

Licensing Section

Wiltshire Council

Objection to License Variation Application, The White Hart, Corsley

Corsley, 10.07.20

The protection of children from harm

Extending the license to allow music till midnight would mean considerable noise nuisance for the direct neighbours of the premises, which we are. Especially during the summer months, it is not realistic to keep the pub doors and windows closed during a live music event. As this is a residential area, we feel that all loud noises that will impact especially children's ability to sleep, should be limited to finish at 22:00.

The prevention of public nuisance

As previously mentioned, the noise nuisance coming with amplified music would be considerable. The White Hart is a country pub in a rural setting and we feel that live music past the existing license would leave us, the neighbours, exposed to considerable disruption to our personal comfort within our homes.

We are also concerned about the waste management, as we could witness that even during quieter times the waste created by the business is not being disposed properly on their premises and attract rodents, which would also impact neighbouring properties.

The application seems to be slightly misleading, as in the document the box for live music outside was not ticked, however the attached sketch shows a stage area in the outside seating area. We would expect clarification about that, as we feel that live music outside, especially past 22:00 would dramatically impact all neighbours in the direct vicinity.

Patrons of The White Hart have been told that an outside cooking/grilling area was planned in the car park, to be located behind the bus stop on the A362. The smell of that would greatly impact the direct neighbours.

We are further concerned about the car park arrangements. The police had to be called in the past, due to dangerous driving by guests of the pub, who visited a car-meet, that was arranged by the landlords. We were informed that this event is supposed to happen on a regular basis. The noise of this event was considerable, as was the impact on local traffic.

Public Safety

As mentioned above, part of the pub's event calendar is a regular car-meet. The village has already witnessed dangerous driving on the small lanes of Corsley because of it.

If this event is in the future being held in a car park, next to a seating/cooking/grilling area, we are not convinced that this can be done in a safe manner.

This stretch of the A362 is known for speed violations and accidents, with a fatal accident of two motorcyclists in 2001. Cars can often be seen pulling into the car park too fast when they come off the A362. If the landlords really want to place an outside stage right next to the entry way to the car park, I feel that this would distract drivers and also endanger guests watching the music, not paying attention to the car park traffic.

Regarding the seating area in the top left corner of the car park, guests and staff would have to cross the main entrance of the car park to get from there to the bar area.

As mentioned before, the car-meet event would add an additional risk to people in the seating area of the car park.

Suggested actions the applicant could take to address our concerns:

The landlords should have communicated their plans to their neighbours and have failed to address concerns, but rather displayed aggressive and threatening behaviour on social media in response to these.

The applicant's behaviour doesn't give us at this point any trust in their wish to address our concerns or to try to work in a way that guarantees that their plans won't impact our quality of life.

We don't object to live music inside once a month, provided the noise impact for all direct neighbours is managed by the landlords and the music finishes at 23:00 the latest. We would expect however for this to be communicated to the residents.

We also have no objections to the extensions for New Year's Eve.

We do understand that the Covid crisis has been particularly hard on the hospitality industry and we certainly want this business to do well and thrive. However, having chosen to open a pub in a quiet village location, they should have been prepared to integrate and work with their local community, rather than verbally attacking residents and dismissing their concerns.

Kind regards,

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