

The Licensing Section
Dorset Council
South Walks House
Dorchester
DT1 1UZ

26.4.19

Dear Samantha Spracklen

Re: Application to vary license WDPL0152

Swim, Marine Parade, Lyme Regis, DT7 3JH

RECEIVED
30 APR 2019

Thank you for your letter 25th April in response to my letter of objection to the application to vary the above license for SWIM. To explain my reasons of objection in line with the four licensing objectives, for ease of reference I have added my further explanation in red, to my original comments.

- 1) From 2017, when the restaurant By the Bay changed to a nightclub called SWIM we have experienced a sharp increase in anti social behaviour in the Cobb Area of Lyme Regis.

The fact is that there are not enough Police available to protect residents or their property from anti social behaviour, which means that any further increase in alcohol sales on and off of a premises will only promote an increase in the amount of this anti social behaviour.

- 2) Lyme Regis is a family holiday resort and the holiday letting business is the sole income for most businesses. Increased anti social behaviour, particularly late at night will damage this holiday letting business for many people who own property in this area.

By extending the license until 2.00 am in an area which can only be accessed past residential property, on foot and by car, without Police every night of the week, there is no way to control anti social behaviour in the small hours. This will promote Public Nuisance until 2.30 or 3.00 am and which as a direct result visitors will not return to stay in this area of Lyme Regis again. This public nuisance will be detrimental and damaging to the reputation of the town and other law abiding business in Lyme Regis. **Point 2 is directly linked to the Prevention of Public Nuisance.**

- 3) For customers to access SWIM they generally drive to the Cobb, down Cobb Road and park and make their way on foot along the Street (the narrow road before the Marine Parade) , or the new Cart Road extension, both which pass numerous holiday flats and houses. When they leave in the small hours they have to reverse their journey, along the Street, and back up Cobb Road. This increases the noise of loud people in the small hours and also increases traffic roaring up Cobb Road in the small hours. If they don't leave on this route then they walk along the Marine Parade to the Square at the bottom of Broad Street, again past holiday letting businesses. An extension to the Licensed hours until 2.00 am , 7 nights a week, will mean people hanging around at the Cobb waiting to be picked up even later, in the small hours, causing anti social noise levels and disturbance to people who live, or are staying on holiday in this area. Point 3 is directly linked to the prevention of crime and disorder and the prevention of public nuisance caused by anti social behaviour which will be exacerbated by the extension until 2.00 am, which would allow not only noise later into the small hours which is a public nuisance but also will promote an increase in alcohol consumption by the extended license. This extension does not promote the prevention of crime and disorder without Police every night at 2.00 am in the Cobb Area of Lyme Regis. This is a direct link to Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety and Prevention of public nuisance caused by drunken anti social behaviour in the small hours.
- 4) The application for sales of alcohol off the premises should be refused for the same reasons of anti social behaviour and the impact it will have on the surrounding area of the beach and harbour at this famous holiday resort. You only have to look at Weymouth and ask yourself, do we want to send Lyme Regis the same way? Do we want Lyme Regis to have the same problems and reputation as Weymouth?
- 5) The application to sell alcohol from the Kiosk which is next to Swim and adjacent to the sandy beach should be refused. Children who are in the area and on the beach should be protected by the Licensing Law and not put at risk by off premises sales of alcohol in an area mainly used by and for children.

Point 5 directly addresses the issue of Public Safety, The protection of children from harm and the prevention of public nuisance. To purchase and consume alcohol from the Kiosk and consume off the premises will not promote the protection of children. To the contrary it will enable young people to drink on the beach. In a family holiday environment alcohol should only be sold and consumed on the premises under strict supervision of the licensee. There would be nothing to prevent under age drinking on the beach. The beach area adjacent to SWIM is packed with young people and children in the holidays and at weekends. Public safety would be seriously compromised by allowing the sale of alcohol in this environment without constant policing. There would be nothing to prevent anti social and threatening behaviour to the public as a direct result of alcohol being readily available and consumed off these premises on the Promenade and the Children's sandy beach.

What sort of holiday resort do we want Lyme Regis to be? No one wants to sit on the beach with small children next to youths who are drinking and drunk. No one wants to stay in a resort where you cannot wander along the promenade on a fine evening to relax and look at the sea, if you have to walk past a loud nightclub and the resulting anti social behaviour and drunkenness spilling out onto the promenade and beach.

No one wants to stay on holiday in a place where you cannot sleep because of the resulting anti social behaviour from late night drinking.

I would urge the committee to look carefully at the unintended consequences of granting this extension to a license which already has a negative impact on the area.

The application to vary and extend the alcohol license for SWIM will not promote the prevention of crime and disorder in the Cobb area, nor will it promote Public Safety, Prevention of public nuisance off the premises in the Cobb area and nor will it be able to guarantee the protection of children from harm in this area, without a constant Police presence. There cannot be a constant Police presence at the Cobb in Lyme Regis.

It should be noted that there are already three large Public Houses, The Cobb Arms, The Harbour Inn and the Royal Standard all within 200 yards of each other. There are also licenses granted for 'Pop up Bars' at the Beach Café adjacent to and between the Harbour Inn and the Royal Standard.(this has been a disaster where broken glass has been scattered all over the children's beach from drunken anti social behaviour)

This in itself is contrary to the objectives of the Licensing Policy in that the proximity of this number of establishments to each other is detrimental to the area. To add the extended license to SWIM and the variance for use of the Kiosk, which is also within 200 yards from these other three premises is contrary to the spirit and objectives of the Licensing Policy of Dorset.

Yours faithfully

Sarah Wilkinson

Cc J. Sellgren Esq.