

## Licensing

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 05 March 2023 13:19  
**To:** Licensing  
**Subject:** Chesil Rocks Licence Applications

**Categories:** Karen

I should declare a personal interest in this event. This is the 10th Chesil Rocks, and when started Tim Warren asked me if he could organise an event to support the Samaritans at Weymouth. At that time I was the Director for Dorset. (All volunteers are unpaid, including Directors) Samaritans do not receive Government Grants because they will not disclose any details of conversations or callers; except where required to do so by law. At Weymouth Samaritans they were dealing with over 30,000 calls a year and providing support to local Prisons. The cost of operating the service, including providing the premises, car parking for volunteers, etc. etc. was then in excess of £40,000 (I do not have the current figure but that was about 13 years ago). With virtually no other large sources of income, apart from Chesil Rocks, volunteers have to fund raise as well as providing a listening service, including during the night when the most calls are received.

Over the years Chesil Rocks has been able to give the Weymouth Samaritans I believe now over £80,000... so it is a vital source of income for this important charity. I am now too old to be a Samaritan.

The event has grown since its inception from just live music on the Saturday, then a classical evening was added on the Friday and now a comedy evening on the Thursday.. (far less people attend on the Thursday and Friday) In all this time there has never been a problem of bad behaviour, drunkenness, violence, damage to any property, (and as far as I am aware no drugs) and the noise is difficult to hear except in a very few close houses. Tim's organisation has been first class including lots of signage including car Parking in a field, encouraging a one way system, particularly in the busy day Saturday.

A few local people complained in the first year that the event would cause problems, but nothing has ever transpired. Very many local village people support the event and provide support before, during and after the day. I am not normally an attendee of such events, but the atmosphere at Chesil rocks is delightful. On the Saturday, people of every age from in excess of 90, to babies and young children all seem to thoroughly enjoy themselves in the family atmosphere, and there is normally games for the children to play, face painting and a story teller. I therefore unequivocally support this licence application.

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