From: SA email redacted

To: <u>licensing</u>

Subject: Letter of support - The Fox Eating and Drinking House

Date: 17 September 2021 12:19:07

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter of support for The Fox Eating and Drinking House in West Hoathly. I have lived close to The Fox for 8 years and have always enjoyed going with my family and friends and couldn't imagine it not being there in the same capacity that Claire and Tim have run it for all these years.

The Fox has always been a warm, friendly and safe place to go as a family. Our three young children are always welcomed and well catered for. I enjoy seeing people of all ages come together and socialise. We have met older residents from the village at The Fox and from this been able to keep in touch with them which in the last few years has been crucial for many peoples mental health and prevented loneliness. I know that Claire and Tim have done a wonderful job in providing meals for many of these people throughout the pandemic.

On many occasions that I have attended The Fox there have been groups of young adults and they have always been very well behaved and respectable. I have seen bar staff ensuring they are over 18 before serving them and I believe the lovely atmosphere The Fox always has is largely down to the way Claire and Tim run things and how much everyone respects them. It brings me great comfort to know that when my children are old enough to go out with their friends they will have a safe place to go where all the relevant laws are followed.

The Fox almost certainly prevents crime and disorder as it is a safe and incredibly well run establishment well respected by people of all ages. Claire and Tim welcome local bands and provide excellent entertainment. They adhere to the times set out to open and close and have music and they do all that they can to ensure people leave quietly and respect the local residents. I have also seen people refused drinks when they have had too much and I really respect them for this. The business has done so incredibly well to keep going throughout the pandemic and all along support the residents.

The Fox really is the heart of our village and to see it close would have a

hugely damaging and negative impact on so many. The livelihoods of many gone, the social impact on many that rely on the safe and warm environment the fox provides gone. The Fox has been in our village longer than any of us and almost every single resident wants it to stay as Claire and Tim have run it since they started.

Kindest regards

Sophie Abbott