From: 03

03 June 2021 20:35 PublicprotectionNorth

**Subject:** Comments on application: WK202109006 - Prestbury Sports

Bar, Warminster

## **Dear Sirs**

To:

As residents of Warminster, whose house and garden is approximately 60 metres from the Prestbury Sports Bar, we would like to comment (and object) to the application made by Prestbury Sports Bar to vary its trading licence, to make permanent the temporary relief granted by the Government to all such premises during the Covid crisis.

For the last year, usually on Sunday afternoons when the weather has been clement, and we've wanted to sit out and enjoy our garden, that enjoyment has inevitably been spoilt by the Prestbury Sports Bar playing live <u>and</u> recorded music at a high volume between 1pm and 5pm, accompanied by shouting, chanting, and the sound of rowdy behaviour from the clientele. The application mentions a noise meter, but please be assured that for the last year there has either been no meter used or the readings have been ignored.

The application they have made appears to want to extend the temporary relief so instead of playing music outside on a Sunday between 1pm and 5pm (ish....) they will be able to play live music on Saturdays as well as Sundays, and for a longer period between 1pm to 8pm, on a permanent basis, with Bank Holiday Mondays thrown in for good measure. The justification appears to be that a small business benefit has accrued to the bar from the current Covid relief arrangements. This may be true, but any additional benefit which accrues to the bar from the requested extension completely ignores the detrimental effect of the noise on the many residents living within earshot of the bar, who work Monday to Friday and who will have their attempts to enjoy some quiet relaxation at the weekend ruined by the cacophony of noise coming from the bar.

Much of the shouting and chanting we have heard over the last year appears to have been associated with live sports coverage being shown by the bar, either with an outside screen or with the doors to the bar open, and we are concerned that if outside seating is allowed as requested, the chanting and shouting will become a daily and nightly occurrence, especially if sport is screened outside.

To understand just how many people are directly affected by the noise, the PrestburySports Bar car park is located pretty much centrally within the triangle of land enclosed by Portway, The Close, and the High Street. The sides of the triangle are 100 - 120 metres long, so every property bounding that triangle is within 60 metres of the car park, and the majority are much closer. That means that the residents of more than 25 residential properties and apartment blocks which back on to the triangle of land will suffer the worst of the noise due to the way the sound is contained, funnelled and reflected by those buildings on all sides. A similar number of residential properties on the other sides of those roads will also be affected to a lesser extent. It is worth noting that Kyngeston Court retirement apartments in the Close backs onto the triangle of land and is less than 40 metres from the car park, and Warminster Hospital sits about 80 metres away at the top end of the Close. Surely the many residents of both deserve the right to some peace and quiet?

To be clear, the occasional noise coming from the Prestbury did not cause any issues for us until the advent of live music outside in the last year. Since then, sitting out in the garden on a sunny Sunday has turned into sitting indoors with the windows closed. There has to my knowledge been no attempt by the owners or management of the bar to respond to complaints made to date, nor has there been any consultation with local residents regarding their new proposals, which I think is indicative of their lack of consideration for local residents. To then propose increasing the time the music can be played from 4 hours on a Sunday to a total of 14 hours on a Saturday <u>and</u> Sunday, and for a further 7 hours on Bank Holiday Mondays is unreasonable and unacceptable.

The Prestbury Sports Bar is located in a primarily residential area, not in a large city surrounded by business premises, and it should be regulated appropriately.

Please acknowledge receipt of these comments by return e-mail.

Yours sincerely, Christopher and Katherine May

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