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Mill Farm House,
Woodington Road,
East Wellow
Romsey
Hampshire
SO51 6DQ

25th April 2023

Ref: LICENSING ACT 2003 - Public Notice

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

An application has been received from Woodington Fisheries (2020) Ltd for a new Premises Licence in respect of Keepers Lodge, Whinwhistle Coarse 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 the 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.

Dear Licensing Manager,

As a near neighbour of Whinwhistle Coarse Fishery and a long-term resident of the area, we wish to inform you of our concerns regarding the severe disturbance and possible lawlessness that approval of this application would create to the immediate locality, several neighbouring residential properties, and St Margaret's church.

The Blackwater river valley in this area is a tranquil rural space well suited to quiet country pursuits such as fishing, and limited camping connected with fishing activities. It is consistent with this that the site also provides a fishing tackle shop and a café to serve its customers.

As it stands these services do not disturb the amenity of neighbouring properties. However both the "Provision of live and recorded music from 0800 to 2300 hours daily indoors and outdoors", and the "Sale of alcohol for consumption both on and off the premises from 0800 to 2330 hours daily" **are completely inconsistent with the**

current use and will be severely detrimental to the immediate site and the wider locality.

I am concerned about the extreme noise disturbance to a tranquil area of countryside bordering the Blackwater river. Sale of alcohol and music until late at night would encourage drunkenness, possibly drugs and pollution of the river. The noise pollution would be horrendous for the local wildlife and residents. Usage could also creep towards outdoor music events and festivals.

We understand that the licensing act has four objectives:

- **the prevention of crime and disorder;**
- **public safety;**
- **the prevention of public nuisance;**
- **the protection of children from harm.**

The likelihood of an increase in crime and disorder, as well as public nuisance as a result of the availability of alcohol has been well documented. The current venue is an excellent use of local amenities, well liked by both locals and those travelling from further afield to enjoy the fishing. Adding alcohol availability and loud music will radically change this amenity, and will significantly increase the likelihood of public nuisance from noise, as well as increasing the likelihood of anti-social behaviour from over-consumption of alcohol.

There are often young people fishing at these lakes with adults, and if those adults have consumed alcohol, it may put their judgement at risk, and thereby risk causing harm to young people close to potentially dangerous lakes.

The access to the site is very narrow with restricted visibility on a difficult junction, known locally for its high rate of traffic accidents. Regarding Woodington Rd, It is a matter of public safety - Cyclists and Horse riders already take their lives in their hands on that section of road.

There are already dangerous tailbacks here just waiting for the site to open in the morning. It will create a public nuisance through overspill from on-site activity and from noise pollution to neighbouring properties and St Margaret's church.

We live close to Whinwhistle Coarse Fishery and note there has been no associated Planning Application for the change of use or additional facilities that would clearly be needed. We find Whinwhistle Coarse fishery currently to be very good neighbours, offering excellent facilities and sporting opportunities to the area. We see many reasons, outlined above, why this application would be seriously detrimental to the area, and contravene the objectives of the Licensing Act, and ask that this application be refused.

Yours faithfully ,

Deborah Leabeater

David Leabeater