

From: planningcomments@highpeak.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(HPBC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
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Application Reference No. : HPK/2025/0080

Site Address: Buxton Railway Station Station Road Buxton Derbyshire SK17 6AQ Buxton

Comments by: Laura Lenox

From:

Haddon Road
Fairfield
Buxton

Submission: Support

Comments: I'm writing in full support of the planning application for Essie Grill to remain at Buxton Railway Station.

Any confusion around the application process or historical permissions seems to stem more from the inconsistent communication, contact and guidance the council and planning office offer when engaging small business owners, rather than from any action on the part of Ismail, the business owner, who appears to have done his best to navigate the various parties with a stake in this plot. I'm sure many residents can recognise and relate to an unnecessarily complicated and burdensome administrative process whenever they seek to engage with a public body. Furthermore, this has been a recurring theme in this situation, demonstrated by the listed wall and the electrical connection offered by Northern Trains ; another example of how rules and expectations are often contradictory or poorly communicated. I'd also hope the resolution of that issue will be reasonable and cause no financial hardship or detriment to Ismail.

On the matter of visual impact, it's hard to take seriously any argument that the food container is "unsightly" when half the town centre leaves much to be desired in that respect. The container and surrounding area are clean, tidy, and already represent an upgrade from the previous trailer, and it's significantly better maintained than many of the spaces we walk past daily. More importantly, heritage experts have stated clearly that it does not interfere with, or detract from, the historic setting. It's tucked away, not in any main sightlines, and food outlets have operated from that spot before. Additionally, it poses no negative impact to the provision of railway or highways services, or to biodiversity.

This is a small local business, built by a local resident and run for the benefit of both locals and visitors. Not everyone heads into town or past the supermarkets and food outlets to get to the station or back to their homes ; and particularly since the most centrally located and accessible (in every sense) supermarket (Aldi) was moved to one of the most inaccessible parts of town, Essie Grill offers a much-needed, convenient food option in a location that otherwise lacks similar services.

Finally, I think it's important we also acknowledge the human story. Ismail is a Syrian refugee who has experienced more hardship than most of us could imagine. He's built a life, a business, and is actively contributing to our community and economy. What more could we ask from any resident in Buxton? He deserves our support, not obstacles and petty complaints.

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