# Kelsey Grammer receives approval to demolish historic cottage near Bristol



Hollywood actor Kelsey Grammer, widely known for his roles in popular television series such as "Frasier" and "Cheers," has received planning approval to demolish a historic cottage located near Bristol. The cottage, which is believed to be over 200 years old, has drawn significant ire from local residents, leading to numerous objections against the demolition.

The cottage in question is situated in Portishead and has been a topic of contention due to its age and historic significance. Local opposition has been vocal, with eight formal letters of objection submitted to the North Somerset Council planning portal, and none expressed support for the demolition. The objections raised various concerns, including the potential loss of historic value, the absence of justification for the demolition, damage to the area's rural character, and the loss of green space.

The council's planning department recently confirmed that no prior approval was necessary for the demolition to proceed. They stipulated that the work must be completed before 12 February 2030. The decision has provoked reactions from those living nearby, with objectors highlighting the cottage's architectural significance. One resident remarked, "We do not wish to stand in the way of this wonderful, historic cottage being modernised... However, the possibility of this cottage being razed to the ground, is not acceptable." Another neighbour conveyed their concern about the impact on the rural nature of the area, stating, "The development of any site along this stretch of road will damage the rural nature of this area and contribute to suburban spread."

The cottage's historical importance is noted by several community members, who assert that it should be preserved as part of the local heritage. One objector lamented the decision, calling it a "very sad day" for the community, while another referred to it as a "historic icon" along the coastal road, suggesting that it warranted a "sensitive and proportionate updating." The cottage is said to be one of the few properties visible on 1840 tithe maps along the coastline, reflecting its longstanding presence in the area.

Grammer previously sought permission to extend the cottage but was denied due to concerns that the proposed alterations would lead to a disproportionate enlargement and harm the openness of the surrounding Green Belt. The recent demolition approval allows the actor to proceed with plans to clear the site, having been disallowed earlier from pursuing significant renovations to the property.

In interviews, Grammer shared that he and his wife Kayte purchased the Portishead property to be closer to her family in Bristol. Since their marriage in 2011, the couple has expressed plans to undertake work on the cottage. In a 2023 conversation, he mentioned they would be "working on it" while they did not immediately plan to reside there, showing enthusiasm for their new investment.

Despite the support from Grammer for a potential future project at the site, the local council's decision to allow the demolition has sparked a wider debate within the community about the preservation of historical buildings and the impact of modern developments on rural landscapes.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/planning> - This link to North Somerset Council's planning portal could provide information on local planning decisions and possibly details about the cottage in question.
* <https://historicengland.org.uk/> - Historic England's website offers guidance and resources on historic preservation, which could be relevant to the concerns about the cottage's historical significance.
* <https://planningportal.co.uk/> - The UK Government's Planning Portal provides general guidance on planning permissions and could offer insights into procedures for demolition approvals.
* <https://www.bristolpost.co.uk> - Local news outlets like The Bristol Post might cover stories about planning decisions, historic preservation, or community reactions in the Bristol area.
* <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/listed-buildings> - This UK Government webpage provides information on listed buildings and historic preservation policies, though it does not directly mention the cottage in question.