WILTSHIRE POLICE



Mrs Carla ADKINS
Public Protection Officer (Licensing)
County Hall
Trowbridge
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Amesbury Police Station Amesbury Wiltshire SP4 7HL

Tel: 01225 256457

Date: 18/02/2022

Dear Mrs ADKINS,

Ref: Premises Licence Application - The New Inn, High Street, Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Wiltshire Police are in receipt of an application, submitted under the provision of the Licensing Act 2003 for a new premises licence for the above premises.

Wiltshire Police, as a responsible authority have considered the application, the proposed operating schedule, and the recent licensing history of both the premises and the effect that this application might have on the local community.

All parties are aware of course that these premises were the subject of a review hearing on the $26^{\rm th}$ of January 2022 whereby the licence was subsequently revoked.

During that hearing both Wiltshire Police and Wiltshire Council representatives made it clear to the sub-committee that there would be several conditions that they felt should be applied to the premises licence if they were not of a mind to revoke it.

The applicant for the new premises licence, Mr Stephen BRINDLEY was present at that hearing and was privy to that information.

The new application, in its' current form is not acceptable to Wiltshire Police and it is felt that the proposed opening hours will not contribute to addressing the issues of the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety and the prevention of public nuisance, given the previous history of the premises.

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Of particular concern are the proposed opening hours of the premises on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights and the inclusion of live music events until 02:00 hrs.

History has illustrated that the geography and fabric of the building itself isn't conducive to either amplified music nor people generated noise into the early hours of the morning, and it has been very difficult in the past to limit noise emanating from the premises and causing a public nuisance in the form of disturbed sleep for residents that surround the premises.

The applicant cites that he still wishes to run several live music events and will ensure that suitable noise limiting equipment is installed but this will not prevent music noise from emanating from the building whenever doors are opened.

The applicant also cites that he is aiming for a more mature client demographic who will be able to enjoy a safe and peaceful evening of the food and drink offering which begs the question, why the need for opening hours that stretch to 02:30 in the morning? There are other licensed premises in the area, offering a similar style that close at 23:00 without issues.

Additionally, the geography of Amesbury town centre doesn't lend itself to coping with large numbers of people leaving licenced premises in the early hours of the morning, a high number of whom will be intoxicated, noisy and possibly aggressive leading to crime and disorder and the defecation of residents' homes and damage to retail premises.

Amesbury has a small section police station, with a small compliment of staff to police the night-time economy and Wiltshire Police can illustrate that constantly having to deal with disorder in the town pulls those staff away from other areas of high responsibility.

There is quite a limited amount of public transport available to Amesbury in the early hours of the morning. No buses and a limited number of taxi drivers (some refuse to work there) which often leaves large numbers of people milling around, often intoxicated, shouting, swearing, fighting and causing damage.

Wiltshire Police absolutely acknowledge the value that licensed premises add to communities as places of social and economic importance and are keen that the right applicant be given the opportunity to illustrate that the premises can be run in a responsible manner. However, where they become detrimental to a community, appropriate action must be taken to seek improvement or

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reduce/remove the negative effects caused by the concerned premises and Wiltshire Police feel strongly that rigid conditions, especially concerning opening hours, need to be imposed.

It follows that, Wiltshire Police, as a responsible authority object to the application submitted by Mr BRINDLEY on the grounds that the issue of a premises licence would undermine the licensing objectives of:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- The prevention of public nuisance
- Public safety

Regards,

Alastair DAY 9935 Licensing Officer Amesbury Police Station Amesbury Wiltshire SP4 7HL

Tel: 01225 256457

Dated: 18/02/2022