

**From:** [Erica Werner](#)  
**To:** [licensing](#)  
**Subject:** Ref: Reference: LI/22/1140 Variation to licence Royal Oak Poynings BN45 7AQ  
**Date:** 15 August 2022 18:19:23  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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Dear Sirs

With reference to the above application which, if my understanding is correct, extends the current 'inside' licence to cover the outside/garden bar area, permitting the garden bar to operate as a full dispensing bar during all opening hours of the current licence which I understand to be 11am to midnight 7 days a week.

Also, if I understand correctly, licensing this area would permit live or recorded music to be played in the garden (to less than 500 persons), at any point during these opening hours, 7 days a week.

If my understanding is correct, then I am disappointed that this application differs very little from the original (withdrawn) application, and appears to still be in conflict with the Licencee's stated aim of 'occasional use to relieve traffic at peak times'. I would therefore like to reiterate my comments as previously submitted in the below emails

- I am afraid that I would have to object on the grounds of the prevention of public nuisance. A full service outdoor bar will inevitably increase noise emanating from the venue. As people gather around bars, ordering, vertical drinking, socialising and potentially dancing, noise volumes inevitably increase. Outdoor vertical drinking also encourages a drink-led trade (non diners) and also discourages the families that the pub claims to be seeking to attract (note that the bar is adjacent to the current children's play area). It will encourage people to congregate outside later and these drinkers could easily be serviced at the inside bar. Any increase in drinkers will also increase the volume of cars parking on the road (there is a real issue with pub goers not using the car park). The associated car noise will increase later into the evening. Outdoor vertical drinking also increases the risk of anti social behaviour and we object also on the basis of the prevention of crime and disorder. Increase of drinkers in the garden area, would also increase foot traffic across the public access road between the garden and the pub itself where the only toilets are situated. This is contrary to the stated aim of reducing foot traffic in this area.
- The ability to provide musical entertainment unregulated, in the outside spaces 7 days a week during these same hours would also constitute a public nuisance. I have absolutely no objection to occasional music events eg public holidays etc, but I do not feel that granting carte blanche on this would be appropriate for a country pub.

I reiterate my previous comments from my previous email:

To clarify, we absolutely do not wish to prevent the Royal Oak from their stated objective of 'occasional' events eg music at weddings, the occasional weekend and public holidays. We simply feel that any variation to the licence should accurately reflect this to retain the current family-focussed pub with the emphasis on dining.

It is clear that licencing the outside bar from 12pm to 12am daily 7 days a week will increase outside drinking, and will normalize and increase the likelihood of such events on a more regular basis which would constitute a public nuisance. Operating the bar at peak times eg Friday to Sunday 12 – 8pm would be sufficient to meet the business' stated requirements of ease of service and staff safety, and any special events, eg weddings, that might wish to continue till a later hour could, as now, be addressed through a temporary events licence to which we would have no objection.

We appreciate our local pub, and feel that by working together we can maintain a happy community. We have no wish to stand in their way of reasonable development, however a 7 day 12hour outside licence would indeed intensify the outside business, resulting noise and music which creates a public nuisance. A reduced hours / peak time licence, supplemented with temporary event licences as required would serve their needs, and we would not object to this.

Thanking you for your consideration