



EH & TS / LICENSING SECTION
RECEIVED
 3 - MAY 2016
 TO:

30th April 2016

Licensing Officer,
 Herefordshire Council,
 Blueschool House,
 PO Box 233,
 HEREFORD HR1 2ZB

LICENCE APPLICATION, CROWN & SCEPTRE, BROMYARD HR7 4DL

Dear Sir

I understand an application has been submitted for a Licence at the above premises.

My comments are made under three of the Licensing Objectives. These relate to Public Nuisance, Public Safety, and to Crime and Disorder. In view of a long history of associated disorder in the past, I am especially concerned about noise from the premises and in the street.

The pub has parking space for four cars, which is minimal. If the function room was in use, I believe Fire Regulations would demand that to keep emergency exits clear, no cars occupy the yard; this is a safety issue. The capacity of the pub's 'function room' was quoted me by a previous landlord as around 170 persons. In the interest of Public Safety, I ask that a Condition is made limiting the capacity of the Premises to a specified number of persons in accordance with the recommendation of the Fire Safety Officer.

In the past, there has been difficulty for customers, pub staff and local residents in finding parking space, and there has been late-night disturbance to residents; further, late-night public disorder has historically been frequent. Given the capacity of the premises, the potential for Public Nuisance and Disorder is therefore a cause for concern, especially in view of the proposed opening hours.

A Statutory Notice of the application is displayed. It gives the proposed hours as from 11.00 daily. From Monday to Wednesday, closing time is given as 23.00. However, from Thursday to Sunday inclusive, the proposed cessation of service is 01.00 next morning; customers would then be leaving for a lengthy period afterwards, implying disturbance until 01.30 or later. Subject to the conduct of the premises, this may be acceptable on Friday night / early Saturday morning, and also on Saturday night / early Sunday morning, but it is not acceptable on Thursday and Sunday nights when residents have to be up next morning for work, school, and so on. I oppose the proposal for opening later than 23.00 on Thursday and Sunday evenings.

CONTINUES.....

I also oppose the proposal to open throughout the night on New Year's Eve. A one-hour extension of normal hours is proposed for Christmas Eve and Boxing Day; a similar extension at New Year would allow the pub to serve until 2am, implying customer presence for up to an hour after that as people gradually leave. Even on those special occasions, a balance should be maintained which respects local residents.

Apart from the limit on capacity mentioned above, and in addition to my comments regarding Licensed hours, I ask that Conditions are imposed as follows:

1. *All windows and doors are closed when amplified music is played indoors, whether live or recorded.*
2. *No amplified music to be played in the outside area of the premises, either the terrace and garden or the courtyard.*
3. *Noise from recorded and live music to be inaudible at the nearest noise sensitive location after 23:00 (Sundays to Thursdays) and 12 midnight on other evenings, **this condition to be strictly observed.***
4. *Prominent, clear and legible notices shall be displayed at all exits requesting the public to respect local residents and to leave the premises quietly.*
5. *The outdoor area (terrace and beer garden) not to be used for the consumption of alcohol after 23:00 (Sundays to Thursdays) and 12 midnight on other evenings.*
6. *That, to limit Public Nuisance and Crime and Disorder, any ticketed event conforms with regulations governing the required number of Certificated professional security staff under SIC regulations.*
7. *That smokers are required to use the inner courtyard area between the pub and the function room rather than the area around the pub front door.*
8. *That the Licensee conforms with conditions laid down in the Licensing Act regarding his responsibility for the behaviour of his customers once they leave the premises.*

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours faithfully,



Chris Barltrop