

REPRESENTATIONS IN RELATION TO AN APPLICATION FOR THE VARIATION OF THE PREMISES LICENCE OF THE ROYAL OAK POYNINGS MADE ON 19 JULY 2022

The prevention of public nuisance

I live a third of a mile away (as the crow flies) from the Royal Oak pub in Poynings in the northern part of the village.

My address is:-

REDACTED

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REDCATED

I am particularly concerned about noise nuisance which happens when the pub is hosting wedding or special events such as those on bank holidays in the spring/summertime. I find it incredibly annoying to have to listen to the amplified music and the public address system in use in connection with these events. I have spoken to a number of villagers who live a similar distance from the pub and they share my annoyance. We all have a right to choose in our own homes what music we listen to and when we do so. It is appalling that we have to listen to this intrusive amplified noise from the pub at any time.

I understand that you are under a statutory duty to promote the prevention of public nuisance and that covers noise nuisance. I also understand that your authority has issued guidance about beer gardens and children's play area in Appendix 9 to your licensing policy statement. It states:

"Premises that have beer gardens and children's play areas may cause noise nuisance if residential premises are nearby. This problem will be exacerbated in the summer months.

Tips to control noise from beer gardens and children's play areas:

1. Music should not be played in these areas.
2. Doors leading onto the beer garden/play area should be kept closed, in order to contain the noise.
3. Management should control customer's behaviour in order to ensure it does not give rise to noise nuisance.
4. Access to these areas should be restricted, particularly at night, to ensure noise is controlled."

The Royal Oak is surrounded by residential premises but since their outdoor areas have no doors or windows which can be shut to contain noise amplified sound can be heard depending on time of day and wind direction as far away as my house. It is important that your guidance is turned into enforceable conditions of the pub's licence. They will not otherwise observe it. They know that it is contrary to the SDNP's planning policy to use the field just by their proper car park as an overspill car park. Nevertheless, they persist in using it and because it is so inviting for children they use it as a play area. There should be a condition preventing this use of the field.

Jan Nichols (Ms)