

Niki Whitehouse

DE12 7PX

Mr Eyre
Licencing Team
NWLDC
Council Offices
Whitwick Road
Coalville, Leicestershire
LE67 3FJ

8th July 2014

Reference: Halfway Public House, Donisthorpe

Dear Mr Eyre,

We are writing to you to voice our objection to the proposed variation in the licence for the Halfway House Public House in Donisthorpe. We feel the proposed variation to include the beer garden and play area will impact adversely on our ability to have an acceptable quality of life which is a breach of the human rights act 1998 article 1 and 8 which says,

Every person has the right to respect for his home and private and family life and that we are entitled to peaceful enjoyment of our possessions.

This forms part of your Statement of Licencing Policy 2014-2019.

Under the Public Nuisance licencing objective contained in this same policy it states that the needs of businesses have to be balanced against the needs of the residence to have an acceptable quality of life. We feel that as the landlord of the pub appears unable to be fair in this regard as documentation we have sent you demonstrates, so we are looking to you to safeguard our interests in this matter as it is a legal requirement for you to do.

Our concerns are as follows,

A 10 meter buffer zone was included as a condition of planning approval ref 14/00102/FUL which should be 'free from use and development and be implemented along the north western and south western boundaries.' We would like to make sure this area won't be included in the licence variation as this may lead to confusion over where people are allowed to go while drinking. The report by the planning officer states it should be a 'no go area and left only as a wildlife corridor' although we are aware this now appears to be being developed by the landlord contrary to the planning conditions. We are aware that an acoustic fence has been included in this scheme in order to get it through planning but without any details of its height and the type of fencing we remain unconvinced this alone will mitigate the disruption to us sufficiently to not affect our enjoyment of our home.

We are also worried that if no limit is placed on the number of patrons/tables in the beer garden there is huge potential for public nuisance. This area could more than double the number of customers using the pub at any one time and increase greatly the amount of noise and disruption, at

the moment there are only four tables at the front of the pub. In addition to this the pub hasn't altered its facilities to accommodate this increase for example there are still only two toilets. This could potentially lead to people urinating outside. We have been notified that the landlord is planning to step away from the day to day running of the pub once this process is completed leaving a young and very inexperienced team to oversee this potentially difficult transition and increase in business.

We are aware that other pubs in the area have restricted the opening hours for their outside areas to mitigate noise disruption for local residents for example in Ashby De La Zouch many of the pubs close their beer gardens / outside spaces at 10.00 / 10.30. As this is a less urban area the potential for noise carrying is far greater especially at night, we hope this same policy of different operating hours will be adopted in this case.

In addition to this we also have concerns about potential littering, smoke and light pollution and trust that the impact of all these will be considered during this process.

We would welcome the opportunity for you to visit our home so we can demonstrate the close proximity of the beer garden to our property and that of the new proposed dwelling, and so we can further discuss our concerns. Please email me at any time

Yours sincerely

Niki Whitehouse