



MINSTER LOVELL PARISH COUNCIL

www.minsterlovell-pc.gov.uk

Parish Clerk: Katherine Doughty

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Head of Community Safety and Licensing
West Oxfordshire District Council
Elmfield
Witney, Oxon.
OX28 1PB

7 October 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

Variation of Premises Licence:	The Old Swan and Minster Mill, Minster Lovell, Witney Oxfordshire OX29 0RN.
Proposals:	Recorded Music on Mon – Sun from 07.00am – 01.00am Late Night Refreshment on Mon – Sunday from 23.00-05.00am for residents and till midnight to non residents, sale by retail of alcohol on Mon – Sun from 10.00am until 01.00am to residents 24/7 days a week, opening hours of the premises 24/7 to residents and from 07.00- 01.30am to non residents on Mon – Sun
Applicant:	Bath Priory Ltd
Premises Licence Number:	W16/00261/PRMDPS
Parish Council Response:	Strongly object to the application

Minster Lovell Parish Council strongly object to the application to vary the Premises Licence as follows:-

Public Nuisance

- 1) The Parish Council has previously received concerns from residents relating to music and noise emanating from the premises. It is considered that this will be escalated further in the event that this application is approved due to the extended late night provision of refreshments to 5.00am and recorded music to 1.00am.
- 2) It should be understood that Old Minster Lovell lies in a valley and therefore all noise echoes up and along the valley sides. It is not only the residents of Old Minster Lovell that will be directly negatively impacted by this application, but Little Minster and residents of Burford Road as well. The topography of the area needs to be fully understood and it is therefore expected that a site visit is made by those who consider this application.
- 3) Whilst it is acknowledged that recorded music will be played 'inside' the premises, this could include music inside marquees which is therefore considered the same as being played 'outside' in terms of volume and accompanying nuisance.
- 4) It should be acknowledged that whilst the application hours being applied for are unsociable hours, increased levels of nuisance will be experienced by local residents due to vehicle movements and general public noise.
- 5) Residents and the Council feel that the current premises licence is already generous when considering the setting of the area being an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Conservation Area. Whilst these policies refer to planning matters, they also represent broader qualities of tranquillity and essence of our protected environment.

Continued

- 6) The application will set an unwanted precedent for other licenced premises in the area which cumulatively (if the same operating schedules were approved) would adversely affect the wider community.
- 7) It is felt that in the event that the application is approved, the business will focus to being a party venue (as opposed to conference and weekend breaks). The location for this potential business activity is considered inappropriate for Old Minster Lovell for the reasons set out overleaf.

Non-Compliance of Procedures

Minster Lovell Parish Council and residents are concerned that legal procedures for consultation of the application have not been followed. The Council has received only 5 working days' notice (excluding the day it was notified). This is wholly unacceptable. No notices were displayed inside the premises and only 2 notices were displayed in the Parish. Have notices been published in local newspapers?

Please note that the Parish Council wish to make representation at the license hearing as detailed in section (35)(3)(a) of the Licensing Act 2003. Please advise the hearing details in due course.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Mrs Katherine Doughty.

Mrs Katherine Doughty
Parish Clerk

CC: Acting Inspector Matt Fishwick, Thames Valley Police, Witney.