

West Oxfordshire District Council

**Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum (SOFO)  
Application for a premises licence**

We would like to register an objection to this application on the basis of the prevention of public nuisance, reason (d).

The application seeks a licence to sell alcohol between the hours of 10.00 – 23.00 every day of the week and until 24.00 on Saturday and Sunday. These hours exceed those of other licensed premises in Woodstock and are excessive in a residential area with houses very close by in Brown's Lane, Harrison's Lane, Chaucer's Lane and Oxford Street.

We are satisfied that events for SOFO members and friends will not cause a disturbance to neighbours. However, the use of the museum for SOFO evening lectures and occasional social events does not warrant such extended licensing hours. It is clearly SOFO's intention to make the premises available for private hire for parties, weddings and other events and we do have concerns that licensing until 24.00 at weekends will cause noise, disturbance and public nuisance during the evenings and late at night. If TOM (The Oxfordshire Museum) staff are not on duty on these late occasions access to and from the building would be through the back gates in Harrison's Lane, causing nuisance and disturbance in normally quiet, historic lanes.

Unlike other licensed premises, both TOM and SOFO operate with a skeleton staff and we consider that this will not be adequate to manage the premises safely and to ensure that no public nuisance is caused.

TOM already holds a licence to sell alcohol and it is unclear why a separate licence is needed, particularly as it is not possible to access SOFO's premises without using TOM's main entrance on Park Street. This application does not 'mirror' the licence for TOM but is applying for even longer hours – up to 24.00 on Saturdays and Sundays.

We join with Woodstock Town Council in requesting that this application is not granted.

Michael Farley, 4 Brown's Lane  
Sue McGlynn, 6 Brown's Lane  
Professor Martin Kemp, 2 Harrison's Lane  
Justin and Maria Majzub, 4 Harrison's Lane  
Katja Bremer, 79 Oxford Street

Michael Hallissey, 75 Oxford Street  
Brian and Gill Cable, 96 Oxford Street  
Helen and Alan Woolley, 65 Oxford Street  
Liz Woodward, Oxford Street