

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 August 2022 00:29
To: Licensing Services
Subject: The Station House Barden Road License Application

Categories: Helen, Katie

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to raise a number of objections to the extended license being applied for by the Station House, Barden Road.

I note that the application is for extended opening hours, extended hours for music and licensed activities. As a neighbour to this business I wish to highlight that this application runs counter to a number of stated aims of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and should therefore be rejected. I have no issue with licensed premises and fully support the importance of a thriving night time economy however it is essential that these premises maintain and help grow an area and not detract from it, therefore I will raise a number of issues in this representation. These issues are particularly pertinent as the town suffers after the recent killing, close to the licensed premises.

- **Prevention of Crime and Disorder**

The licensed premises when operating late at night attracts people from around the town and other areas, people often travel in, by train and taxi to attend. However, there is not a weekend where a fight, threats of violence or acts of disorder occur across Barden Road and towards the train station. The security staff at the venue are very efficient and eject people from the premises however this will often mean violence and disorder on the streets and into the train station. This is exacerbated by the side entrance to the train station. This side entrance is rarely staffed however, it attracts people wishing to jump the train, having paid no fare or those running from, too or as part of a dispute with others from the venue. It would be fair better to close the side entrance and force people to use the main entrance, where people could be managed more effectively.

- **Prevention of Public Nuisance**

The trials of later activities has led to a number of issues for neighbours and the wider community, the music recently has appeared particularly loud, especially heard from Danvers Road. The pubs presence also leads directly and creates situations where public nuisance occurs which will lead to public disorder. I have personally interrupted four people urinating in someones doorway, twice in the side entrance doorway of number 30. One of these situations led to shouting and near violence when those undertaking the action were caught. I have found one person urinating in the doorway of my own property and when challenging him been faced with threats and intimidation. There are also numerous occurrences of public urination where people urinate in and around 18 Barden Road, along Danvers Road and behind the Station House in the Youth hub car park, making this site off limits when out walking late, for fear of creating a violent situation.

The venue also attracts a range of customers who create a range of issues. The Train Station car park in Barden Road was recently used a meet point for car cruisers who were meeting at the Station House, this led to a night of loud revving engines, shouting, drinking, littering and a number of loud altercations before the group left the area. The patrons of the venue also cause distress for the neighbours and this again risks increasing without intervention. An example would be of a recent group of men aged 18-35 who left the pub and went along the street banging on windows of houses, especially those with a light on, they banged on both 26 and 30 and when challenged by myself, became verbally abusive. The harassing of the person in 30 Barden Road is also very troubling considering they are older aged, alone and have no close relatives or friends.

- **Promotion of Public Safety**

As highlighted above the incidents arising from patrons of the pub have led to a number of altercations and possible issues for public safety, with the train station exit on Barden Road being visibly used for drug dealing, loitering and violent altercations, the risk to public safety can only increase.

- Protection of Children from Harm

The pub is a home to children and the streets around the venue, Barden, Danvers and Holford are increasingly home to young children and families with children indeed the venue itself is home to 6 children. The volume of the music and issues of people attending and leaving the venue create serious issues from protection of children from harm, all issues which do not seem to be addressed in the application for variation of the license.

I very much hope these representations are clear, however should you need any further information please do not hesitate to let me know.

Kind regards

A concerned neighbour