

Kate Halsall

From: licensing@waverley.gov.uk
Sent: Saturday 28 February 2015 10:59
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: WK/201410301 : Representation received

①

Address: Frensham Pond Hotel, Bacon Lane, Churt, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 2QD

Please check above worksheet for representation received online

I would like to object to the extension to 1.30am of the existing licence arrangements to the Frensham Pond Hotel, and the use of a marquee in the garden. Reasons for this are as follows: 1. Noise levels in this rural area carry for miles, particularly at night. 2. Music inside the building is muffled while the doors and windows are shut, however, during summer months when doors and windows are open, causes the noise levels to be increased. This is particularly noticeable at the end of the event ie midnight. 3. Having music in a marquee in the grounds will elevate the noise levels for the entire licence period. 4. Current arrangements for music until midnight inside the hotel are bearable, however an extension of this period would be intolerable not only in the hotel, but especially if they are proposing to have events in a marquee which cannot be soundproofed. Additional e-mail sent to cover other points.

P.T.O

Kate Halsall

From:
Sent: Saturday 28 February 2015 11:10
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: Frensham Pond Hotel Licence - Marquee & 1.30am Extension

Hi there,

I made a representation through the online system about the above licence however, there were only so many characters and not sure if it all came through to you so, have copied this into an e-mail.

I would like to object to the extension to 1.30am of the existing licence arrangements to the Frensham Pond Hotel, and the use of a marquee in the garden.

Reasons for this are as follows:

1. Noise levels in this rural area carry for miles, particularly at night.
2. Music inside the building is muffled while the doors and windows are shut, however, during summer months when doors and windows are open, causes the noise levels to be increased. This is particularly noticeable at the end of the event ie midnight.
3. Having music in a marquee in the grounds will elevate the noise levels for the entire licence period.
4. Current arrangements for music until midnight inside the hotel are bearable, however an extension of this period would be intolerable not only in the hotel, but especially if they are proposing to have events in a marquee which cannot be soundproofed.
5. The marquee is really not an acceptable proposal for this quiet rural area as it will affect all the houses surrounding the hotel as the noise carries for miles.

From:

Kate Halsall

From:
Sent: Sunday 01 March 2015 23:10
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: Objection to Variation of a Premises Licence

2

reference: VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE RELATING TO DEMIBOURNE LTD T/A
FRENHAM POND HOTEL, BACON LANE, CHURT, FARNHAM, SURREY, GU10 2QD

We are writing to raise an objection the application for a variation of a premises licence of the above premises.

We are neighbours of the premises, at

We object on the grounds of inevitable disturbance to a residential area from extended public licensing hours and activities. Frensham Great Pond is also a rare location for its habitat value to bats and other protected wildlife species which breed within its surrounding area. Increased human activity, with increased late night traffic within rural roads, will necessarily pose unacceptable disturbances to this delicate habitat.

We object in particular to the to the following:

- adding plays and films Monday to Sunday 10:00 to 00:00 is turning the location into a theatre and cinema. Such activities are well provided for within the town of Farnham, and a little further within Guildford. There are many locations already available for such activities serving the locality.
- extending terminal hour for currently authorised regulated entertainment Monday to Sunday until 01:30 will create unacceptable disturbance to the residents of the neighbourhood. The roads around the premises, either along Pond Lane or along Bacon Lane, are unlit single track rural roads along which the residents have a right to undisrupted nights either from car headlights or from the noise of any leaving traffic at such hours. Extending the hours of activity to 01:30 will necessary create lead to flashing head lights and traffic which is unacceptable.
- to vary lterminal hour for live music Monday to Sunday until 01:30 will in addition create noise from the music which travels to the neighbourhodd, and creates unacceptable disruptions. This will especially be the case in summer evenings when on hot days there may be a necessity for the residents to maintain open windows. There are again, many live music venues in and around the Farnham area which serves the locality well, and there is no local need for the addition of such a venue at the side of Frensham Great Pond.
- to vary supply of alcohol Monday to Sunday for public use of function suites and bar until 01:30 will create similarly noise and traffic hazzard to the local residents and wildlife. There should be a need to consider the consequences of drinking till 01:30 and driving. Taxi drivers do not in general know the roads around the area. Around Frensham Great Pond also mobile and GPS reception is very poor, and navigation devices often fail. It is a considerable danger to the local residents to have people who have been drinking either to be driving themselves or nusiance to the residents to have drivers unfamiliar to the area searching in the dark. There is also the danger to nocturnal wildlife in the area.
- to add late night refreshments in conjunction with pre booked functions/events Mon to Sun 23:00 until 01:30. The noise from continued party functions until 01:30 is particularly disruptive especially in the summer when outdoor events may be held, and residents may keep some windows open.

We note finally that the hours of darkness are also very important for wildlife. In the summer, when such hours are shortened, extending human activity into 01:30 can lead to disastrous consequences on the natural habitat.

As Frensham Great Pond and Common is in a Special Protection Area (SPA), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Local Nature Reserve (LNR), Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), activities which may create potential adverse impact should be as much as possible avoided.

The hotel should at the very least pay for an extensive analysis of the potential habitat impact, carried out by independent scientific and environmental groups and including whether such activities may violate international conservation agreements such as EUROBATS, before any variation be allowed.

The variations seek to extend the range of activities of the current premises, and is not required for the continual functioning of the premises. We therefore object to the variations.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Halsall

From:
Sent: Monday 02 March 2015 13:32
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: Frensham Pond Hotel

3

Dear Sirs

I refer to the current application to extend the licensing hours until 1.30 am for playing/performing music and holding events in an external marquee.

I object to this license being granted in that:

The additional noise until late at night in a poorly soundproofed marquee will amount to a public nuisance in what is (apart from the hotel itself) an exclusively residential area.

Consumption of alcohol late at night in an "open" environment close to Frensham Pond itself is a genuine public safety issue, particularly in that there is no effective barrier to prevent pedestrian access to the pond itself, and there is no street lighting in any of the surrounding lanes.

Yours faithfully

Kate Halsall

From: |
Sent: Monday 02 March 2015 15:54
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: Application to vary existing licence by Frensham Ponds Hotel

Dear Sirs

4

The above hotel has applied to vary its entertainment licence to enable it to host indoor and outdoor events with music and alcohol up to 1.30am for seven days a week.

I object to this application on the grounds of public nuisance. This is a quiet country area which is designated a SSSI which is not suitable for such activities. In the past when such activities have occurred the Hotel has received many complaints in respect of excessive noise, from surrounding residents. Also there is always a great deal of rubbish generated by these events which the Hotel do not regard as their issue in that they rarely deal with it.

Yours sincerely

Sent from Windows Mail

Kate Halsall

From:
Sent: Tuesday 03 March 2015 11:11
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: Objection - Licence application - Frensham Pond Hotel, Bacon Lane, Churt, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 2QD - 9th February 2015

5

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to strongly object to the above application for a licence extension at Frensham Pond Hotel for the following reasons:

- 1). Due to the rural bowl-like terrain in the area noise at night has the potential to affect significant areas, particularly Pond Lane, Bacon Lane, Wishanger Lane, Frensham Lane, Symondstone, Star Hill, Churt, Tilford, Frensham Village, and houses on the Ridgeway and King's Ridge overlooking Frensham/Frensham Pond. This is particularly the case on still nights where noise can carry significant distances and this effect applies throughout the year.
- 2). A noise "cut-off" at 1-30pm is extremely inconsiderate to local residents and far beyond what I, as a resident who will be directly affected, consider acceptable as a reasonable request.
- 3). Noise (including traffic departing) will likely to exceed the proposed 1-30am noise cut-off by some period. We are already troubled by "exuberant" driving from residents leaving the hotel after events and there have been a number of accidents on the predominantly single track roads nearby. A number of these have included excessive consumption of alcohol.
- 4). There has been a history of thefts at the hotel of personal belongings during events - we have found purses/wallets/clothing a number of times in local hedgerows where they have been discarded after theft.
- 5). We have found, sadly from previous experience in the area, that regulating music volume in the presence of large numbers of persons who have been consuming alcohol is beyond the abilities of both the local Police and Environmental Health Officers. Incidents at Wishanger (Kingsmead) and the Headley Park Hotel (where an extended licence was in place) spring to mind.
- 6). We have found the management at the hotel to be of poor standard and do not have faith in their abilities to control/regulate events as they claim.
- 7). There are a large number of horses in the area and also a farm airstrip. The possibility of tress-passing in these areas, which are directly adjacent to the hotel, by guests at events cannot be excluded/controlled.
- 8). The noise-insulation properties of "accoustic marquees" are lacking and will have little effect on reducing noise pollution. Furthermore, from experience, we have found that even existing indoor events at the hotel generate significant amounts of external noise, with revellers frequently congregating outside with shouting and car noise (music/exuberant driving). With a significant increase in number of proposed outdoor/indoor events this situation will only deteriorate for local residents.
- 9). With adults drinking to 1-30am what facilities are being put in place for monitoring children where the parents/guardians may be under the influence of alcohol? This is particularly of concern considering that the pond is only a short walk across the road. Parental supervision has the potential to be poor or totally lacking, especially where long-time drinking is involved. As drafted the application shifts the onus onto the parents with the hotel absolving themselves of any responsibility.

10). We have no desire to hear piped/recorded/live music outside the hotel until 1-30am - this is inconsiderate in the extreme.

11). "Live music exemption from terminal hour on New Year's Eve to opening hours on New Year's day. Terminal hours indoors 01:30 and outdoors 23:00." - my interpretation of this wording, which may be incorrect, is that they wish to be able to play music non-stop New Years Eve until close of business New Years Day? If correct, this far beyond what I, as a resident who will be directly affected, consider acceptable.

12). A 24 hr drink licence on New Years Eve is not likely to encourage public order, just excessive drinking and likelihood of public disorder/crime, drunk-driving, accidents.

13). "d) The prevention of public nuisance Management/staff shall always be at the exits at the end of an event, asking guests to leave quietly. Where appropriate, prominent, clear and legible signs shall be displayed encouraging guests to leave in an orderly and quiet manner. There shall also be an announcement at the end of every function/event stressing the importance of leaving the hotel and car parks quietly."

While the intention is good this totally relies on the good-will of the attendees and cannot be enforced - it is, therefore, effectively meaningless.

14). "The duty manager shall have the authority to stop the music if it is deemed to be excessive. All pre-booked events shall receive notification of the importance of maintaining noise levels."

By what (mechanical/electrical?) measures will the Duty Manager consider if the music is excessive or not - this, as drafted, is a purely subjective measure on his part and reliant of input from Environmental Health who are unlikely to be present throughout an event. What the Duty Manager considers acceptable may not co-incide with that of local residents. A precise, mechanically/electronically measured noise limit should be imposed. Council/EH approved measures should be put in place to monitor and record noise levels throughout any event - this data should be made openly available to both the general public and Environmental Health. Noise mitigation measures, for example speaker orientation, are unlikely to protect all residents during events. As such, for any event, some residents will get the short end of the stick.

15). Local residents should be provided with a means of directly contacting the hotel/event manager to express any concerns at the time they occur. All calls should be logged and the substance of the call noted and logs made available to Environmental Health or any other interested party.

16). Being situated adjacent to the Hants/Surrey border what consultations have been made with both Waverley and EHDC? Has feedback/input been received from both Council's?

17). What residential areas/properties do the hotel propose to contact to prior to any events which, in their own word, may cause "disturbance" or "noise nuisance."

While understanding that the Hotel, as a business, needs to examine activities to encourage trade, the proposed licence is far in excess of what most fair-minded persons would consider a reasonable request. As proposed, this application will almost certainly lead to increased noise disturbance to local residents, increased criminality, public order offences, child security issues, and incidences of drink driving. As such I strongly object to the application as currently drafted - the applicants themselves acknowledge that this will cause both "disturbance" or "noise nuisance."

Yours sincerely,

Kate Halsall

From:
Sent: Tuesday 03 March 2015 11:26
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: Objection - Licence application - Frensham Pond Hotel, Bacon Lane, Churt, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 2QD - 9th February 2015

6

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to strongly object to the above application for a licence extension at Frensham Pond Hotel for the following reasons:

- 1). Due to the rural bowl-like terrain in the area noise at night has the potential to affect significant areas, particularly Pond Lane, Bacon Lane, Wishanger Lane, Frensham Lane, Symondstone, Star Hill, Churt, Tilford, Frensham Village, and houses on the Ridgeway and King's Ridge overlooking Frensham/Frensham Pond. This is particularly the case on still nights where noise can carry significant distances and this effect applies throughout the year.
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- 3). Noise (including traffic departing) will likely to exceed the proposed 1-30am noise cut-off by some period. We are already troubled by "exuberant" driving from residents leaving the hotel after events and there have been a number of accidents on the predominantly single track roads nearby. A number of these have included excessive consumption of alcohol.
- 4). There has been a history of thefts at the hotel of personal belongings during events - we have found purses/wallets/clothing a number of times in local hedgerows where they have been discarded after theft.
- 5). We have found, sadly from previous experience in the area, that regulating music volume in the presence of large numbers of persons who have been consuming alcohol is beyond the abilities of both the local Police and Environmental Health Officers. Incidents at Wishanger (Kingsmead) and the Headley Park Hotel (where an extended licence was in place) spring to mind.
- 6). We have found the management at the hotel to be of poor standard and do not have faith in their abilities to control/regulate events as they claim.
- 7). There are a large number of horses in the area and also a farm airstrip. The possibility of tress-passing in these areas, which are directly adjacent to the hotel, by guests at events cannot be excluded/controled.
- 8). The noise-insulation properties of "accoustic marquees" are lacking and will have little effect on reducing noise pollution. Furthermore, from experience, we have found that even existing indoor events at the hotel generate significant amounts of external noise, with revellers frequently congregating outside with shouting and car noise (music/exuberant driving). With a significant increase in number of proposed outdoor/indoor events this situation will only deteriorate for local residents.
- 9). With adults drinking to 1-30am what facilities are being put in place for monitoring children where the parents/guardians may be under the influence of alcohol? This is particulary of concern considering that the pond is only a short walk across the road. Parental supervision has the potential to be poor or totally lacking, especially where long-time drinking is involved. As drafted the application shifts the onus onto the parents with the hotel absolving themselves of any responsibility.

10). We have no desire to hear piped/recorded/live music outside the hotel until 1-30am - this is inconsiderate in the extreme.

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15). Local residents should be provided with a means of directly contacting the hotel/event manager to express any concerns at the time they occur. All calls should be logged and the substance of the call noted and logs made available to Environmental Health or any other interested party.

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17). What residential areas/properties do the hotel propose to contact to prior to any events which, in their own word, may cause "disturbance" or "noise nuisance."

While understanding that the Hotel, as a business, needs to examine activities to encourage trade, the proposed licence is far in excess of what most fair-minded persons would consider a reasonable request. As proposed, this application will almost certainly lead to increased noise disturbance to local residents, increased criminality, public order offences, child security issues, and incidences of drink driving. As such I strongly object to the application as currently drafted - the applicants themselves acknowledge that this will cause both "disturbance" or "noise nuisance."

Yours sincerely,

Kate Halsall

From: Steve Webster
Sent: Tuesday 03 March 2015 15:18
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: Ref current variation application for Frensham pond Hotel, Bacon Lane, Churt, GU10 2QB



Dear colleague,

It has been brought to my attention that the Frensham Pond Hotel has applied for a variation to its licensing and entertainment hours. As the WBC Countryside Ranger responsible for the 833 acres of the adjacent Frensham Common and Great Pond I would like to make some comments in relation to this variation application.

In general terms, the current operational activities of the hotel do not cause me a huge concern. However, saying that, I am aware that parties, weddings, school/college proms do occasionally "spill over" onto the adjacent nature reserve. Below is a short list of the kind of activities I can relate directly back to activities run at the hotel.

- Litter – sometimes after large wedding receptions that go on into the night, there is an increase in litter in that area of the Common, namely wine/champagne/pint glasses, which could only have realistically come from the hotel. The glasses end up on the bank, putting the wildlife and dogs of many walkers at risk. Plus they end up in the water where anglers wade whilst fishing and where myself and volunteers work to keep the sluices free of reeds – putting us at risk from cuts etc.
- Illegal camping – on more than one occasion, guests at events at the hotel have pitched tents illegally on the Common, mostly just across the pond from the hotel. These are particularly of concern as quite often they have included small fires, putting the whole of the heathland environment at risk. A fire in 2010 that started in just such a fashion destroyed 148 acres of the Common, prompted a COBRA meeting at No 10 Downing Street and cost approximately £2.5m to extinguish over 10 days.
- The close proximity of open water – Frensham Great Pond is inviting to guests who want to cool off, however the area in front of the hotel is wholly unsuitable as it is shallow and filled with very deep silt. One couple who had pitched a tent across the pond from the event they were attending at the hotel had even brought a small inflatable boat to row their way back from the hotel in an inebriated state. It took me many minutes to rouse them next morning and the tent stank of alcohol. It is not only their safety they put at risk but those of anyone else, including the emergency services, who would be called upon to retrieve them.

These are just some of the observations I have made during my 11 years as Ranger here at Frensham. My concerns are that extended events/drinking time may only increase these problems which I classify as mainly anti-social behaviour/public nuisance (littering), criminal behaviour (camping and fire lighting), and safety (the use of the open water). Therefore I would object to the extension of the current licence on these grounds.

Kind regards

Steve Webster
Countryside Ranger, Frensham Common

Office & 24hr answerphone: 01252 792416
Out of hours (emergencies only): 02392242161
Email: steve.webster@waverley.gov.uk

Follow Frensham Great Pond and Common on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/frenshamgreatpond>

Or look up the webpages at
<http://www.waverley.gov.uk/countryside>

Kate Halsall

From:
Sent: Wednesday 04 March 2015 10:56
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: License extension, Frensham Pod Hotel

8

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write in connection with the recent application by the Frensham Pond hotel to extend their licence to include activities between the hours of 2300 and 01:30 hours. We are neighbours to the hotel being adjacent to the car park and as such will be directly affected by any increase in noise that extent extension of licensing hours would produce.

Unfortunately, the Frensham Pond hotel is sited in a residential area and the hotel grounds are minimal and abutt residential neighbours. Currently the hotel produces very little noise and none of the neighbours in this area regard it as a public nuisance. However their application to extend their licence brings with it the prospect of activities extending to 01:30 hours seven days a week. This is totally unacceptable as not only will it mean increased traffic movements late at night when most people are trying to sleep but the noise pollution from outdoor events is just not tenable in close proximity to its residential neighbours.

On occasions when the hotel has had late-night events one of the things that has been notable is the increase in people wandering down both Bacon Lane and Pond Lane, often worse for wear with raised voices and little care for the local residents. Should this become a regular occurrence not only will this be a public nuisance but an issue for road safety.

The hotel does not have a good record of policing its environs during these events with very few staff evident and I have little faith that they will be able to manage the inevitable increased load on staff time that these changes will bring.

In conclusion I object strongly to the increase of licensing hours particularly for outdoor events on the grounds that it would increase public nuisance and potentially create a safety issue for road users in their interaction with the attendees of these events.

Kate Halsall

From:
Sent: Wednesday 04 March 2015 11:35
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: Extension of Licence for Frensham Pond Hotel he early hours

9

I wish to strongly object to the above application for the following reasons:-

1 - I understand the application is to allow live outside music to 1.30.am. This will be intolerable for neighbours. I live in [redacted] and consider my location will be affected. There is a animal boarding establishment right next door to the hotel so load music in the early hours will be a really bad problem for their boarders. I used to own a kennels so I do know something of this.

2 - I hope fireworks will not be part of the evenings entertainment. They will be really terrible for near neighbours - especially any horses.

3 - The road widths in the hotels location are very narrow and increased late night useage will increase the risk of accidents.

Please bear these comments in mind.

Yours sincerely

Kate Halsall

From:
Sent: Wednesday 04 March 2015 15:35
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: Frensham Pond Hotel

10

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write with reference to the outstanding application for a licensing hours extension to 1.30 am by The Frensham Pond Hotel.

I wish to express my objections to this extension on the grounds of potential noise pollution, safety and security concerns and the potential for public nuisance.

I would request a formal hearing be put in place and be informed when that hearing is set to occur.

I am a very local resident living near the hotel so would be directly affected should the licence be granted.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Halsall

From: Churt Parish Council <churt_pc@btinternet.com>
Sent: Wednesday 04 March 2015 19:19
To: Kate Halsall
Cc: Licensing Policy
Subject: Licencing Act 2003 - Application for extended licencing hours at Frensham Pond Hotel



Dear Kate,

I refer to the recent application to revise and extend the licencing hours, submitted by the Frensham Pond Hotel.

This was discussed at the Churt Parish Council meeting recently and we do not feel it is appropriate and wish to object to the application.

This is a quiet area in the AONB and Green Belt and we are concerned about the level of disturbance to neighbouring properties.

Vehicular access to the hotel is past a goodly number of residential homes.

We do not believe a blanket extension to the hours is appropriate as surely the hotel could apply for temporary extensions as and when.

Kind regards,

Paul Hughes

From:
Sent: Thursday 05 March 2015 21:48
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: Extension of licensing hours at Frensham Pond Hotel

12

I wish to object to the application for a license extension at Frensham Pond Hotel for the following reasons:

1. Playing loud music until 1.30 am will cause public nuisance and disturbance to local residents in the vicinity of the hotel as well as the surrounding rural community of Wishanger, Churt and Frensham. I am especially concerned about the impact of noise pollution across this area continuing into the early hours of the morning on warm summer evenings from the proposed hotel marquee. Music and alcohol licensing should be limited at the hotel to a set number of days/nights and limited to 11.30 pm which then means guests are likely to leave at around midnight. Wishanger and the surrounding area is a rural community in The Surrey Hills and an AONB and the quality and character of the countryside should be protected. The hotel is located next to Frensham Great Pond which is designated an SAC and an SPA and extended noise pollution late at night could disturb nesting birds, bats and nightjars.
2. This is a rural area on the boarder of two counties and as a consequence police presence and availability is limited. The extension in licence for alcohol until 1.30 am will encourage excessive drinking which will encourage antisocial behaviour and it may also lead to an increase in crime around the hotel and its surrounds.
3. I strongly object to the clause referring to a licence for music to be played from New Years Eve through until New Years Day. This is totally unacceptable as regards disturbance to the local rural community.

Yours sincerely

Paul Hughes

From:
Sent: Saturday 07 March 2015 08:31
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: Application for variation of premises licence at Frensham Pond Hotel

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

13

Dear Sirs

I wish to object most strongly to the above application for a licence extension At Frensham Pond Hotel GU10 2QD on the grounds that it will not comply with any of the 4 Licensing Objectives as follows:

1. The hotel have applied for a licence to hold events and serve alcohol until 1.30am for 7 days a week. This cut off is extremely inconsiderate to local residents - none of whom have been canvassed by the hotel to ascertain their views, and goes far beyond what I, as a local resident who will be directly affected, consider acceptable or reasonable.
2. Our experience of previous functions run by the hotel show that the management of the hotel are unable to control noise levels or regulate their guests who spill out onto the roads and adjoining areas and create noise and litter. In respect of the latter the hotel seem unable to clean up after events and it is generally left to residents to either clean up or complain to the hotel.
3. Holding events in a marquee will exacerbate the noise issue for residents and is in an area of SSSI and in which there are a number of equine estates the horses in which will be significantly affected.
4. Given the lack of public transport to the hotel, attendees at events who do not stay at the hotel will leave the area sometime after 1.30am by motor vehicle. This will add to the overall disturbance level and will undoubtedly lead to incidents of "drunk driving".
5. Given the proximity of the pond to the hotel and the fact that guests congregate in the road and by the pond to smoke, drink and talk (shout), the likelihood of a road accident or drowning is heightened. This is particularly so when children are among the guests and supervision recedes as the amount of alcohol consumed goes up.

Yours sincerely

Paul Hughes

From:
Sent: Monday 09 March 2015 07:01
To: Licensing Policy
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Free sham Pond Hotel. Bacon Lane, Churt . Gu10 2QD. Extension of licensing - objection

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

14

Dear Sir/Madam

We register our strong objection to this extension of licensing hours for the following reasons

1. Prevention of crime and disorder

We think that having large numbers of people, likely to have been drinking, will lead to an increase in crime, disorder and burglary. The police presence in this area is minimal, and there is very little street lighting.

2. Public safety

This is a rural area. There are narrow unlit lanes. Access to the hotel is along these lanes, and the increased volume of traffic is entirely inappropriate, and will likely lead to a higher level of accidents, especially if alcohol is involved. The lake is unfenced along these lanes and will be a hazard at night.

There is not public transport in the immediate area, and therefore people will walk, and there will be extra taxi traffic late at night.

3. Prevention of a public nuisance

This is a rural area with many houses within a 1 kilometre distance from the hotel. The location of the hotel is at the bottom of a geographic bowl and this leads to noise being trapped and amplified. Having music being played until 1.30 am is going to be disruptive to the residents and will reduce enjoyment of this area of outstanding natural beauty.

The traffic noise will continue much later than 1.30, and party goers are likely to be revving their cars and driving along the narrow lanes for about an hour after the close of the bar/facility. This noise will be extremely disruptive to local residents and will destroy sleep patterns.

The reason we came to live here is because it is quiet. Why should this business be allowed to take that away from us?

This license, if granted, will reduce our quiet enjoyment of this beautiful place.

Thank you.

Regards

Paul Hughes

From:
Sent: Monday 09 March 2015 14:40
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: OBJECTION TO THE EXTENSION OF LICENSING HOURS AT FRENHAM POND HOTEL

(15)

OBJECTION TO THE EXTENSION OF LICENSING HOURS AT FRENHAM POND HOTEL

We are writing to strongly object to the application by the Frensham Pond Hotel to extend (vary) its licensing hours. It is unreasonable for local residents in this rural Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to have suffer the inevitable consequences of granting this request which will encourage greater numbers of people to the hotel. The reasons for the objection are as follows:

1. **Public Nuisance:** the hotel is located in a rural ANOB location where noise is not absorbed. Under the existing arrangements the noise pollution particularly from music and from loud party-goers can often be heard a significant distance away from the hotel. The extension of licensing hours will encourage this problem especially if events are held in a marquee which will inevitably have poor acoustic insulation. I question why the hotel would be allowed to erect a marquee in their grounds – which are not extensive.

There would also be the consequent noise and disruption from traffic from the guests, staff and others servicing the events at or after 1.30 in the morning which is not acceptable for local residents.

2. **Public Safety:** there are serious public safety issues as the roads around the hotel are narrow rural lanes and they cannot cope with large amounts of traffic. Pond Lane is particularly hazardous where it runs in front of the hotel as it is narrow and difficult to see. Any increase in the numbers of people visiting the hotel for functions extending into the early hours of the morning should not be encouraged. The roads are also used by a large number of horses and walkers. During the summer months there has been a one way system in operation to cope with traffic problems caused by visitors to Frensham Pond.

3. **Crime and Disorder:** extending the period of licensing is intended to encourage the consumption of alcohol into the early hours of the morning with all the attendant problems associated with drunken behaviour which in our view the hotel management will not be able to control.

We consider the request from the hotel to extend its licensing hours to be totally unreasonable and inappropriate. It disregards the disturbance to local residents and is totally at odds with the local rural environment. The application will inevitably lead to increased public nuisance, public safety issues and incidents of crime and disorder. We strongly object to the application.

Yours sincerely

Paul Hughes

From: licensing@waverley.gov.uk
Sent: Monday 09 March 2015 15:37
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: WK/201410301 : Representation received

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Address: Frensham Pond Hotel, Bacon Lane, Churt, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 2QD

Please check above worksheet for representation received online

Dear Sir/madam, I currently object and have reservations to this proposal as I am concerned about the travelling noise, at night, general disorder and alcohol fuelled activities, resulting in speeding down Wishanger lane and the surrounding area. Kind regards,

Paul Hughes

From:
Sent: Sunday 08 March 2015 16:19
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: Frensham Pond Hotel Licence Extension

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

(17)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to object in the strongest possible terms to the application to extend the licensing hours at Frensham Pond Hotel, for the following reasons:

1. The nature of the terrain in the area will ensure that the noise generated will affect a significant area around the hotel. This is particularly true on many still nights during the summer season when there is little background noise.
2. The noise cut-off of 1.30pm is unreasonably late and is unlikely to be enforced effectively by either the police or Environmental Health officers in any event. I see no reason for the license to extend beyond midnight for any of the activities, but certainly not for recorded or live music.
3. The use of acoustic marquees will have minimal impact on the level of noise.
4. The extension of the licence to include the whole of New Year's Day is completely unwarranted and unreasonable as it will ensure noise throughout the night of Dec 31st/Jan 1st.
5. The provision of additional alcohol will guarantee an increase in accidents or deaths by guest departing the events on the narrow and unlit roads leading away from the hotel. The situation of the hotel next to the water hazard of Frensham Pond will also lead to further water-related accidents or deaths.

While I am certainly sympathetic to the intention of the hotel management to increase their trade at the hotel, the requests made are completely unreasonable and will lead to a significant increase in noise pollution, accidents and disorder in the surrounding area.

Yours faithfully,

Paul Hughes

From:
Sent: Monday 09 March 2015 17:08
To: Licensing Policy
Subject: FW: Extension of licensing hours at Frensham Pond Hotel

(18)

to whom it may concern:

I note the application of the owner of the Frensham Pond hotel to extend licensing hours. I object strongly to the application on the following grounds.:

The applicant has applied for an 01.30 extension seven days a week for live music, recorded music, dance and late night refreshment- presumably this means alcohol-? indoors and outdoors. Monday -Friday are working days for most local adult residents and school days for local children. Late night events with live/ recorded music and dance during normal hours of rest will cause undue harm to local residents thanks to noise pollution causing restriction of sleep and interruption of normal sleeping patterns. Traffic noise from departing guests will overrun the 01.30 licence deadline and exacerbate the public nuisance caused by noise from the venue. Local resident children will be at harm thanks to the sleep disruption and noise pollution caused by the late night events. There will likely be a negative impact on those children's ability to function normally in school due to the noise pollution and sleep disturbance caused by late night events.

I do not know what "regulated-anything similar" means and would welcome clarity from both Waverley Borough Council and the applicant on this issue.

Traffic leaving the venue late at night will cause public nuisance from engines running, particularly late night taxis, and incidental noise from car door slamming, departing guests etc. The applicant has described his intention to add signage requesting departing guests to leave quietly; the inference is clear. If there is no risk of noisy departures, there is no need to warn guest to leave quietly; the applicant is admitting that late night noise will be a problem. Furthermore, this signage has no force in law and is therefore pointless. It provides no assurance to local residents that they will be able to enjoy undisturbed rest during night hours.

Pond Lane and Bacon Lane are the only access routes to the hotel. Both lanes are narrow, unlit, and largely or entirely single carriageway. Visibility is very poor on Pond Lane in particular. Late night traffic accidents are likely given a combination of increased traffic flowing to and from the venue and drunken guests choosing to drive home. Furthermore, Pond Lane is often parked up overnight on both sides by fishermen accessing Frensham Pond, thus narrowing an already narrow access road and increasing the risk of accident. The junction of Bacon Lane and Pond Lane is a blind corner. Traffic leaving the hotel late at night and/ or taxis arriving to pick up late night guests are likely to cause accident risk from too many vehicles trying to access the hotel on this corner.

Frequent disturbances have occurred at the Frensham Pond Hotel under the current licensing arrangements. Recently the police and local ambulance services were called to an afternoon wedding due to a brawl. Given that disturbances to the peace happen under the current licensing regime and in broad daylight, what assurances can be provided to local residents that their safety will not be at risk from late night revellers fuelled by alcohol causing a public disturbance?

Litter is also a problem. Guests often leave glassware on the tables, walls, and ground in front of the hotel. Broken glass is a serious safety hazard for people, animals and people with animals, notably the many local children who ride independently or with local riding schools and those who walk family dogs.

Smoking outside the venue is likely to cause a public nuisance from littering and noise from guests whilst smoking. Lit cigarettes also pose a health and safety risk. The local landscape is heathland and/or woodland. Heathland is very

dry and the potential for fire risk cannot be underestimated. One cigarette is all that it takes to cause a serious fire. A serious fire occurred on Frensham Common recently. Fortunately it happened in an area where there are no houses; this is not the case for the area around the Frensham Pond Hotel. Furthermore given the increase in vehicular traffic that can be expected from increased licensing hours, there is serious concern about the ability of emergency vehicles to have 24/7/365 access to local residents homes in the event of a medical, fire, or other emergency.

I note that the application makes reference to an 'events' marquee. A marquee is by definition not a permanent structure and is therefore not subject to building regulations, including proper insulation. Noise levels that might be acceptable within a closed permanent structure that meets current building regulations will create a public nuisance through excessive noise pollution in a non-permanent, uninsulated structure. Furthermore a marquee as a non-permanent structure does not have fixed ingress and egress points. The suggestion of controlling excessive noise by means of fixed ingress and egress points is therefore meaningless.