

Mr and Mrs P King  
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SO51 6BG

Licensing Manager  
Legal & Democratic Service  
Test Valley Borough Council  
Beech Hurst  
Weyhill Road  
Andover  
SP10 3AJ  
27 April 2023

Ref: LICENSING ACT 2003 – Public Notice

Keepers Lodge, Whinwhistle Coase Fishery, Whinwhistle Road, East Wellow, Romsey SO51 6BE

Dear Licensing Manager,

Please accept this letter of objection in respect of the application submitted by Woodington Fisheries (2020) for a new Premises Licence in respect of Keepers Lodge, Whinwhistle Coase Fishery, Whinwhistle Road, East Wellow, Romsey SO51 6BE. The premises are an existing café / bistro located on a fishery and camping site. The application also includes an external beer garden area. The application seeks:

- 1. Provision of live and recorded music from 0800 to 2300 hours daily indoors and outdoors.**
- 2. Sale of alcohol for consumption both on and off the premises from 0800 to 2330 hours daily.**

**Grounds for Objection**

As a long-term resident living in close proximity to Whinwhistle Coase Fishery we have a number of significant concerns relating to the proposed application for the new Premises Licence. These areas of concern extend to the following:

1. The lack of justification for the proposed Licence within open and rural countryside which will result in significant noise disturbance to local residents and school children;
2. The impact of the proposal on highway safety;
3. The impact of the proposal on the environment;
4. The lack of Public Consultation and an associated Planning Application.

- 1. The lack of justification for the proposed Licence within open and rural countryside which will result in significant noise disturbance to local residents and school children.**

The provision of live music and a beer garden (serving alcohol) from 0800 to 2300 will result in severe noise disturbance to local residents who live in a quiet and residential area which is within open and rural countryside. The fishery is located on a residential street with many families with young children and is also in close proximity to the local primary school and St Margaret's Church. It is the very rural nature of the environment that residents find attractive and the prime reason why people choose Wellow as a place to live.

The application is therefore not in keeping with the rural and residential nature of the area and the noise pollution would be detrimental to the health and wellbeing of local residents.

From personal experience, when parties and events have been held previously at Keeper's Lodge, the amplified music rolling across from the fishery site to Romsey Road is clear, loud and disturbing. These parties have been relatively infrequent in the past but the idea of more regular disruption is unacceptable.

### **2. The impact of the proposal on highway safety;**

The access to the site is narrow with restricted visibility on a complex and problematic junction known for its high rate of traffic accidents. The road is also used by many cyclists and horse riders. The application will result in increased traffic flow and traffic congestion, endangering public safety.

### **3. The impact of the proposal on the environment**

Increased traffic, air and noise pollution will endanger and disturb local wildlife in an area rich in flora and fauna. The parish has a wide diversity of animals which reflects the varied habitats including badgers, deer, foxes, squirrels, bats, and the endangered water vole along the River Blackwater.

Any application for a proposed 'change in use', should not damage the rural environment.

### **4. Lack of Public Consultation and Associated Planning Application**

There has been no public consultation or Planning Application submitted for the change in use or additional facilities that would be required.

It is considered that the proposal does not accord with Policy LE16 of the Test Valley Local Plan as care needs to be taken to ensure that uses ancillary to the new use of the building, such as car parking and open storage do not have an intrusive impact on the rural environment including the extensions of the curtilage of the development into the countryside. Account will also be taken of amenity issues such as noise, smell, or over-illumination.

The development would also create unacceptable visual harm to the area which would not integrate, respect, or complement the local character and would lead to increasing the urbanisation of the locality, to the detriment of the rural setting.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs and Mrs King