

**Our Ref:**

**Your Ref:**

30 March 2011

Matthew Atkins  
Planning Department  
Newcastle Civic Council

Dear Matthew,

**Re: Shieldfield Social Club Planning Application**

We are writing to object to this application.

We have received a large number of objections and concerns from local residents about this application, which far outweigh the modest number of supporters. As you will be aware there is also a 170-name petition which we have submitted to you.

Having met the developers of this proposal, we do appreciate that they would plan to retain a smaller footprint Social Club, although there is some concern from residents that the planning process offers no control over whether this would eventually end up becoming a student 'vertical drinking' pub, given its position directly underneath the hall.

The proposal for a mini-market also would help to improve choice for local residents. While we do have some concerns about competition for the locally-run shop at Wretham Place, we feel that a small-scale shop here would not on balance be detrimental.

However our overwhelming objection is that this proposal, along with the other student halls approved and under construction in Shieldfield, is seriously affecting the community balance in the neighbourhood. If the Portland Green development proceeds, there will eventually be a ratio of students to long-term residents of over 3:1 in Shieldfield. While we have no objection to students as such, and recognise the economic benefits they bring to the wider city, we do not believe that such an over-intensification in a small area represents sustainable development, or helps to create a balanced community.

**Surgeries are held at:**

Caring Hands Charity, Wretham Place, Shieldfield: Second Monday in the month: 11.30 am – 12.30 pm

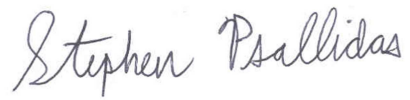
Ouseburn Community Centre, Mowbray Street, Heaton: Second Thursday in the month: 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm

St. Ann's Tenants' Association Hut, Breamish Street, Battlefield: Third Saturday in the month : 10.00am – 11.00am

**There are no surgeries on Bank Holidays or during August**

**This correspondence is available in audio, Braille or large print if required. Please contact the writer to arrange.**

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Stephen Psallidas in black ink.

Cllr Stephen Psallidas

Handwritten signature of Gareth Cooper in black ink.

Cllr Gareth Cooper

Handwritten signature of Gareth Kane in black ink.

Cllr Gareth Kane