertainment, along with unsavoury behaviour which is inevitable under the influence of drink, and this will breach the peace and tranquillity of this area which we so enjoy. These premises have no sound proofing and it will disturb the peace of residents.

I am extremely concerned about the prospects of late night opening hours and an alcohol license being granted to the Giggling Goose Cafe. I feel our collective safety, peace of mind, and daily gratitude of residing in this safe, peaceful and beautiful haven is going to be shattered. I feel worried and anxious thinking about the problems this will bring for myself and the rest of the people who very amicably share this property.

I cannot think of a single suggestion for conditions which may help remedy this representation which I make today. I am deeply saddened and worried by it all.

I myself am a business owner and it is natural to want to be successful. However, success comes in many different forms, and if we allow financial gains to become our most important barometer for success, we will lose both desire and a sense of duty to treat this wonderful premises, and the people who have been residing in it, in the manner deserved.

Thank you for considering my representation.

Uzma Ahmed

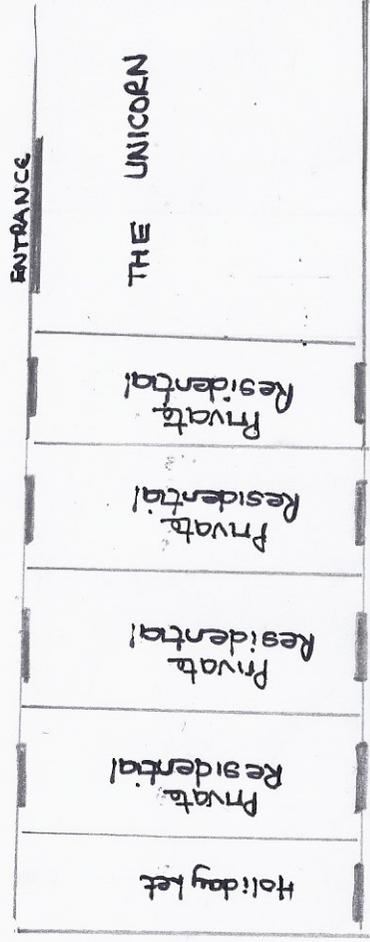
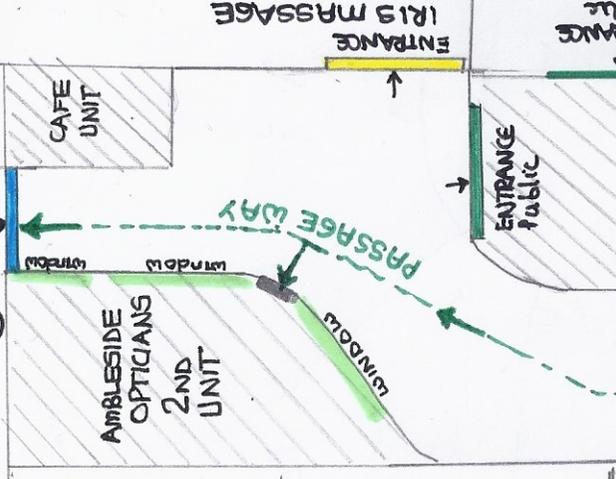
Owner, Ambleside Opticians



NORTH ROAD

NORTH RD

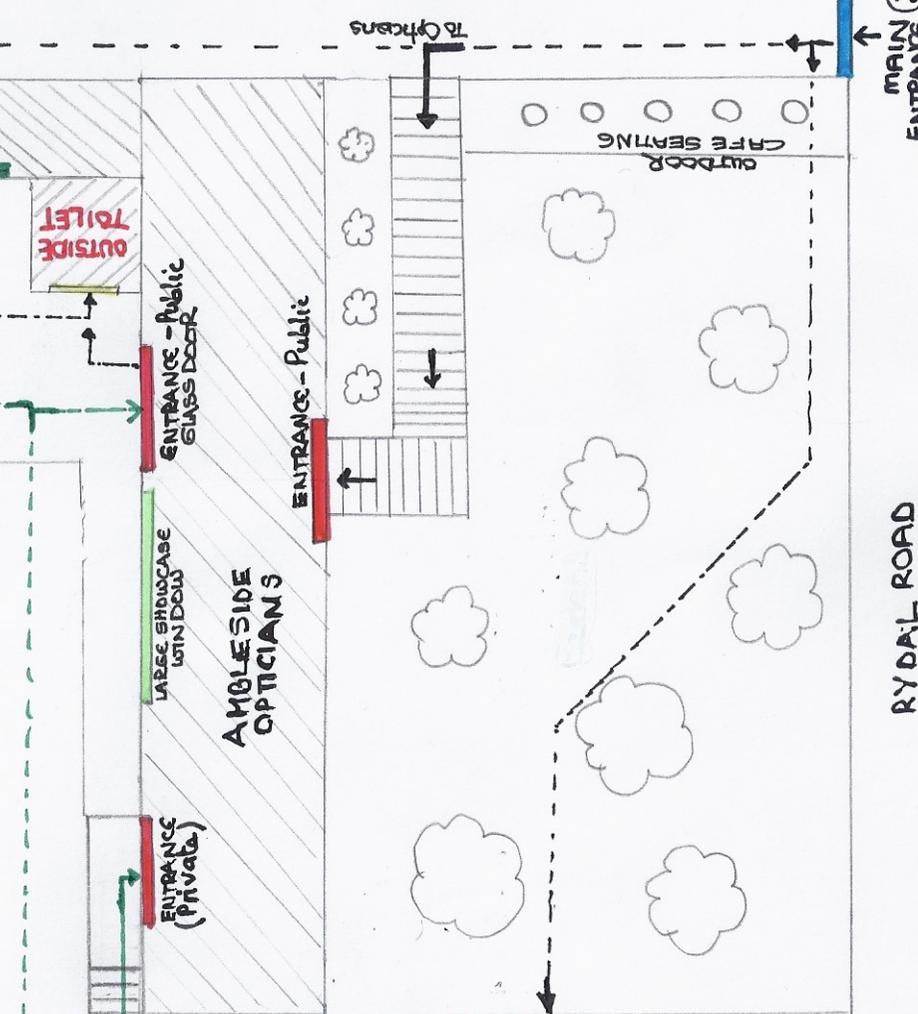
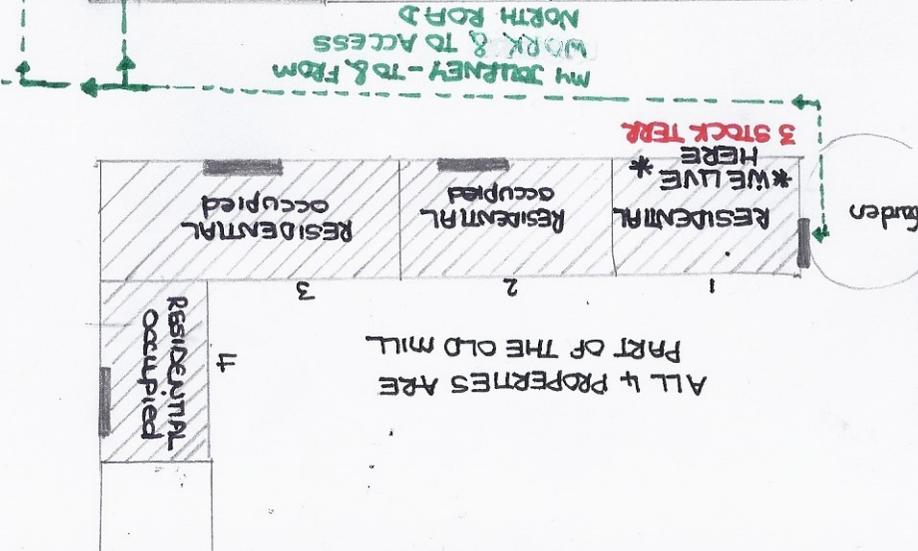
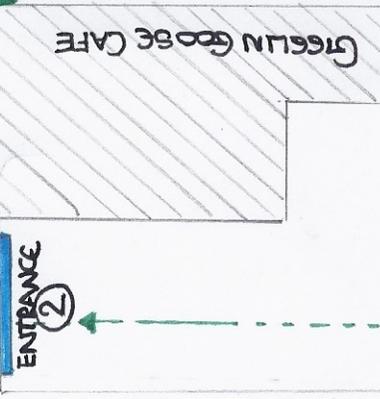
MAIN ENTRANCE - GATED LOCKED



Cafe
 Opt
 Commercial Waste Bin 5

PRIVATE CAR PARKING STRICTLY FOR RESIDENTIAL TENANTS

NOT FOR BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL TENNANTS USE



ENTRANCE IRIS MASSAGE

ENTRANCE Public

ENTRANCE (2)

RESIDENTIAL occupied

3

2

1

4

ALL 4 PROPERTIES ARE PART OF THE OLD MILL

RESIDENTIAL occupied

RESIDENTIAL occupied

RESIDENTIAL occupied

*WE LIVE HERE

3 STOCK TAKE

MY JOURNEY - TO & FROM NORTH ROAD WORK & TO ACCESS

ENTRANCE (Private)

LARGE BRICKCASE WINDOW

AMBLESIDE OPTICIANS

ENTRANCE - Public GLASS DOOR

ENTRANCE - Public

TO Opticians

OUTDOOR CAFE SEATING

Guides

RY DAL ROAD

ENTRANCE (3)