

Annex 8

Amendments to Rownhams House Premises Licence Application.

1. We are very willing to propose or to accept an amendment of the times of Late Night Refreshment (i.e. coffee/tea and biscuits) from the originally requested “23.00 to 01.00” to “23.00 to 00.00.”

The original intention was to allow a significant winding-down time after the proposed music/alcohol deadline of 23.00 but, in acknowledgement of residual anxieties about ‘noise’, this ‘Late Night Refreshment’ deadline could be adjusted to midnight (00.00). Both these timings are proposed to help stagger the departure of guests. However we should prefer to be guided by the experience and expertise of the Committee with this regard. Should we be allowed the “01.00” deadline, and should this prove in any way reasonably unacceptable to our neighbours, then we should willingly (and voluntarily) move this back to “00.00” without further ado.

2. It is our intention to normally confine the purchase of (extra) alcohol to one room – which would be in addition to any that might be normally included with a meal. Caterers, with my support, will stop serving alcohol at 22.30 – that is half an hour before the ‘deadline’.

3. Whilst it may not be very easy to appreciate the distinction on *some* of the plans enclosed with the original Application, we wish to designate within the main house, Room no 22 in preference to Room No 17 for any significant indoor amplified music, that is a live band or a disco. Room 22 has three outside walls with windows whereas Room 17 has only one outside wall with windows. Room No 17 is also close to the corner of the ‘L’ shaped footstep of Rownhams House and we believe that any risk of sound leakage would be further minimised and, if necessary, easier to control.

4. We would emphasise our willingness to employ SIA qualified doormen to assist in the quiet and seemly departure of guests and we would be happy to contractually require any entertainers to emphasise this requirement towards the close of an evening event.

5. An anxiety has been expressed that the estate will be troubled by ‘lost motorists’ in looking for the venue. We intend to supply any hirer with easily photocopied and distributable maps; and subject to Local Authority Planning Consent, to erect extra road side signage. Additionally all helpers will be trained to be able to advise departing guests of the easiest way out.

6. We have confirmed with our chosen ‘marquee’ suppliers that they will erect and dismantle any equipment at a convenient time to ourselves and thus we shall be able to avoid any ‘early morning’ disturbance to neighbours.

Roger Barber