

[REDACTED]

12th June 2025

Dear Sirs,

Please find attached to this letter the following:-

1. Signed petition sheets relating to the Retford Buttermarket.
2. A print out of the online petition "Save Our Buttermarket"

Upon discovering the injustice of arriving at our Buttermarket one Saturday morning to find that a representative from Bassetlaw District Council had attended there that morning to inform the traders that it was their last market there as the following Monday the council were starting building works changing the Buttermarket from its intended use, Market Trading as described on the plaque adorning the outside wall, to a Food Hall which will, according to the plans, include a Pizzeria and a Bakery along with four other food outlets selling food that has yet to be decided.

A straw poll of the traders and general public in the Buttermarket that day showed that they were resoundingly "Against" such an idea and firmly of the view that the Buttermarket had been left for the use of "Traders". The Buttermarket was built with walls 3 feet thick as it was used to store and sell butter and dairy and therefore had to have this requirement. This carried on into the 1960's when due to better packaging and storage of dairy products the Buttermarket became used as a hub for traders still to sell their goods, as was intended, it was just the type of wares on sale changed.

To this end we, myself and my husband, decided to see what the depth of feeling was. A petition was started online called "Save Our

Buttermarket" which has now received over 251 names attached to it which we believe proves there are objections to the Councils plans. As such we commenced with producing a more personal approach and distributed signature petition forms within the town centre as well as personally obtaining signatures from residents of Retford which is now over 1770 (a total of 2021). The collection of signatures and the online petition will continue even after the first draft of signed forms etc have been submitted in order to show the true depth of feeling against the Councils proposals for the Buttermarket. As such all the signatures gained so far are attached to show the depth of feeling locally against this project by BDC. There are currently over 70 eateries within Retford, this includes restaurants, pubs, hotels, takeaways, fish and chip shops, cafes etc. Retford does not need the Buttermarket changing use into a food hall but retaining, as was intended, for the benefit of the our local market traders.

Please accept this letter and its attachments as the first instalment of our on-going petition aimed at persuading the Bassetlaw District Council to see common sense and retain the Buttermarket for its intended use. There will be further signed petition forms submitted at a further date.

May I respectfully request that the powers that be within Bassetlaw County Council treat this letter, and it's attachments, with respect and hopefully either invite us to a meeting to discuss this directly or realise the error of judgement in their decision and find a better use for the monies dedicated to this project.

Yours faithfully,

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