

Mr Steve Ashby,

We wish to make representation regarding the application for a license variation by The Spotted Frog public house in respect of the crime and disorder, public nuisance and public safety licensing objectives.

Comments regarding the License Variation application for the Spotted Frog public house.

- The area generally is densely populated,
- The surrounding houses are old, terrace houses, probably with insulation below current standards, and the streets are narrow, holding concentrated sounds.
- Along Chester Street, about 500 metres from the pub site, is Connelly Court, a Housing Association property with some external units, that houses tenants of over 55 years of age. Some of the tenants are over 70 years old.
- A supported living scheme is being built directly opposite the developed outside area that the Spotted Frog intends to use for its activities. The future residents are expected to have mental health issues and have visiting carers.
- This area of Chester Street is well used for parking vehicles by residents, users of Chatsworth Road businesses generally, and vehicles being worked on by the vehicle repair business adjoining the Spotted Frog.
- How long after drinks cease to be served will the venue be open to customers?

We make these points available to the Committee, as in the past we have had complaints from residents close to other Chatsworth Road area pubs when outside entertainments occur. We live in Boythorpe, not too far away from Chatsworth Road, and we are aware how the music from the area can be heard a fair distance away.

Of course, when complaints are made it is always outside normal business hours and there is no source of support for residents, or their councillors. The Police are usually concentrating on more serious activities, and Council staff are not at work.

In similar circumstances, it's not just the noise from the venue that's an issue. Some of the public don't always disperse and leave the venue in an orderly manner. This can bring about anti-social behaviour well after the venue has stopped serving.

As Ward Cllrs, we believe that if the licence variation was for specific events, it would be more acceptable, it looks as though the venue is wanting to have outside music at anytime and we feel that this could lead to problems with the nearby residents.

We believe that these concerns should be considered now, rather than when complaints start to be made.

As local Councillors, we are aware that the pubs of Brampton are an important part of the area's economy and the well-being of many of the residents, however, the well-being of those who live close to the pubs should also be taken into account.

Attached is a text sent to us by a concerned resident. This resident wishes to remain anonymous and so we have removed all identification from the text.

Keith Falconer.

Holmebrook Ward Cllr.

Glenys Falconer.

Holmebrook Ward Cllr.

This is the text of an email that Cllr. Keith Falconer received from a resident who wishes to remain anonymous. Identification has been removed.

I was just looking at the application to amend the **licence for PL/VF 0153**.

For context, I live on **DETAILS REMOVED**. I am shielding with my partner and am unable to engage with neighbours on the matter, and don't have the time or resources to get representation to formally respond to the application. If I respond formally as an individual and my address is made public, I would be concerned about reprisals given how close we are to the pub. I am contacting you as I wanted to make sure the local circumstances were fully considered.

We don't oppose the creation of an outdoor bar, or even having some music outside. But we have some serious concerns about extending opening hours to 1am at weekends.

I am sure you are aware that the NHS are developing semi-independent living units opposite the entry / exits to the pub beer garden (which used to be a car park). These will be for vulnerable people with mental health needs. It is not appropriate to have a venue which can play loud music until 11pm and have people drinking until 1am directly opposite. The nearest dwelling is probably within 25 feet of the premises.

I started setting out some other concerns on the formal response proforma:

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder

The business wishes to extend opening hours until 1am and extend the suite of entertainment on offer.

There have already been instances of crime and disorder around the premises, including a brawl involving dozens of people, which was publicised in the Derbyshire Times.

It is not suitable to have a large scale outdoor entertainment destination at this location, so close to so many residential properties. The landlord, when responding to reports of the mass brawl (which armed police attended) blamed this on people travelling from Sheffield to cause nuisance. Increasing the range of entertainment will likely mean more people will travel further distances to visit. Increasing the amount of time people can stay and drink at the pub, could increase instances of crime and disorder.

The beer garden used to be a car park; it can hold 200 people. There is now no private parking provision for pub users, so the pub has no oversight or responsibility for how people act when leaving the pub by car. We reported a police incident in the summer when four males who had left the pub, got into a car outside our house, took drugs on the passenger seat, and then drove it up and down the road (at top speed), before it seemingly broke down, and they then had a lengthy argument before ditching it and calling a taxi. This clearly shouldn't happen at any time, but if the pub opened until 1am, such disorder would be taking place in the early hours; which will be particularly distressing for residents.

Public Safety

There are dozens of discarded beer bottles around Catherine Street and the other streets around the pub. People often leave the pub with bottles of beer and ditch them on the street before getting in a taxi or car. These can obviously cause a hazard or as a potential weapon by opportune criminals!

The parking in the area is unsuitable for the venue. Because of the lack of provision for parking, there are often cars parked illegally on the curb and on bends. This in itself is a threat to public safety, and it is an inevitability that there will be a crash around the site. There are often disputes between residents, gym users, the local garage and pub users. The risk of confrontation and repercussion is obviously increased when people are drunk. Allowing the pub to remain open until 1am will only exacerbate the situation. The staff often park on Catherine Street so I presume would be returning to their vehicles on a residential street at around 1.30am.

The Prevention of Public Nuisance

Since the pub was refurbished, we have witnessed:

- A brawl between dozens of people which the armed police responded to
- Drug use in cars by pub users
- Dangerous driving
- People urinating in the street
- Lots of noise!

It is not suitable to extend opening hours or the entertainment on offer, given the number of houses in the immediate area and the impact on residents health, wellbeing and safety, particularly now the NHS will be housing vulnerable residents in a new semi-independent living complex within feet of the entrance / exit.

On weekends, we are woken, or have to stay up beyond 11pm every night, as staff and pub users use Catherine Street as the defacto car park. The pub management may well remind customers that there are residents and to be quiet when dispersing, but obviously this doesn't mitigate the fact that drunk people, in the street, will be noisy! Having dozens of vehicles coming and going is an annoyance, but if this was happening at and beyond 1am, it would be really unfair on residents.