

## ANGER GROWS AT DECISION TO SHUT STANDISH'S KILHEY COURT HOTEL

You may have heard about the decision of to close Standish's Kilhey Court hotel to turn it into a hostel for asylum seekers.

The prestigious hotel has been part of Standish life for decades and is a historic building set in a beautiful part of the village. We believe if this decision is not



reversed, the hotel will cease to exist in a short period of time.

Standish is already hosting asylum seekers and refugees in Standish's Britannia Hotel and many residents have been generous in showing them hospitality within our community. Adding another hotel to this in a single village is not viable or fair when this is a national situation – especially at Kilhey Court. You can help to protest about this situation.

Write an email to Macdonald Hotels – which runs Kilhey Court – and the Home Office to say that this hotel is a historic building used by our community for generations and is unsuitable for asylum seekers, with Standish already helping to house refugees and asylum seekers at the village's Britannia Hotel.

Email:

[Public.Enquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:Public.Enquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk)

and

[enquiries@macdonald-hotels.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@macdonald-hotels.co.uk)

Standish Voice has written to Macdonald Hotels to protest about its plans – due to come into effect in a few weeks' time – and to the Home Office to ask that it intervenes to block the proposal.

Our MP, Lisa Nandy, Wigan Council and Standish councillors have also written to protest at the plans.

Standish Voice is meeting with Wigan Council today (Tuesday) to discuss the situation and to ensure it is proactive in objecting to this ill-considered proposal. We will keep you updated with developments and you can also see updates on our Facebook page.

You can read news reports about the plans with comments from Standish Voice here:

<https://www.wigantoday.net/news/people/wigans-plushest-hotel-kilhey-court-is-to-house-asylum-seekers-4261135>

and here:

<https://www.wigantoday.net/news/politics/hotels-offer-to-step-in-to-help-those-left-high-and-dry-by-shock-kilhey-court-asylum-seeker-plan-as-opposition-grows-4261557>

## **INFORMATION FOR PEOPLE WITH BOOKINGS**

The planned closure of Kilhey Court Hotel has left many people who had booked events there upset and confused.

They were not told about the hotel being shut to accommodate asylum seekers and many are now trying to contact Macdonald hotels to find out what is happening to their bookings.

Here is information for those with event bookings who are directly affected by the news.

Kilhey Court has not cancelled all event bookings. The wedding and event facilities will still be available at its Lakeside Suite, to the side of the main building.

The hotel and associated facilities will no longer be part of the Lakeside Suite for at least 12 months. Accommodation for those events will be switched to other local hotels if possible but if event organisers wish to cancel and look for another venue, refunds are available if requested in writing.

Many people will obviously want to change their booking, and a number of other local venues have offered help.

