

BY EMAIL

Licensing Team Town Hall Annex Steven's Road Bournemouth BH2 6EA

OBJECTION

Re Notice of Application for a Premises Licence Under Section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003 - Daniel Murrell - The Duckingstool, Duckingstool Lane, Christchurch, BH23 1DS

I wish to object to the granting of a licence to sell alcohol at the above location from 12 to 10pm each day.

I am a resident of Duckingstool Lane and our property is located 2 doors down from this property on the same side of the road. This location is not compatible with a restaurant location at all and the evening and night-time sale of alcohol is certainly not compatible with a quiet residential area which is the location of the proposed restaurant. Please be very clear that this premises has never been used as a restaurant in the past. Sometime ago it was a tea rooms and was never open in the evening.

I particularly object to the idea that alcohol will be consumed OFF the premises. WHERE off the premises?? In the Lane? On the very narrow pavement?? Where people need to walk and kids ride bikes and there are mobility scooters? People use the lane to walk down past the Millstream via the boardwalk to Castle Street – there is NO ROOM for tables and chairs or even standing. This is a ridiculous suggestion. The Council should come and see for themselves - it is totally inappropriate.

The Prevention of Crime and Disorder

 This premises is located in a very quiet residential cul-de-sac behind Christchurch High Street. This area is residential and there are no other restaurants or late-night opening establishments in the quiet lane. There is a hotel the car park of which backs onto the street but the door for this establishment faces the main road through Christchurch Castle Street, whereas this property is directly facing the lane with only a small public pathway between it and the road. If an alcohol licence was granted it would encourage late night drinking in what is currently a residential street. This property was previously a café but alcohol was only every sold in the day and the café closed at 5pm. This would encourage crime and disorder in this area.

The Prevention of Public Nuisance

- This premises is located in a quiet residential street and I object to the granting of an alcohol licence on the basis of noise nuisance. I believe that a late night alcohol licence will increase the possibility of noise nuisance to people living nearby – may of whom are retired or as in our case have school age children.
- The sale of alcohol often leads to patrons standing outside a restaurant smoking and drinking - this building has no outside space and so there will be nowhere else to go but the pavement outside in the narrow lane. Standing outside smoking/drinking will then lead to noise nuisance. The distance between the front of the proposed restaurant and the house opposite is very narrow and the pavements are very narrow as well. I understand the venue capacity to be 65 people this is an enormous number for a premises which was a little tea room and in the past never had more than 20 people inside at any one time. If even 5 of these 65 people decide to stand on the street to chat and have a smoke it will have an enormously detrimental effect on the surrounding residents. There is also the issue of smoke nuisance as well as noise nuisance. I note that the application is guite open to the idea of its customers gathering outside and standing outside the property smoking and clearly admits this likelihood but merely says that it will "monitor" this and put some signs up. This is

totally inadequate. And is it likely when the need of the business to make money will override any concerns of the residents.

There are plenty of restaurants and bars in Christchurch which are more appropriately located in the High Street which already sell alcohol past the hours of 5pm. It would be most inappropriate to grant a licence to sell alcohol to a premises which has never been a bar or restaurant – only a quiet café or tea room in the past and which is located on a quiet, residential lane in a historic backwater of Christchurch.

The licensing department should act in the interests of the residents nearby and REFUSE this request for a licence. Please consider this application on the basis of its merits – there are NONE.

Yours sincerely,

Melanie Alarcon