Sent:

09 July 2020 12:39

To:

Planning Policy

Subject:

Future Borough's plans

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Dear TVBC

Re last week's Andover Advertiser p.4 'Help to share Borough's plans'......

The image is particularly interesting as it demonstrates the possibility of a building façade behind the Guildhall more in sympathy with the rest of the town. The brutalist design that was decided upon, designed and built in the late 1960's-early 1970's has now had a long enough run to prove that in no way does it fit in with existing town architecture. The more recent wooden slat effect has softened the appearance but the effect is still somewhat of a sore thumb with no sympathies to architectural integration.

I wondered if some consideration could be given to echoing in some way the general characteristic of the building façade that preceded the visible buildings behind the Guildhall without compromising modern needs for the new centre. Many people I have spoken to would like to see 'a better and more in keeping' view behind the Guildhall with particular emphasis at the number 51 corner. Historical images will show a building here that was once brewery building offices until the 1920's, then a music shop for another decade (grandly called Handel House!) after which it became known as 'Scott's Corner' (after a local shoe shop owner) as it was known from the early 1930's until it was demolished for the current building in the late 1960's. When Scott's shoe shop moved in to the former Handel House another music shop opened next door at number 53 and continued to be there under different names until demolition. So there were in fact collectively strong brewery, footwear and music connections with that particular 'corner' for a good long time.

Some excellent vintage images are available of this part of Andover that may be useful to get a handle on some new ideas that respect earlier tradition.