

Received 27.1.11

The Old Cottage  
55 Spencers Orchard  
BRADFORD ON AVON  
Wilts  
BA15 1TJ

26/1/2011

Dear Sirs

LICENSING TEAM – CANAL TRUST TEA SHOP BRADFORD ON AVON

Further my telephone to Maggie in your department yesterday, I am putting my objections to the above application in writing and am delivering by hand to yourselves on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

I believe I come under the category of 'Interested Party' as I live within the vicinity of the premises applying for the license.

My property abuts the canal bank in Bradford on Avon just down from the Canal Trust shop. It is a very quiet, beautiful area and is wildlife corridor between Trowbridge and Bradford on Avon. We have an abundance of wildlife which even include Kingfishers and Bats and have even seen Water Voles swimming and nesting on the bank both by our house and also near to the Canal Trust Shop.

Noise travels very easily across water, this is a residential area and any music played outside the shop would certainly cause a public nuisance for us all who live here.

Many visitors from both here and overseas have commented on how nice and peaceful it is here, we used to run a B&B business and that is one of the things people commented on. There are many species of birds and bats, we have some in our loft, all of these would be affected. The bats can be seen flying on the opposite side of the canal (same side as the Trust shop) do we want really want to risk these disappearing?

Bradford town centre itself has no loud outside music playing so why should we have to put up with this in the rural area? I went to speak to the lady at the Canal Trust shop and enquired when exactly she planned to play the music and was told "whenever I want to" I said what would happen if we complained should she get permission, and she replied "by the time you complain to the council, the function will be over and they won't be able to do much about it by then".

We have always worked closely with the local Boat Hire people, as occasionally there is a "hen or Stag" party on a boat, and they immediately call the people to ask them to turn down the noise, they also appreciate the fact it is a residential area and as I have already stated sound carries over water. I got the feeling that the owner did not share this view as she told me it was none of my business how she ran her "tea Shop".

I understand, to the best of my knowledge, that few or no objections were raised for their Tea Shop application which is a fitting business for the canal bank, but is this what it was really leading to? Apparently, wedding receptions and birthday parties will be catered for and she told me she fully intends to carry on until 11.00 at night and will then apply for a later licence for certain functions if she so wishes!. She also said that horse racing (betting on videos of racing) would be shown outside, I cannot imagine how much noise this will create!

Although they have complied with your rules by displaying the planning application in their window, their shop is on the Towpath and unlikely to be seen by the residents unless they go and look in the window. Some residents in Spencers Orchard knew nothing of the application even though we will all be affected, I was only told on Sunday afternoon after happening to meet someone in Sainsbury's and I will be really affected by the noise if they get permission.

There are also other drinking establishments within the area, and with this financial recession do we really need another one? It just spreads the potential takings for each establishment even further, which does not give support to those who have been trading for many years, and have given us no cause to complain. Another very important fact, are you familiar with the position of the premises, it is right next to the open lock, easy to fall into and extremely difficult to get out of, especially if under the influence, although there is a life belt available, this sometimes goes missing! Are they prepared to provide adequate safety measures? The licensed premises near to them do not have this particular problem as they are on the other side of the lock which would make it far easier for them to rescue someone.

We would be more than happy to come and air our grievances to yourselves if required, so please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Gloria Maslen