

Natasha Barnes

From: Louise Aston
Sent: 19 July 2006 14:16
To: Natasha Barnes
Subject: FW: OBJECTION - Hook Norton Sports & Social Club Variation of Licence

Importance: High

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-----Original Message-----

From: Steve Jackson [mailto:steve@hook-norton.net]
Sent: 19 July 2006 13:55
To: elections.licensing@cherwell-dc.gov.uk
Cc: Jeanette Esson
Subject: OBJECTION - Hook Norton Sports & Social Club Variation of Licence
Importance: High

I very strongly object to the proposed variation of Licence for the 'Hook Norton Sports & Social Club'.

Currently, recent increase in activities over the last two years have created a great deal of disruption and disturbance to the quality of life of nearby resident.

Over time, as neighbours, we have constantly have to suffer large amounts of noise and disturbance from the premises and traffic and pedestrians to and from the premises.

Such examples of these disturbances vary from the following examples that take place at varying frequency:-

- Load music from discos and bands etc playing - This can usually be heard quite easily from sitting in our living room even with our windows closed! Sometimes this can continue as late as 2:30 - 3:00 am
- Vandalism to property - one neighbour even had a concrete block thrown at their front door.
- Vandalism to cars - This has varied from scratch, mirrors dents even a car door being kicked in.
- Sometimes fighting, arguing, shouting, screaming - again sometimes very late.
- Broken glass found in neighbours drives, in the street in gardens etc. This may vary from bottles to pint glasses.
- Individuals urinating in drives and on hedges.
- People / groups being pushing into garden hedges.
- Shouting and general public disturbance both during and after an event
- Car horns being blasting during leaving.
- Cars creating a disturbance by wheel-spinning out on the gravel.
- Cars exiting at high speed (probably drunk) and leaving the area in an unsafe

manner.

- Disturbance from external lighting going on and off, and on may occasion being left on throughout the night (This normally shines directly into our bedroom and is possibly the case for other neighbours too).
- People disbursing into other parts of the village and creating a disturbance in other areas - such as the park.
- People wondering down the road drinking from full pint glasses, bottles, cans etc.

This list is probably short of everything I could mention, and some may say that each individual item is trivial, but I urge you to recognise the accumulative effect that all this has on the quality of peoples lives who have to live in the surrounding area. Also bear in mind the relentless of the disturbance. Because of the type of facilities, worst case we may suffer a constant disruption from as early as 9:00 am until late into the night such as 2:00 am - A constant 18 hours of disruption!

We never get a rest from it!!! The only sigh of relief on a weekday is when everyone has left between 21:30 - 22:00 Then at last - some peace (hopefully). For this point - I urge that the weekday licensing hours be kept the same.

We have two small children (aged 3 and 5) and quite often they are disrupted from their sleep. Also in warm weather (like now) it is impossible for them to get a full nights sleep. We are constantly battling over having to keep their bedroom windows open or closed - too hot or too noisy! This inevitable leaves them going to school and playgroup in the mornings tired, and sometimes with them falling asleep in the afternoons. This is my strongest object since from my personal perspective my children's welfare and education is of the utmost importance.

I also have little faith in that the facility can be run and managed in a responsible manner. For years the current licensing regulation has been ignored, and also there is even evidence of drinks being sold to minors.

Even if the current applicant appears responsible, what happens when the someone else takes over. The current proposal for change in the licence will devastate the quality of lives for people in the area for years to come.

I believe that the current licence regulations are perfectly adequate and create a reasonable balance between the residents and the needs of the Hook Norton Sports and Social Club. If anything I would like to see a greater restriction on noise and disturbance, so that we can no longer hear the disturbance while sat within our living room!!!

It does also strike me as perverse that a facility that touts itself as being for the good of young people wants to boost it's bar takings by increasing the opportunity to 'legally' sell alcohol to a predominately young clientèle . I don't believe that this is in the interest of the youngsters and sport, and to some extent is irresponsible. We have already seen that there is a general problem with excessive drinking amongst some of the youth in this country, and this proposed change in licence application does not help that.

Yours Sincerely,
Steve Jackson,
37 The Bourne,
Hook Norton