

MEMORANDUM TO CABINET BY THE HON MINISTER OF PUBLIC BUILDING AND WORKS

Erection of a hotel at Ix-Xwieni Qbajjar Bay Limits of M'Forn

Two applications, one by Mr S. Vella of Marsalforn Hotel Gozo and the other by Mr R. Portelli and Mrs J. Agar have been filed with the Commissioner of Land for the lease of a plot of Government land at Ix-Xwieni Gozo for the erection thereon of a hotel. The former has also applied to the Planning Area Permits Board and drawings have been prepared by Messrs Mortimer and Degiorgio and submitted to the Public Works Department.

My Town Planning Board, The Liverpool Team and the United Nations Physical Planning Expert Mr Sieckowski are against any type of development on the Xwieni Road. The Director of Public Works fully agrees with these views and he has informed the Commissioner of Land accordingly.

The reason to discourage development is motivated by the urgent need to defend the coastline generally and in this particular case also to present any structure going up as this would take the view and damage the scale of the very characteristic knoll known as "Il-Kolla l-Bajda.

Mr Portelli and Mrs Agar intend to build a small forty-bedroom hotel and in order to preserve the natural skyline, they intend to build the hotel one storey high and parallel to the ridge, it is to be an organic structure of local stone, designed to be in keeping with its surroundings.

Hon Ministers are kindly requested to consider whether this application should be accepted and permit issued.

Copy of site plan enclosed.

23rd February, 1968.