

## *Appendix 3*

### **Representations**

#### **Representation 1 – Parish Council**

St. Mary in the Marsh Parish Council would like to object to the licence application from the Star public house for outside music.

The parish council has received several complaints from neighbours close to the public house due to persistent volume of noise from outside music and parking problems in the lane caused by its patrons.

Therefore, respecting residents' views the parish council will object to the application for an outside music licence. It is appreciated that a licence for occasional outside events may be applied for, but outside music every weekend is unacceptable. The parish council's view is that any activity held at the public house should be contained within its own boundaries.

Kind regards  
Gillian Smith  
Clerk, St. Mary in the Marsh Parish Council

#### **Representation 2 – Resident**

I am writing to inform you that I object to the application by Mr David Stone for a Premises Licence Variation for The Star Inn St Mary in the marsh, Romney marsh, Kent.

As a resident of Wade Close (houses nearest the Public House) I feel that any increase in musical entertainment would be highly disruptive to life here, not just the noise increase, but also the increase in traffic and parking of cars in the road outside the pub.

The Star Inn already has several music events throughout the year and the noise is often at an unacceptable level and frequency in my opinion, often forcing me to go out to avoid it.

I realise that public houses need food sales and entertainment to survive these days and I'm all for that, it is good to see our local pub doing well, however the possibility of loud music both weekend days throughout the year would be too much to live with.

With that in mind I sincerely hope that this application is not approved so that peaceful village life may continue with the quiet country pub that it has always been.

### **Representation 3 – Resident**

I note that this application allows the playing of 'music' outdoors each and every afternoon/evening throughout the year and at unspecified volume.

This is wholly inappropriate for a country pub in a rural setting. Much tourism is attracted to the area because of the tranquillity and peacefulness to be enjoyed here, this could so easily be damaged. The open nature of the Marsh landscape means that there is little natural noise attenuation, with sound travelling long distances at unpleasant volume.

Local residents (and all landowners) have a right to 'peaceful enjoyment' of their properties. This application doesn't just infringe that right, it potentially strips it away altogether. The situation which built up this year, where local residents (some more than 400m away) were unable to sit in their gardens because of the loud music emanating from this site should not be repeated, let alone endorsed or legitimised.

During the current pandemic our gardens and public spaces have become even more of a haven, providing essential respite from the stress of 'cabin fever', acting as the only legal way of meeting friends or relatives, some elderly, some living alone, all at risk. Any action which is detrimental to this safe and distanced contact must be viewed negatively, especially so if we are to avoid further restrictions and thus, damage to the local and national economy.

The outdoor music played at the site this year on Sunday 12th July was a contributory factor in what is best described as an act of mass idiocy, with large numbers of people gathering from who knows where? to drink, dance and embrace. No face coverings, No social distancing and congested lanes meaning key workers had to find alternative routes and work longer hours. Unfortunately Covid-19 does not restrict itself to the ignorant and selfish, therefore it is crucial that future events are limited, quieter, publicised and policed. Surely a Temporary Event Notice would be more appropriate to ensure any future outdoor music is occasional, at an acceptable volume, well organised and notified, properly staffed and policed? With the added benefit for the applicant of being sustainable and neighbourly, neither of which apply currently.

I urge you to refuse this application.

### **Representation 4 – Resident**

They have had complete disregards for residents in close proximity to the pub, With loud music played both weekend days virtually all summer, as residents we also like to enjoy our outside space, and times I have been driven indoors, and can still hear it, even with quality double glazing!

Along with allowing car owners to play very loud music on the days they didn't have performances, with the cars parked in the paddock/beer garden!  
TBH I'm not even sure they should have been having live music with the Covid restrictions, but some evidence can be found on the Star Inn, or Land Ladies Facebook page, which I notice has had some content removed of recent, probably as to damming, to support any credible application.

The Social distancing etc, was also a joke!

As residents of Wade Close, 5 residents out of 8 houses are shift workers, who moved the country for peace and quiet, enabling sleep during the day for night shift work. I also have primary school age children who have been kept awake way past 21.00. The Pub used to hold a couple of functions a year, which was fine. Not every weekend day as above.

I'd happily accept a day month, but virtually every weekend/Bank holiday day, all summer was, and is too much to endure.

### **Representation 5 – Resident**

We understand the licensee of The Star Inn has applied for a licence to hold outdoor music events both recorded and live, every weekend, and I imagine as in the past this will extend to Bank Holidays in addition to Saturday and Sundays.

We have complained to the Council this year and last regarding the intolerable noise from The Star Inn.

We strongly oppose the granting of this Licence to give them the legal right to destroy the peace of the Village every weekend.

1 The noise is so loud that we are obliged to go indoors, close all windows and doors, (and very uncomfortable this was in the hot weather) and put on our radio or television to drown out their noise and get some respite. The other option is to leave our home every weekend, from before midday to at least 10pm. The prospect of needing to do this, every weekend is beyond distressing!

2 The lanes around the village are hazardous when the Inn has these events. Drivers not familiar with lanes and seeming little regard, drive at speed, not pulling over or seeking a passing place, just plough up the verges. Also there is no parking for the many vehicles, and as previously stated lanes are narrow so many vehicles parked inappropriately further restricts access for other traffic, and more so larger vehicles eg tractors and machinery necessarily about in the area.

3. These "Music" events being held opposite the church would mean that church services, weddings, and visitors who travel some distances to view the church, visit a grave, or just want to enjoy this pretty ,previously peaceful little village will be subject to the unsuitable noise, and find parking impossible.

In conclusion it seems totally wrong and grossly unfair that the current licensees would be legally able to continue to destroy every weekend, making residents outside space both gardens and the surrounding lanes unusable. It will necessitate us to be confined indoors, or go out for the majority of the weekend.

This licence if granted is of advantage only to the licensees and their profit. It should also be mentioned that since the Covid 19 situation, their take away sales and events have taken place with no adherence to social distancing, drinkers and attendees also using the adjacent field, which has no washing or toilet facilities so obviously little regard for public health.

We implore you not to grant this licence on a weekly ongoing basis, and please give consideration to the health and wellbeing of all residents, and uphold our right to enjoy our homes and gardens.