



Cliff Brewery Redevelopment

October 2023

Plans for redevelopment of the Cliff brewery building in Ipswich have recently gone out for consultation. The Trust has been in touch with the developer for some time so it is not surprising that we have been asked to comment.

The Trust has a problem in such circumstances in that it represents the views of the family, past and present, by default rather than by democratic process. Given that there is no known body better suited to the task we, the trustees, try to be guided in our actions by good old fashioned common sense, bearing in mind the needs of the community as well as the family.

Accordingly, we are happy to show below our submission:

Submission in support of the Tolly Cobbold Redevelopment

We, the trustees of The Cobbold Family History Trust write in favour of the proposed redevelopment. The purpose of the Trust (Charity No. 1144757) is to research, record and preserve family and local history with particular reference to the Cobbold and related families. Accordingly, we represent (as far as this is possible) the 9 generations of Cobbolds who have brewed in East Anglia for 266 years of which 243 were at the Cliff in Ipswich. The family built the brewery in 1746 and saw it through two major rebuilds at the end of the 19th century and again early in the 20th century. We feel this record qualifies us to present this submission.

You have asked 5 questions:

1. Do we want to see the site redeveloped? YES
2. Do we support a sustainable Restaurant/Community facility? YES
3. Open a museum? YES
4. Retirement Community? Our personal views are probably YES but we feel this is a question for the local community rather than us.
5. Will it improve the area? YES

Cobbold family members have been generous philanthropists to Ipswich in the past, demonstrating much concern for the town. If alive now, they would unquestionably be horrified at the present state of the brewery building and hence be strongly in favour of sustainable redevelopment.

Our Trust has amassed a sizeable collection of brewery-related items in its archive and, subject to an agreement on terms, would gladly make many of these items available to the museum.

In our view (but we are not property experts) the site of the brewery at one end of the all-important Waterfront is critical and there will be considerable benefit to Ipswich from its satisfactory redevelopment.

Executive Summary: **Strongly in Favour**

Trustees: Anthony Cobbold, Henry Cobbold & Jeremy Cobbold.