

Representations made against the application

1

We own an apartment in [REDACTED] close to the applicant's premises. Over the past 5 years there have been no problems of noise or disturbance at Copper Street Brewery and the premises have provided a congenial meeting place for residents and others and the current licencing hours have proved most satisfactory. Also 6 day opening has been the norm. However to extend the licensing hours to 23.00 hours in a residential area is not acceptable and could attract noise often associated with late night drinking. Difficult to understand why a film licence is necessary especially in such a restricted, small area - are these to be 'niche'/specialized films. There are already 2 cinemas in Dorchester and we cannot believe that either are making realistic profits so why is another 'cinema' required?

2

We live [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and have noted the request for extended licensing hours and permission to show films.

The brewer told me that he plans to show only DVDs and that the sound volume will be no higher than ordinary TV programmes so we're happy with that.

As far as extended opening hours is concerned we can no doubt live with this as long as it applies to indoor service and drinking. However, in summer (in fact during the last 3-4 sunny days) he has as many or more customers on the pavement as in the brewhouse. For us, when we're indoors, the talk/laugh noise isn't noticeable - we're a bit further from the action than our neighbours - but if we're on the balcony, as we would want to be on sunny evenings, the constant noise would be irritating and disturbing. If the licence covers opening until 11pm then that would affect sleeping as the bedroom is above and close to the pavement and road. Would the extended licence cover open air drinking?

He has major road-closure drinking weekends and in the past we have had to complain about disturbance and noise and I must say he has been very willing to keep these effects under control. To have regular and frequent open-air drinking would be unacceptable to us as residents and I would be grateful for your comments on what would be covered by the terms of any licence granted.

Dear Sir,

Below is the wording of a message sent to Brewery Square management concerning a request for changes in the licence held by the Copper Street brewery.

After seeing the blue notice in his window the other day I spoke to Alastair about any effects this might have for nearby residents. He said that the film licence would allow him to show DVDs etc on the existing TV and that there should be (would be) no additional noise. We hope that this is so because the wording seems to leave things much more open.

As to drinking hours, Alastair said that these aren't greater than the existing permitted hours. The danger, from residents' point of view, is that in summer time with a lot of outdoor drinking and then some time spent in clearing up and putting furniture and barrels away, the noise might well be unacceptable.

This message summarises the views of those who live above or close to the brewery and we would be grateful if our concerns about noise, particularly late night noise, are taken into account.

Yours faithfully,

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Dear Sirs

We are writing with regard to the application to increase the licensing hours of Copper Street Brewery.

While we fully appreciate that the hard working brewery owners are making every effort to ensure their business is a success, we had hoped they would give some thought to how an increase in licensing hours would affect their elderly neighbours.

We are very concerned about the number of customers who would be able to use the outside seating, particularly during the summer months, if licensing is allowed until 23.00. A gathering of customers using the outside space until late in the evening would be quite disturbing for residents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Dear Ms Miller

Thank you for your email of 30 March giving the applicant's reply to our concerns.

We regret that the applicant's reply has in no way alleviated our concerns and we are not satisfied with the application. On the contrary, it has confirmed our worst fears that the outside seating will be used for unlimited customers from 10am until 23.20 for 7 days a week. As we mentioned previously the seating is no more than [REDACTED] [REDACTED] balcony which makes it almost impossible not to be disturbed by customers socialising while consuming alcohol.

It is regrettable that the applicant has chosen to misunderstand our concerns about his application. We are not only worried about disturbance at 23.20 but the noise from both inside and outside during whole of the late evening, 7 days a week. With regard to the applicant's comment about the noise from a train at 23.30, we should point out that noise of a train, which we accepted when we purchased our flat, is an isolated incident, whereas the noise from the applicant's customers is constant.

Could we please also point out that, under the terms of their lease, Brewery Square residents are not allowed to cause any disturbance to their neighbours. It therefore seems unfair and unreasonable that this rule clearly does not seem to apply to the commercial units in the development.

Could we make a constructive suggestion that, as the applicant has said he doesn't hear any noise from us, that the installation of sound proofing in the Brewery would at least reduce the noise that we hear from inside the Brewery.

In view of the above, we confirm that we do not wish to have our representation withdrawn.

Thank you for your attention.

Dear [REDACTED], thank you for your email with your comments regarding the outside seating area, I have forwarded your comments to Mr Burrell, the applicant and he has responded with the following:

We would only have customers outside for 20 minutes after 23:00 as we would actively clear the furniture away. We are also installing please respect our neighbours and be quiet signs outside and inside. The last train leaves at about 23:30 so I can't see it being a problem with noise from our customers.

I am required under the Licensing Act to ask if the above points have, or have not, alleviated your concerns and if you are now satisfied with the application. Due to the time constraints surrounding an application I would be grateful if you could please let me know by **6 April 2026** whether or not you wish to have your representation withdrawn.

If you wish to continue with your representation, I will arrange for a Licensing Sub Committee hearing to take place at Dorset Council Offices, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ, a formal invite with a date and time will be sent out to you in due course

I would also like to inform you that any premises that holds a licence under the Licensing Act 2003, can be subject to a review at any time if an establishment fails to satisfy one or all of the four licensing objectives. (The prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm). A review would be heard at a Licensing Sub Committee where conditions or restrictions may be added to the licence to resolve outstanding issues.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any additional queries or would like to discuss the matter further.

Many thanks

Kathryn Miller
Senior Licensing Officer

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