

Dear Councillor,

I write to you concerning Maldon District Council's decision to terminate the lease of the town's only dinghy sailing and kayaking club. This club is part of Maldon's riverside history, having recently celebrated 70 years in the town.

At a time when there is a move to gain Heritage Harbour status for Maldon the Council seem to be totally at odds with this plan. It would appear that their need to raise more revenue is blinding them to the very natural beauty of end of the Prom. To quote from their own website; "environments must be managed to ensure that competing demands are balanced to take opportunities from increased visitors whilst maintaining their historic integrity and natural landscape". It seems that the visitors, and especially their wallets, are now being put before the residents by denying local people access to the water and a safe place to keep their dinghies. The idea that this area can be improved by siting 15 beach huts, imported sand, a toilet block and a café is quite disturbing. The Council clearly have lost touch with what the people of Maldon value.

I would ask you to please urge all Councillors to reject this scheme and to withdraw the termination of lease served to Maldon Yacht Club. A club with such a long history in the town deserves to be treated better than this and will undoubtedly struggle to comply with the demands of the notice. A new lease of a minimum of 5 years would allow them to plan for their future and I ask you to support this request.

Yours sincerely,