

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I have secondary double glazing and use cordless headphones to listen to the television or the radio, and I can still hear pounding music and drunken bellowing coming from the garden - usually after 10 o'clock on Fridays and Saturdays.

[REDACTED] often work late (again in the lounge) and so the noise can be very distracting.

I think that midnight is a reasonable time for a pub in a residential area to close.

Thanks for letting me know about the Licensing Review - I hope the committee listens to the residents for a change.

[REDACTED]

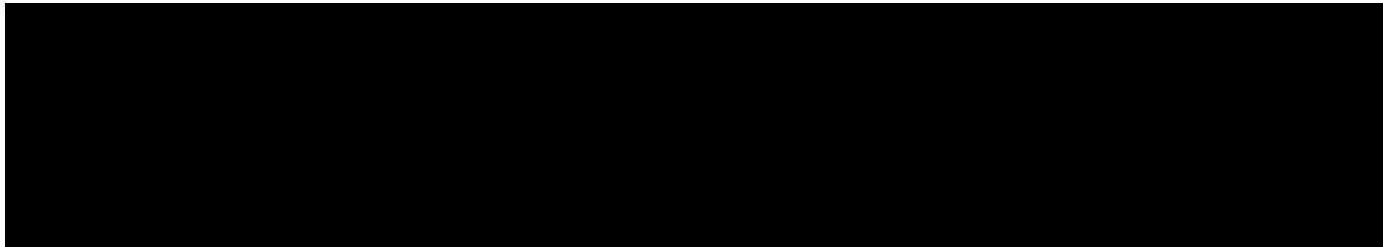
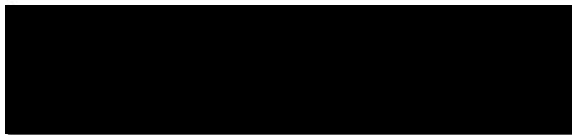
[REDACTED]

Hi

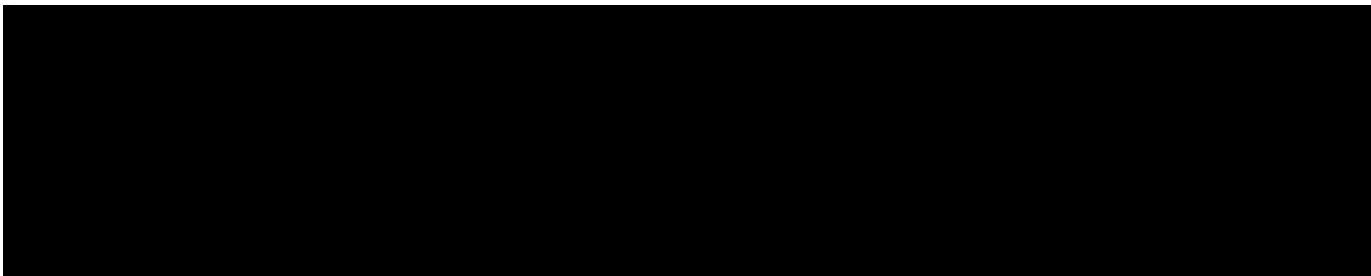
Yes, I agree that it will be good to have a reduction in licensed hours, properly regulated. [REDACTED]

I remember hearing a sound system Saturday night / Sunday morning being turned up loud and then turned down, turned up and then turned down, as if two people had a difference of opinion over the volume. But I don't remember hearing a police siren (I was working late).

[REDACTED]



I only heard noise from the Ducking Stool - mostly chatter and shouting because the music was quieter than normal for some reason.



Did anyone suffer with noise over the weekend?

The Royal Oak seemed very quiet but I woke up at about 2am with the heat on Saturday and could hear quite a bit of music outside in the distance. I was wondering if it was the new club in West St?



Bad language + shouting -

Unable to sleep -

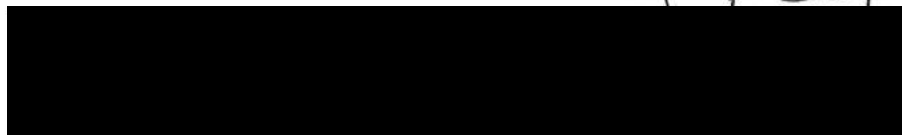
Urinating in our entrance -

Need to compromise

Vibrating inside our house

Building not fit for purpose

door open, lots of people in garden.



- Respect the fact that the pub is completely surrounded by residential properties.
- Make sure that after 11.00 pm the garden, when used for smoking, is "policed" by staff to make sure that people keep the noise down.
- Keep doors & windows closed as per licensing regs.
- Look into soundproofing the back room
- Turn the music down!!
- Re-assess where the equipment is so that noise can be kept inside the pub.
- Monitor language used in garden as much of it is obscene

[REDACTED]

Log of noise / public nuisance coming from the Ducking Stool on South Street.

[REDACTED]

Note: A number of weekends I was not in Leominster, due to family commitments. This accounts for the breaks in the log, not that the pub was quiet on those weekends where I have not made an entry.

Friday 9th August 2013:

On Friday I was woken at 1.30 by excessive noise emanating from the garden, overlaid with loud music from the pub. There was much screaming, whooping and swearing and this continued for some time. The noise continued as I tried to get back to sleep and I eventually managed to sleep about 2.00pm. Needless to say I was shattered on Saturday morning when I got up for work.

Saturday 10th August 2013:

On Saturday the noise was even worse and continued for much longer, as I could not sleep through it I decided to keep my log updated as advised.

The music was turned off at around 2.20pm. The garden's brightest lights were switched off about 2.30 am and the noise level in the garden started to subside. The remaining garden lights were switched off around 3.00 am and the noise returned to what we refer to as 'normal pub noise level'. The noise eventually ended at 3.30 am.

Friday 16th August 2013:

8.30pm music started and by 9.00pm the garden was filling up and getting louder. Particularly the girls voices. I went to bed early (10.00ish) as I had an early start next day. Noise level was still bad without hearing aids in.

Saturday 17th August 2013:

Weather was not good (much colder and raining) so open garden beyond covered end not so full tonight. Noise became a problem from about 9.30pm onward. Again the whooping and screaming from the girls is the loudest noise that over rides my hearing aids. From then on, I could hear it over the television. I had my doors and windows shut as it had cooled down that weekend. By midnight, the noise level had started dropping.

Tuesday 20th August 2013:

Same constant noise going on but with loud outbursts of shouting / screaming / and swearing. It was particularly bad between 10.00 and 11.00.

Friday 23rd August 2013:

10.30pm despite the rain the noise has been going on all evening. There is no change this weekend in managing the behaviour in the garden despite the residents group forwarding our letter of concerns to the proprietor. The music finished about 2.00am but there has been no attempt to regulate the garden noise which went on after the music finished.

Saturday 24th August 2013:

From 9.30pm the noise in the garden is again louder than the television. At 2.15am the noise in the garden is still going on and there is a lot of shouting and swearing.

Sunday 25th August 2013:

Really loud music coming from the pub. The garden is full and there is lots of shouting and screaming. This has now gone on all night and into the early hours of the morning. I am being kept awake despite having taken out both hearing aids.

Wednesday 28th August 2013:

From 10.00pm onwards the talking and screaming in the garden has become really loud. I can hear it over the television. The girls voices are the most penetrating which override my hearing aids. I is a nice night I do not want to have to close my windows again. Midnight and the pub is closing. Perhaps now I can get some sleep.

Saturday 31st August 2013:

Pub is busy from quite early onwards and by 9.15 onwards it os becoming really loud. There is lots of whooping and shouting going on. Noise continued into early hours of morning.

Monday 2nd September 2013:

(Mondays used to be the quietest day). A large gang of blokes' were shouting and singing in garden between 7.30pm and 10.00pm. No one from the pub come out and ask them to keep the noise down. From 11.00pm it started to subside a bit and from 11.30 onwards was reasonably quiet.

Tuesday 3rd September 2013:

Got home quite late and there is a big party in the pub garden at 10.00pm with girls whooping and signing. I can still hear it over the news and weather on TV at 10.30pm. Again, as the night before, at no time did anyone come out and ask them to quieten down.

Saturday 7th September 2013:

Got home about 10.15 and the noise from the pub garden is really loud with lots of shouting and girls screaming. Went to bed at midnight, but there is no improvement. It can be hard trying to get to sleep sometimes with so much noise going on.

Wednesday 18th September 2013:

From 10.00pm onwards, there has been really loud shouting in the pub garden with no attempt to ask people to quieten down. This is still going on at 11.00pm and I am going to try and sleep through it.

Wednesday 2nd October 2013:

The garden was quit noisy when I got home just after 10.00pm. But from 11.00pm onwards there was suddenly lots of shouting and screaming, feet stamping and clapping going on. This was followed by really load drunken singing that was still going on at 11.30. Trying to get to sleep was hard and I had to get up early the next day. Needless to say, I was exhausted.

Saturday 5th October 2013:

Got home late and the pub garden is noisy as usual. Kept the windows closed as it had been a long day and I needed to get some sleep. The garden was still loud at 11:00 when I turned in.

[REDACTED]

12 February 2015

Mr Fred Spriggs
Herefordshire Planning Department
Herefordshire Council

DELIVERED BY HAND

Dear Sirs

RE: COMPLAINT
THE DUCKING STOOL, SOUTH STREET, LEOMINSTER, HEREFORDSHIRE

[REDACTED]

We cannot live in our front rooms because of the noise at night from the Ducking Stool and people spilling onto the Street causing a volume of noise which is, quite frankly, disruptive of sleep and disruptive of social life.

[REDACTED]

I have noted that, in the past, Complaints have gone unheeded and now matters have come to a head because of a particularly vicious incident involving violence at the Ducking Stool. To say that I am not surprised is an under statement. I have heard fights, criminal damage, screaming and shouting on a regular basis until the early hours of the morning and, quite frankly, enough is enough. A lot of people live in the centre of Leominster now especially as the Retail Trade is going downhill. More people are moving into apartments etc which are being let above and indeed in place of Retail Premises. This is bringing new life into the Town. But lack of control and lack of restraint shown by premises such as the Ducking Stool, make life for us Town Dwellers virtually unendurable.

At the very least, the hours of opening should be restricted and not extended. Not just for myself but for other people that I have spoken to and visitors who come to our Town to see its historical pleasures.

I am not the sort of person who writes letters all the time. I do not pester you with Complaints. I make this Complaint at the end of a long period of time when ~~we~~ have endured noise etc which is, quite frankly, unendurable.





Friday, 18 October 2013.

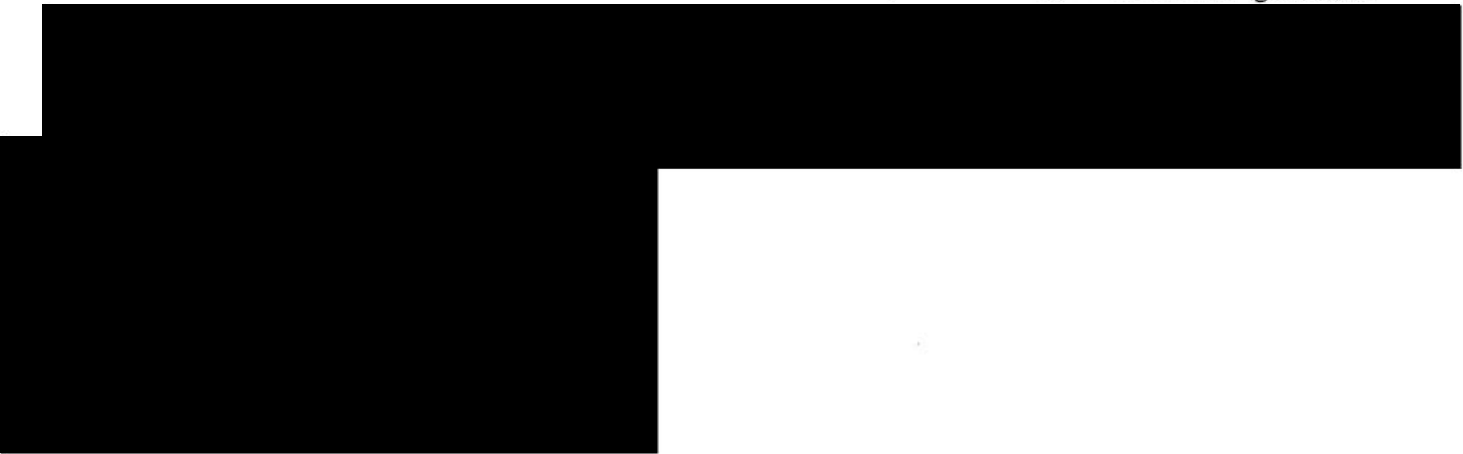
Senior Licensing Officer,
Hereford Council,
Licensing Section,
Blueschool House,
PO Box 233,
Hereford
HR1 2ZB

Dear Sirs,

RE: SOUTH STREET, LEOMINSTER – THE DUCKING STOOL AND ROYAL OAK HOTEL.

This complaint relates mainly to the Ducking Stool but there is one incident regarding the Royal Oak which I draw to your attention – Sunday 13th October 2013 a party was going on at the Royal Oak until after 6am. The noise could be heard along South Street at the junction with Etnam Street and was clearly audible from the front rooms of my premises [REDACTED]. There was no attempt to lower the noise even at that time of the morning.

The Ducking Stool has been a continuous problem on Friday and Saturday nights. Music on occasions but usually rowdiness from people drinking in the beer garden.



Date	times	details
Wednesday 2 nd Jan 2014	10:30 -1am	Violent shouting
Friday 14 th Feb	1am – 3am	Shouting screaming
Friday 25 th April	2am – 3am	Car doors slamming whooping and shouting
Saturday 26 th April	Midnight till 2am	shouting and screaming
Friday 2 nd May 2014	From midnight onwards till 3am	Kept awake with shouting and swearing
Saturday 3 rd May	2 – 3:30 am	Woken up with shouting screaming and swearing constant
Saturday 10 th May 2014	2 am – 3:30 am	Noises from the pub people shouting
Saturday 17 th May 2014	2 am	Woken up again by shouting and screaming sounds like a fight
Saturday 24 th May 2014	2am - 3am	Constant shouting and screaming again woken up
Sunday 25 th May	2am – 3:15 am	Yet again woken up by noise
Saturday 20 th July	1:30 – 3:00	Shouting and screaming
Saturday 27 th July	10:30 – 3:00 am	Shouting and swearing
26 th September	1:30 – 2:30 am	Fighting shouting and swearing
Saturday 27 th September	1:30 – 2:30 am	Shouting
Saturday 10 th jan 2015	Between 1am and 3am	Shouting and swearing
Saturday 24 th jan	Midnight till 1am	Shouting, screaming
Saturday 31 st Jan	2am – 2:30am	Shouting

In the summer 2014 we decided to use ear plugs in the house all night as a family in order to cancel out the noise, however this did result in an ear infection in August, which needed treatment (picture!), it has meant that we have been able to sleep better as night. We do think that the pub, has tried to keep the music noise down since the summer, but this is a residential and conservation area with listed old buildings and we do still wake up at weekends when the noise is especially bad.

The Public Nuisance sound log from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] gaps in the sound log does not necessarily mean that there was not public nuisance on these dates.

Date	Day	Time	Details
6 th August 2013	Tuesday	10:25pm	Pub doors open at the back with loud music playing
9 th August	Friday	Midnight-2am	Loud music and shouting audible throughout the house
10 th August	Saturday	10pm – 3:30am	Really loud music coming from the pub and the garden – the loudest we have ever heard and going on for the longest time
13 th August	Tuesday	10:45pm	Shouting obnoxious language from the pub garden clearly audible in our living room – impossible to relax and watch tv
23 rd August	Friday	From 10pm till around 2pm	loud music and raised voices can be heard from the pub all through our house even with all windows and doors shut
25 th August	Sunday	10am – at least 1am	Shouting and screaming swearing and laughing going on all the time, finally managed to sleep around 1am
26 th August	Monday	12:30 – 2am	Woken up by noise from the pub – and kept awake by it
28 th August	Wednesday	10pm - midnight	Shouting and bad language is clearly audible in our living room and kitchen – even with all the windows shut
31 st August	Saturday	9:30 - late	Noisy until we managed to get to sleep woken up again when they left the pub around 3am – noises on the street – shouting, sounded like a fight
2 nd September	Monday	All evening until 11pm	Very loud shouting coming from the pub garden
7 th September	Saturday	All evening until after midnight	Shouting and screaming with swearing in the pub garden – woken up between 2am – 3am with people on the street – shouting leaving the pub
13 th September	Friday	2-3am	intermittent car doors slamming, engines revving , shouting in South street as customers left the pub
21 st September	Saturday	2- 3:30 am	woken up last night from 2am until at least 3:30 with continual shouting swearing and what sounded like a

			fight on South Street, I phoned the police and reported the disturbance around 3:10.
27 th September	Friday	2-3am	woken up and kept awake between 2-3am last night by a screaming distressed woman and a man threatening extreme violence outside my window, as well as the usual slamming of doors and general noise of drunken people leaving the pub
29 th September	Sunday	Midnight	whole house woken up around midnight to what sounded like loud music being played in our own house - could not sleep afterwards
2 nd October	Wednesday	10:30 pm - 11:30	shouting and screaming from 10:30 onwards
4 th October	Friday	10:45	Loud music being played audible in our house with all the windows closed
5 th October	Saturday	2:30 - 3am	woken up by 3pm sound of multiple door slamming - and loud car stereo play as customers left pub
12 th October	Saturday	2- 3am	Intermittent shouting and swearing
19 th October 2013	Saturday	2am - 3:45	Woken up by noise from garden - music and shouting - followed by more shouting on the street - this got worse and worse - I made an audio recording - all sorts of shouting and swearing kids running around doors banging sounds like a street party 20-30 people right outside our bedroom window - finally got to sleep around 4:30am

Concerns for Jan/Ducking Stool to address

① At a weekend after a busy working week I need to unwind and relax and catch up on sleep.

Instead as I and my family tried to watch TV and hang out together (remembering that our living room is at the back of the building)

The noise from [REDACTED] Ducking stool ^{mid evening} ~~8 PM~~ on. totally ruined our evening from 8 PM on. It vibrated our building by the songs and general screaming of loads of drunk people. As the evening progressed the noise got worse and worse. ~~When~~

② when we went to bed it was worse, with rowdy behaviour (our bedrooms at the front) And went on to gone 2 in the morning. It is very unpleasant. I felt ill and stressed. Litter on the streets, cans etc are horrible.

③ ~~noise~~

④ A totally public nuisance
~~that~~ we are dealing with listed buildings that can't cope with noise like that - not a insulated building.
It is a area with ~~of~~ respectful ~~people~~ vulnerable members of the public

we are concerned that complaining - there could be smashed windows or reproductions.

[REDACTED]

CONCERNS FOR DUCKING STOOL.

* PEOPLE OUT ON THE STREET IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING (AROUND MIDNIGHT TO 3 AM). SWEARING, FIGHTING, SHOUTING. IT AFFECTS ~~MY~~^{OUR} SLEEP.

* LOUD MUSIC & KARAOKE LATE INTO THE NIGHT IS VERY DISTURBING.

* OUR CATS ARE SCARED OF THE NOISE.

~~* I WANTED TO ADVISE THAT THE PROBLEMS WERE~~

* NOISE POLLUTION

* THE STREET IS SOMETIMES LITTERED WITH BEER CANS AND VOMIT ON OCCASION.

* LAST SATURDAY NIGHT/SUNDAY MORNING MUSIC WAS MUGELY LOUD. WE HAD TO WAKE UP AT 4 AM TO GO TO LONDON AND ONLY GOT AROUND TWO HOURS SLEEP.

* WE'VE HAD OUR WINDOW SMASHED, DOORBELL STOLEN AND CAKE THROWN AT OUR FRONT DOOR IN THE PAST.

Sounds like the ducking stool have a live band on tonight (very loud) does their licence allow this for a Tuesday night ?

it's just getting to much at the weekends and we have to consider our quality of life and our family and friends no longer wish to come and visit at weekends due to the noise and disturbance

Sent from my iPhone

On 25 Oct 2013, at 09:07,

Thank you. That sounds very positive.
Kind regards

On Thursday, October 24, 2013,
Great news I will try to get as many people to attend as possible

Sent from my iPhone

On 24 Oct 2013, at 18:32

Hi Folks,

The open meeting about the three main pub / street public nuisances will be on:

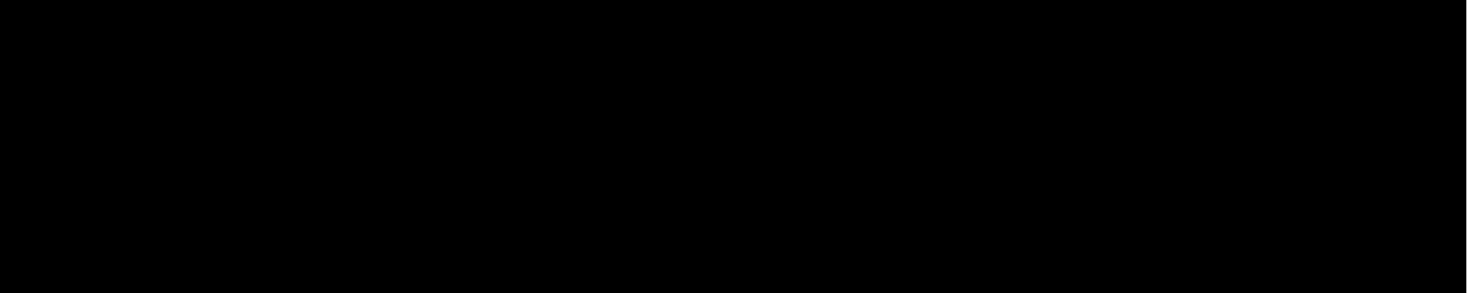
Thursday 31st October at 6.30pm in the Town Council office on West Street.


Representatives from Licensing, Environmental Health, Police and HAND will be attending. This is being quietly advertised as an 'information meeting' as some of the issues are emotive for some people. Residents from Etnam Street, Central carpark / Burgess Street / South Street / School Lane / Corn Street will be in attendance too.


The aim is to better understand everyones positions, duties and remits, as well as the position of the residents who are on the recieving end and build a balanced way forward to solve this.

Please let residents who you think would want to come know about it, but there will be no great public advertisement of this first meeting.

I will contact so that our neighbours in the sheltered housing will have an advocate present. In the mean time please continue to keep your logs up to date.



We carried out a full conversation to the 3 property's 
The council passed planning permission in 2007 /2008 for residential property's and at this time there was no late hours at the ducking stool, we now find our investment in these property's to be a disaster as we have problems with tenants vacating because of noise issues, we were never contacted with any information regarding the hours at the pub.



Sent from my iPad

[REDACTED]

RE: NOISE NUISANCE DUCKING STOOL PUBLIC HOUSE LEOMINSTER
(up to 13/10/13)

Dear Sir

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We moved in knowing there was a pub and expected some noise and the last three and a half years it has by and large been managed. Over the last 6 months it has been getting a lot worse with the loud music/swearing/drunken behavior. Since the license extension (03.00) at weekends it has gone totally out of control. After complaining the music has gone down a little but doors and windows are still left open and the customers unfortunately are getting louder and more drunken and hostile with up to 20-30 people shouting/swearing/singing etc at the top of their voices till 02:45 in the morning (video evidence available upon request) there seems to be no attempt by the management to stop this.

This we believe is having a detrimental effect on our health and quality of lives. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

also occasionally has her two very young grandchildren [REDACTED] staying at weekends and the drunken behavior is distressing to them.

As most of the problems accrue between midnight and 03:00 our only option is to call 101 but unfortunately on a few occasions they have been very unhelpful and refused to log the complaint stating it is not their problem, this makes us feel very vulnerable and isolated and has discouraged us from phoning this number on occasions.

We have also since the extension on several occasions had to swill away what appears to look and smell like urine [REDACTED] to the pathway that leads to our property, this is disgusting.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

RECORD OF PHONING POLICE DUE TO NOISE NUISANCE FROM THE DUCKING
STOOL (UPTO 13/10/13)

31/08/13 (00:03) Phoned 101

15/09/13 (02:27) Phone 101

22/09/13 (12:46) Phone Herefordshire Police Headquarters (log 309522913) as stated in my cover letter I phoned Police headquarters as the 101 number were telling me its was not their problem and no help making us feel very vulnerable and scared in our own home, I would have phoned 101 on other occasions but have lost all faith in this number

RECORD OF NOISE NUISANCE FROM THE DUCKING STOOL PUB (UPTO 13/10/13)

Saturday night into Sunday morning 31/08/13 loud music/shouting/swearing/singing/aggressive behavior till 02:45

Saturday night into Sunday morning 07/09/13 as above till 02:45

Friday night into Saturday morning 13/09/13 as above till 02:55

Saturday night into Sunday morning 14/09/13 as above till 02:50

Saturday night into Sunday morning 21/09/13 as above till 02 35

Friday night into Saturday morning 27/09/13 as above till 02:50

Saturday night into Sunday morning 28/09/13 as above till 02:55

Saturday night into Sunday morning 5/10/13 as above till 02:50

Saturday night into Sunday morning 12/10/13 as above till 02:35

The noise level during the week has also been higher than the norm since moving in [REDACTED] but tends to finish at 23:00

The above record is only since I have been making a log and has been going on longer than that.

I have also noticed on tripadvisor.co.uk web site the Talbot hotel situated across the road from the Ducking Stool has been left a lot of negative feedback regarding the noise level and behavior of the pubs customers sometimes up to 04:00 in the morning. This will start to affect tourism which is something Leominster can ill afford to lose

[REDACTED]

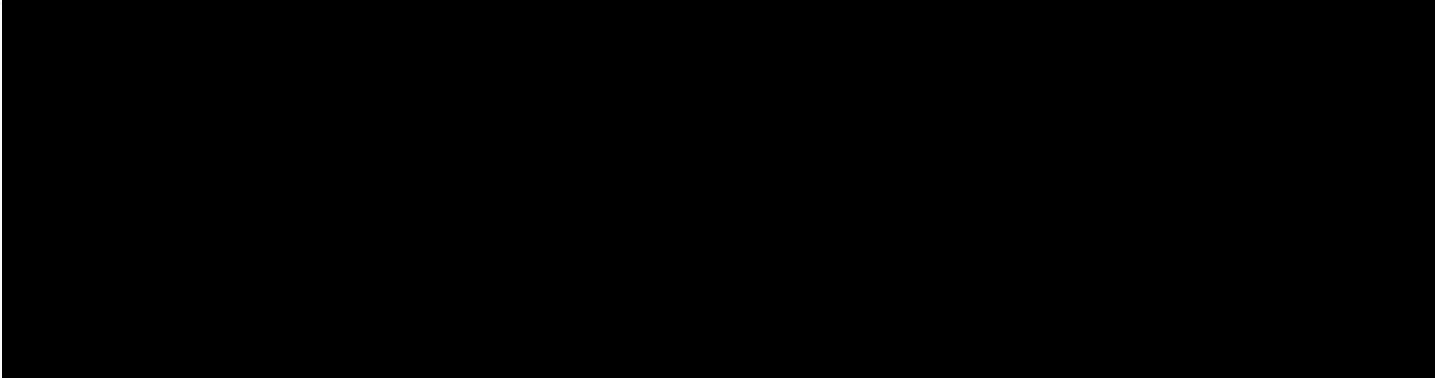
[REDACTED] this plus another to follow, m'notes taken as things happened:-

00.15 it's all on 'tape', I've been recording this week's street party since around 10.30 last night, and like Topsy, it grewed. Mostly pretty good humoured. I do hope there's enough battery. 01.20, th loud chatter has stopped, but the music is pretty clear. I think the word's been put around, I think a police car may have just cruised past, either a PA system or very loud intercom drifting along the street, once gone the voices swelled again. Laughter and banter volume increased just as when the teacher leaves the classroom.

There's been some unusually heavy traffic through this evening too.


SORRY, dictaphone batteries died in minutes. [REDACTED]

Sent from iPhone



My note taken at the time. I have it on dictaphone. Had to use earplugs and 2 sleeping tablets.

01.29 Since 12.30am men and women have filled the streets outside yelling and squabbling nonstop. I've set the dictaphone to record at around 01.00. I don't have the energy or will any more to make notes.
03.15 stopped recording.



Sent from iPhone

Since 10.30 last night spasmodic spells of loud vocals, & from 11.15-ish bangers.

00.32 squealing & yelling. Raucous f. laughter, loud rhythmic beat. "Hey! Hey!!" m.

F. Squawking repeatedly, whooping. DOUBLE EXPLOSIONS. M. "I AN'T F-ING YOU F-IN' C-NT. I AIN'T YOU F-ING, " in a threatening voice.

Others join in to try calming him. He carries on. More f. laughter.

I try blocking the noise with the radio but to have it loud enough to work makes it too loud, it'd carry to MY neighbour.

F. Arguing with m. Very insistent that he listen getting louder, others join in. Escalating sounds of their voices competing to make their point. I can't keep up. Screeching row coming from west. St. Direction. The streets sound as if they're FULL of folk. Pub door has been banging intermittently since nearly 11.pm. It'll come off its hinges if it gets much more of this treatment. F. screeches "OI.....C'MON 'ERE, C'MON, 'AVE YER DONE THAT THEN.....yer 'AVENT YER BU--ER!"

BEAT BEAT BOOM BOOM of the music nearly out-decibels the door banging but not quite. In fact I think there's a competition happening, door loudest? Beat loudest? Door? Beat? Door?..... His voice? her voice? His...? Hers.....? Bang beat yell roar.... Hey ho, 'tis new year, who am I to spoil their fun....?

01.00 Car or shop alarm outshrills the rumpus.

Bloke yells angrily threatening someone's vitals, woman shrieks a name becoming more and more shrill, m. laughs another tries to calm both. Up and down the street. Boom boom bang bang thump thump "wether yo. What the f.... !" M.

Laughter loud & happy.

F. "Martin, Martin....."

Her voic carries from somewhere up West St.

M. "Hey C'MON, HEY, HEY, C'MON!!"

F. Squeals.

Bump bump bump.

F. Impersonates the call of a peacock three times with real accuracy. M. Voices chorus laughter.

F. "HAHAHAHA!" (More duck like than peacock. Quite clever really.)

More yelping with m. overtones. Much laughter. Boom boom bump boom thump.

"Didja? Didja? HEY IM SPEAKIN' TER YER!!"

" HAAAAHAHAHA!" Cackles she.

"Hoi! HOI! H O I!!!!" M.

The duck lady cuts in again.

M. "YER F'ING...."

M. Growls

Shrieking now.

Argybargy argybargy shouting.

I DO WISH I COULD VIDEO THIS

Happy New Year folks.

01.39 I've now been taping the noise [REDACTED] for ten minutes, and turned radio 3 on from my sitting room window for ten. The police have been there that time, lights flashing. I truly don't know if my music can be heard above the hubbub, but there are still people hanging around watching as if its an interesting piece of street theatre. I'm trying not to show my face but I so do want to see if there's ANY reaction to the classical music that I've got blaring. Turned it down - but rowdies still at it. Maybe it just isn't classical enough. There's a big dog barking, I think in one of the police cars, it's been barking since I came to the window. One of the cars has gone now. Oh, the dog and the 'music' are competing now. Switched boom boxes to the bigger one, put a cd of 70 mins of 'classical to drive your motor home to'. Starting with THE ARRIVAL OF THE QUEEN OF SHEBA at full vol. next Verdi's SPRING. Howzat!? I wonder.....

At least it smothers irate voices - I findin it almost calming.....mmm.....nice

02.00 police gone. Rowdies gone.

Sent from iPhone



Begin forwarded message:



RECORD OF EVENTS ON SAT-SUN 19th&20th OCTOBER 2013.:

00.03. Shouting wakes me, yelling & v. loud whistling (male, -m. & f. for future reference) as they leave Ducking Stool towards Royal Oak.
Thrumming beat coming from pub.

00.11 goes quiet.

00.55 m. voices talking loudly on street, door bangs twice, thrumming beat music from D. S., rumbling as of skateboard up & down road/pavement. Loud voices just talking. Door bangs.

01.09 door banging, m&f voices loudly up & down the street, bloke shouting

"COME ON.....DENZIL!"

"What's the point of.....!"

Thump thump thump thump beat, door bang, thumpthump

Thumpthumthumthumthumthump- faster than I can write.... ThumpthumthumthumponandonandonandonON without pause. It sounds as if the party is in the street beneath the window as well as each end.

"You BASTard....you f.....in' aint gonna....."

Laughter all round. It is now

01.20. Voices a little quieter now, but still clearly audible, (door bangs) and on.... F. laughter, chatting at the tops of their voices in a way they would never do on the street during the daytime. Thumpthump, thumpthumpety

Thump, Thumpthumpety thump, Thumpthumpety thump. Pause. Thumpthumpety thump.....

Door bang

01.32 a blessed pause

Door bang

"HEY!" m. voice. Silence.

Whistling from s.

m&f chat from n.

"Ya! Watsit BABE.....!"

"Y'know wha' tharris....? Doncha..?" m&f laughter, more talk, some exaggerated groaning.

"No....no, no..." Squeals & bellows of laughter. More calling out one to another. Door bang.

"Hoi, hoi, whaddyer want!?"

Crescendo of roaring and whooping coming down from West St. direction, a whole large group of folk loudly talking and calling sounding like a fairground. YammayammaYatterYatter.

A tin gets kicked a short way along the road.

YatterYatterYatterYatter....

It is now

01.50, and the hubbub goes on without abatement.

01.54 "....where are you?.... What the f...., where ARE you, where ARE you, where ARE you? Heeey, blether blether blether....chuckle..."

a moment's quiet follows, though voices are still audible from further up and down the street, and the thumping of the 'music' quickens from somewhere below.

02.02 door bangs. A momentary blast of 'music'.

F voices calling from West St. and loud cackles. M. Shouts "Don't you DARE....."

M. "LAUREN, LAUREN,"

Loud laughter, "hey LAUREn,"

Blah blah blah....." etc etc etc et al.

"....unfortunately, you listening, unfortunately, you know? you know? you do!, you do!,...."

"What'll 'appen then?, what'll 'appen then?, you dunno then, you dunno..."(m)

f. rejoinder indecipherable but loud.

WHISTLE, sharp and high.
Chatter in middle distance, loud m cackling.
Door bangs. M voice,
"Who is it, yeah, yeah."
F laughter,
"Yeah, hehe, yehehe...." Mock argybargy.
Door bang. Time,
02.23.
Gone quiet. NOW GO TO SLEE.....
DOOR BL...g BANG!
Bang, bang,
M voices
No Thumpthumpety.
More m voices from West St., now f. Mixed voices, loud talk.
Double bang. Double bang. (How'd they do THAT?)
Mixed voices.
02.32 - omg-it has gone QUIET
Loud BELCH, then m voices shout, sound non-English. That's a first
02.35
M voices. "Hya, hya, blerdyblerdybler....."
Sporadic calling from both ends of South St.
02.39
A party coming from West St. loudly goes, where? I'm too tired to register.
More laughing and jeering m voices from High St. direction, m laughter from directly below.
02.43 Silence! Oops, no, here it comes again, f calls; mixed chatter; +++++. From West St. M with deep voice,
f responses. Laughter, raucous f cackle; chorus mixed voices & more cackles & shouting,
"F.....ng 'ell....." Growling m voice.
"Shu-u-err-up!"
Getting LOUDER & LOUDER & LOUDER 02.54 MY DOORBELL IS BEING RUNG &
the crowd is even NOISIER if that's possible.
02.55 call 999, hold 'phone to the noise for police to hear, [REDACTED]
policewoman asks me what she's listening to (door bangs again) I say the crowds outside my window. She
asks if they're fighting or are there any weapons, I think I say no, but it's 3a.m. And I'm sick of this. She
thanks me courteously, and rings off.
I set my iPhone to 'camera' and 'video' and for twenty increasingly shaky & chilly minutes hold it and follow
the rowdy gathering up & down the street again and again. When there are only half a dozen left shouting
and swearing, I try to review what's done. I find I've pressed the wrong button, and have nothing on record. I
do record the last few minutes, they are pathetic in comparison, but they are there.
03.43 door double bangs. F voice calls to someone
03.47 all is quiet now fingers crossed.

Three hours and 44minutes of unacceptable disturbance after midnight.

05.45-DOOR DOUBLE BANGS??!!

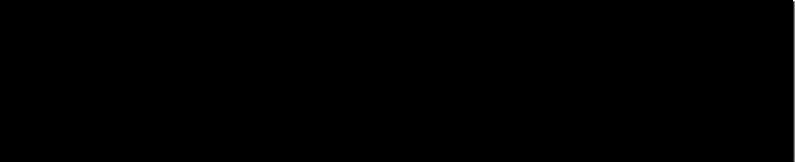
NB, Two names were repeated several times: in my hearing if not in my notes: LAUREN & DENZIL.
This is necessarily an abbreviated account because I am incapable of typing fast enough to record each and
every event. And I doubt no-one would wish to read such.

Yours,

[REDACTED]

Sent from iPhone

[REDACTED]



01.03 18th august, awoken to thrumming beat of music next door. If anything more will report. Some people on West St. Side calling loudly to one another.

00.53 Sat. 14th sep. woken by woman shouting across st. To m. Companions until 01.25.

02.30. Sun. 15th Sep. powerful car pulled up, doors slammed 2/3 times, pulled away amid shouts m. & f. Loud conversation between m. & f. Laughing & talking 'til 03.05. Car doors slam. F. Laughter & cars rev. @ 03.12.

For info.

P2 from last night to follow.



Sent from iPhone

Since moving back home after university and visiting Leominster, a town I was not very familiar with, I was made extremely welcome by the owners of the Ducking Stool. Both Matt and Jan are wonderful people, who not only try their best to provide a safe and high standard open house but they also make everyone feel welcome. Not only do I feel comfortable in socialising with my friends here but I happily take my children to the Ducking Stool during the day times for lunch. Matt and Jan cater for all ages and occasions and in my opinion, is the best pub in Leominster.

For a short time, I worked for the Ducking Stool as a barmaid one day a weekend. My experience of this made me favour the Ducking Stool and it's owners even more. I have never felt so supported and cared for in a working position and I can confidently say the door men were very good at their job. With this, I can honestly say I did not see one fight or brawl in my whole time working there and have always had a lovely time when socialising there.

I really do hope that the Ducking Stool get reinstated with their original licence as they really do deserve it and this current situation and licence restriction is no reflection of the pub in any way and is, in my opinion, a disgrace.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

-----Original Message-----

[REDACTED]

Sent: 11 February 2015 22:20

To: Licensing

Subject: Ducking stool leominster

To whom it may concern i would just like to say, I feel it is unfair at the decision made against the duking stool i have lived in Leominster all my life so have used the pub on lots of occasions and have never felt scared or threatened, A specially now they have two bouncers, so to implement these rules i feel unfair

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 11 February 2015 23:13

To: Licensing

Subject: Ducking Stool Leominster

Sirs,

I am by no way a regular at The Ducking Stool in Leominster but it is one of the few pubs I go in if I am out for the evening. Whenever I have walked past, on a weekend, there has always been door staff on. I have always felt safe when I go inside and have never felt threatened (unlike many Hereford pubs I have been in). The incident that happened there recently, that led to the suspension of their license, hasn't been made public so I can't comment on it, but I showed my support when it was reinstated by taking my family in (all legal age drinkers) at the earliest opportunity. In fact the Ducking Stool will now be my pub of choice as I think they need the vote of confidence the Leominster community is showing them.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Sony Xperia™ smartphone

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 February 2015 15:56
To: Licensing
Subject: RE The Ducking Stool, Leominster

To whom it may concern.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I am sending this e-mail in relation to the decision recently made about the licensing of The Ducking Stool, South Street, Leominster.

I am a regular patron of this pub and have witnessed first hand the warm, welcoming, family friendly, atmosphere that both Jan and Matt strive to achieve. They are both personal friends of mine since moving here 5 years ago from South Wales.

I feel disappointed in the decisions taken as The Ducking Stool is one of the safest pubs I have ever spent time in, the staff and management work hard at maintaining the safety of patrons, and there is rarely any trouble.

I also feel that the restriction of their licensing terms is detrimental to Leominster town, as now young people, such as myself will now travel further afield eg, Hereford, for a night out at a weekend. This is money not being spent in our home town.

Both Jan and Matt Morris work extremely hard at providing a safe and welcoming public house, and in my opinion the actions of a minority should not have an adverse upon their livelihood.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 February 2015 07:32
To: Licensing
Subject: The Ducking stool Leominster

To Whom it may concern,

As a resident of Leominster and perhaps regarded as a middle aged member of the community I would like to share with you my views on the proprietors and licensing at The Ducking Stool.

Firstly I do frequent the premises on occasion and know a lot of the clientele that socialise there due to my job in customer services outside of the pub. 99% of the customers are well behaved when out but unfortunately every pub ends up having an "issue" however I have only ever witnessed one said "issue" and was extremely impressed as it was dealt with quickly and very professionally. I have to admit when I read about the Ducking Stool being regularly visited by the police I was shocked and deemed this untrue as I know that there are at least two other establishments that have been visited by the police due to unruly behaviour as much as three times on a weekend.

As far as the licensing is concerned, Leominster does have a larger group of "nightclub" goers but unfortunately we don't have one anymore and the Ducking Stool does provide a safe environment with some decent music for members to have a dance and a drink later in the evening. You would have thought having such a premises would allow people to know they don't have to fork out huge taxi fares to get to and from Hereford the nearest place with any sort of nightlife, and the security of being in their own town!

Reducing the hours at the Ducking Stool not only will destroy the owners livelihood (another business strangled by "red tape") but also I believe it will reduce the amount of people staying in Leominster for a night out therefore the knock on affect to other pubs and the takeaway businesses would be dramatic.

I also want to state that we have an 18 year old daughter who we have told if ever she is out and feels unsafe wherever she may be in town to go straight to the Ducking Stool where she knows and we know she would be safe day or night.

I hope you take my opinions and comments into consideration and reinstate the licence at the Ducking Stool.

Yours Faithfully

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 February 2015 22:15
To: Licensing
Subject: ducking stool Leominster.

I write with reference to the application to suspend the premises license at the ducking stool, Leominster. I completely appreciate the reasons behind the suspension of the license and understand that they have failed to demonstrate how the licensing objectives have been met however I don't feel closing the premises down is the answer. I think the council needs to take a more proactive response to work with the licensees and show them the correct way, what measures has the licensing officer taken in the last 6 months to work with the premises? Has he visited the premises on a Friday or Saturday night? Has he spoken to the poor quality door supervisors employed or checked their status? They were employed on a cash in hand basis without any insurances and failed to carry out their jobs did the licensing officer address this with the licensee? I feel a proportion of the blame for the way the premises is currently is down to the poor support provided by the licensing officer the role should be more about educating and less about prosecuting. There are many licensed premises failing to comply with the four licensing objectives but the council are failing to recognise it until something drastic happens such as it has here and the they attempt to make an example I feel you should be ashamed with the way the licensed trade is

being managed currently and look to yourselves to find the answer I have worked up and down the country and no where have I found such a poor licensing approach as there is towards Leominster especially given the current financial hardship in this industry.

>

>

>

> Kind regards

>

> [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 11 February 2015 12:38

To: Licensing

Subject: License of the ducking stool leominster

To whom this may concern,

I don't agree on the restriction of the license for the ducking stool in leominster.

Mrs Morris is a lovely lady and helps everyone that steps through her door she is the reason the people of leominster have some where that's warm and welcoming late at night to have a drink.

My self and a lot of other people are distraught that she as to now close at 12. She worked her self hard to get the license in the first place and to provide somewhere for people to go on the closure of the local nightclub.

After 12 is where Mrs Morris makes her money and can afford to keep the ducking stool open.

I hope you can re think the decision.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 11 February 2015 21:24

To: Licensing

Subject: Ducking stool

Dear Sirs/ Madam

With regard to the licensing of the Ducking stool in Leominster, I have worked on Taxis around Leominster for over 13 years, and even when picking up from either there or The Oak the amount of trouble has been minimal. The bouncers are very good and control it well, any

one too drunk they will ring for a cab to take them home if needed and with myself being female they will always give me the option.

Leominster no longer has a club and without somewhere to go instead of going home the kids are more likely to hang around the town causing trouble- The Ducking stool gave them somewhere to dance off excess energy.

Please reconsider your decision

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 February 2015 12:50
To: Licensing
Subject: The Ducking Stool

To whom it may concern,

I feel that after recent events at The Ducking Stool in Leominster, I would like to voice a personal view of the pub if you will allow me.

I am sixty years old and am a resident of Leominster born and bred and can honestly say until the present licensee took over, I had never set foot over the threshold.

Having been invited into the place by a friend, I was pleasantly surprised and have been a regular customer ever since along with my husband. We were made to feel incredibly welcome by both the licensee and the clientele that use the establishment. Especially the younger customers as they know there is a standard of behaviour that is expected of them. We have never been shown anything but respect.

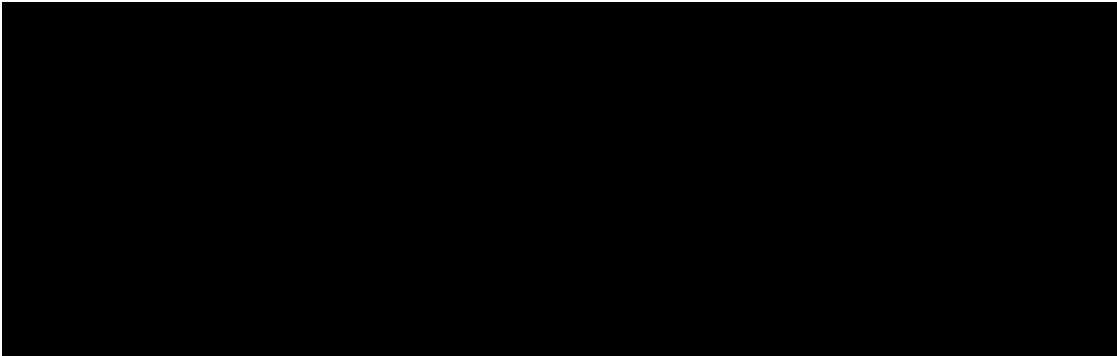
My husband, being a Parkinson's Disease sufferer has been supported not only in his personal life by playing darts for one of their darts teams but also in helping to fundraise for the local Parkinson's group often with Matthew acting as MC and Jan supplying refreshments. We have had very successful evenings with many of the young regulars supporting our fundraising efforts.

I have always found the security staff vigilant, polite and swift to address any trouble that may crop up occasionally. As I say, most of the customers know that the licensee has a strict policy about bad behaviour, neither will they tolerate any bad language in my experience which means that even older customers can feel comfortable. I have to admit to occasionally taking advantage of the late license and have noticed upon leaving that any high noise levels in the street are not coming from the Ducking Stool but from other establishments nearby.

I hope that when you consider the terms of their license, that you take into account the points that I have presented for you.

Thank you

[REDACTED]



10 February 2015

Dear Fred Spriggs

The residents association was constituted in April 2014 for the benefit of the local community and to support residents. Some of our members have moved away because of the public nuisance issues of the pub (see pages 2 and 3 attached). There are 19 residential properties within 100 feet of the pub including 8 SHYYP flats (see map page 1). We are writing in support of the Police's call for a revue on the late night extension for licensing hours for the Ducking Stool pub, to midnight on Fridays and Saturdays, we would further request that Section 15 of 17 'Hours Premises are open to the public 'Standard Days And Timings' for Friday and Saturday nights is amended to 12:30 from the current time of 2:30 in the premises license.

In our presentation form, for interested parties we reflect the following licensing objectives:

1. To prevent Crime and Disorder
2. To Prevent Public Nuisance

In support we have attached a number of records made by residents at 9, 7, 13 and 15 South street as well as 6a Corn Square which also backs onto the pub (see map attached). We also have letters and customer revues from the Talbot, which although are not residents do point to the reputation that Leominster has amongst some visitors to the town because of this late night extension and do provide examples of people's experiences of Public Nuisance, Crime and Disorder. We are aware of problems other residents have had, but they have not wanted to come forward to report them to you. We would like to note that the Residents Association supports the pub's continued operation and acknowledge that the management have tried to keep the levels down, but we feel that the hours for operation in such a heavily residential area are fundamentally unsuitable.



Chair
SSRA

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
Licensing Act 2003

REPRESENTATION FORM – INTERESTED PARTIES

Please return this form, and any additional information within the statutory period to:
The Licensing Section,
Unit 10
Blackfriars Street,
Hereford
HR4 9HS
licensing@herefordshire.gov.uk

On making your representation please have regard to the 'Making Representations Guidance Notes' which further explains the process and the information that can be considered by the licensing authority.

When completing this form please print clearly and legibly.

Your Name: South Street and Neighbourhood	Contact Telephone No.
Address: Residents association	E-mail address:
	Please state your interest in the premises you are making a representation about: eg local resident/local business local resident association
Name & Address of premises you are making a representation about: Dickington pub 11 South St	

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998. Please indicate by ticking here if you are not content for your personal details to be circulated as necessary prior to any hearing.

A representation must reflect one or more of the licensing objectives, therefore please write the details of your representation in the relevant boxes below:

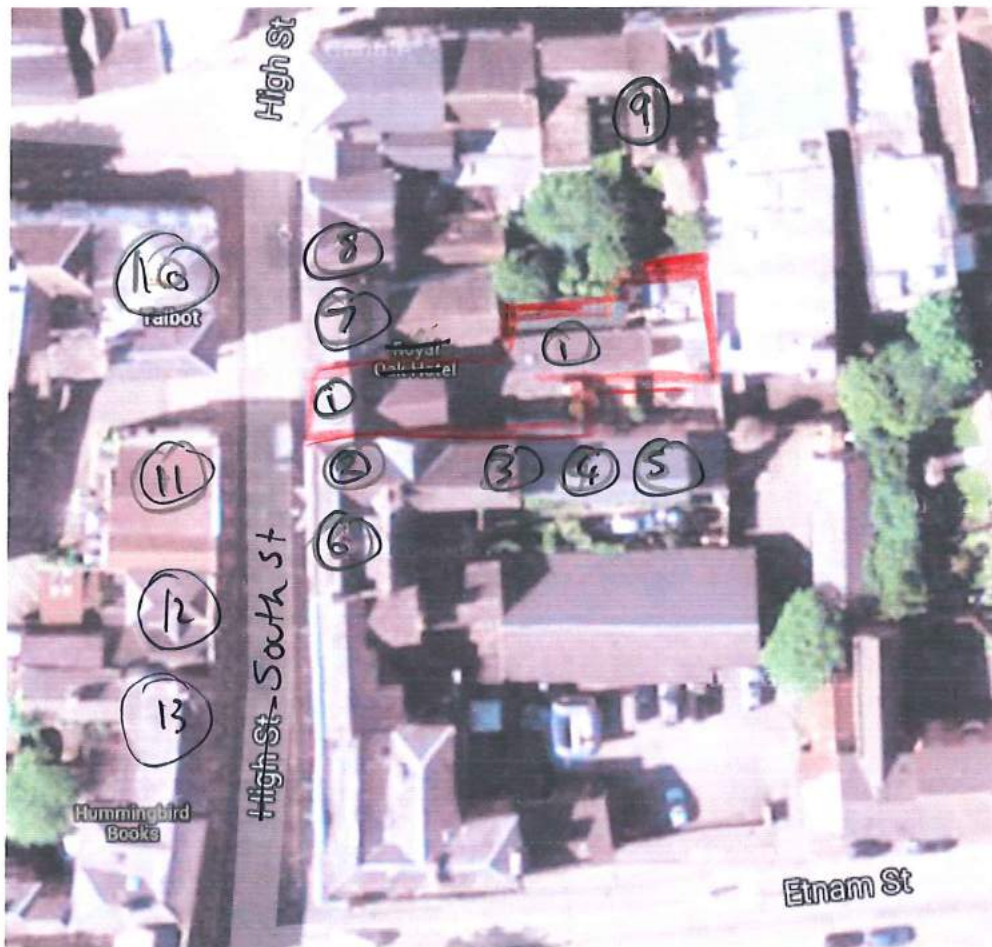
To Prevent Crime & Disorder Licensing objectives have been undermined by fighting, roughness and aggressive language over a long period.
Public Safety
To Prevent Public Nuisance Licensing objectives have been undermined by constant and disturbing noise, shouting, swearing and music of a loud nature
To Protect Children from Harm

Date: 10th Feb 2015

ELL/DE/DE 1 Representation Form Interested Parties

If you have any queries about this form or are unsure of when the statutory period ends please contact the Licensing Helpline on 01432 260105

18 Residential properties within
 36m, surrounding pub + gardens of
 Ducking stool 11 South St. Leominster.



- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ① Duckingstool Pub. + gardens | ⑨ 6A Corn Sq. |
| ② 13 South St | ⑩ Talbot |
| ③ 13 " 4 mens cottage | ⑪ 6 South St |
| ④ " 5 mens cottage | ⑫ 8a South St |
| ⑤ " 6 mens cottage | ⑬ SHYPP
10 south st.
(8 flats) |
| ⑥ 15 South St. | |
| ⑦ 9 South St | |
| ⑧ 7 South St | |