

**Planning and Strategic Housing**

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On Behalf Of:  
C/o Andrea Thomas

Date: 25th March 2015  
Our Ref: 15/00870/PREAPP  
Please ask for: Hannah Wiseman  
Telephone: 01993861653  
Email: [hannah.wiseman@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:hannah.wiseman@westoxon.gov.uk)

Dear Andrea

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

APPLICATION: 15/00870/PREAPP  
PROPOSAL: Application for New Premise Licence.  
AT: Enstone Parish Hall The Paddocks Enstone

I write in regard to your enquiry received by the Council on the 12.03.2015 seeking the pre-application views of the Local Planning Authority. The relevant information is set out below. Please be aware of the disclaimer at the end of this letter. If you have any questions relating to the advice given, please contact the Case Officer.

**Planning Merits**

The use of the Village Hall is classed as D1 - a non residential institution. The use of the premises for occasional meetings, functions, indoor sports and parties with music would all be considered to be uses ancillary to that of the permitted use as D1. The use of the premises as indicated within the licence application would not appear to result in a material change of use of the hall.

There are no specific planning conditions restricting the hours of use although officers note the hall is situated within a residential area and would therefore suggest the premises should not be open longer than 24:00 on weekends and no noisy activities later than 23:00 for any music etc. and earlier on the week days as suggested in the application.

The Planning department therefore has no objections to the granting of the Premises Licence as applied for.

**Relevant Planning History**

12/0494/p/fp- Application for development of 32 Dwellings and provision of a Village Hall

I trust this is of some assistance. If I can be of further help, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

  
Senior Planning Officer

**Andrea Thomas**

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**Subject:** FW: Alcohol/entertainment licence Parish Hall Coxs Lane Enstone Oxon

**From:** Beth Bath [mailto:j.elizabethbath@zen.co.uk]

**Sent:** 06 April 2015 17:31

**To:** CommunityServices

**Subject:** Alcohol/entertainment licence Parish Hall Coxs Lane Enstone Oxon

Dear Sirs

It has been brought to my notice that an application has been made for an alcohol/entertainment licence for the new Parish Hall in Enstone Oxon

As a resident of The Paddocks I wish to state my objections to this as follows.

It seems unreasonable to have a second venue with an alcohol/entertainment licence so close to the Sports and Social Club in Cox's Lane Enstone.

On occasions this can be very noisy with loud music, screaming youngsters and general sounds of peoples' voices and car doors slamming shut at the end of the evening.

Should the same happen with the Parish Hall I think it would become intolerable, disturbing and a public nuisance for the residents of The Paddocks particularly those with young children trying to get to sleep.

As someone who regularly walks to events in the village in the evenings I know that I would feel more at risk coming into The Paddocks and having to walk by the hall if an event were going on where alcohol was involved particularly on the dark winter nights. I also feel that there would be an increased possibility of crime and disorder in the locality which could also have ongoing consequences for the value and future sale of our properties.

Many of the children on the development enjoy the freedom to play outside particularly on the long summer evenings. I wonder if they would be as safe should this licence be granted?

The Parish Hall has been built on a residential development and real consideration must be given to those of us who have paid a high price to live here on the understanding that there would be very tight controls on its use.

I trust you will give this objection due consideration.

With thanks

Yours faithfully

J. Elizabeth Bath (Mrs)

Head of Community Services  
West Oxfordshire District Council  
Elmfield  
Witney  
Oxfordshire  
OX28 1PB

John Cook  
The Paddocks  
Enstone  
Chipping Norton  
Oxfordshire  
OX7 4AZ

03/04/15

Ref. planning application for drinks licence in Parish Hall/Enstone

Dear Sir

I am writing to you to object to the licencing application made by the Parish Council for the New Parish Hall on The Paddocks, Enstone, Oxfordshire.

The application is for the Parish Hall to be licenced to sell alcohol until 11.30pm on most nights which is totally unacceptable to me and my family who live in number 3 The Paddocks which is directly opposite the hall, we have a young child of two and the noise that will come as a result of people who will have drunk too much alcohol will be very bad for his development. There are a number of young children who live within 100 yrds of the Hall.

Since the Parish Hall opened at the end of November 2014 there has only been one party with music and alcohol, it was a 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, it finished at 12.45 and created so much noise with people spilling out of the front door with their drinks, to smoke their cigarettes, my wife had to go to the organiser to complain.

At a recent residents meeting with the Parish Council, the chair of the meeting told us they had turned down a request for an 18<sup>th</sup> birthday party because he thought it would be too noisy and now the same council are applying for drinks licences that will encourage such parties. The interesting thing is that none of the people who are applying for the licence actually live close enough to the hall for the noise to be a worry to them.

This is a quiet road in a quiet village, the thought of having to put up with people who will have had too much to drink, making too much noise and waking our 2 year old and doing daft things to local property that drunk people tend to do is unacceptable.

The Parish Hall has a car park and should be the only place people can park if they are attending an event, therefore the number of guests should always be restricted to stop people parking on the road outside our properties.

We moved here knowing that the Parish Hall was opposite our house but we also expect to have the peace of a village at night.

I would hate to have a hot line to the police, two or three times a week because of noise levels.

Yours Sincerely

  
Mrs K Cook & Mr J Cook

## Andrea Thomas

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**From:** Andrea Thomas  
**Sent:** 07 April 2015 13:32  
**To:** Andrea Thomas  
**Subject:** FW: Objection - Enstone Parish Hall - Application for new premises license to provide alcohol and regulated entertainment

Andrea Thomas  
Licensing Officer  
Tel: (01993) 861637  
Find out more at [www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk)  
. . . Working in partnership to make West Oxfordshire a safer and cleaner place

-----Original Message-----

From: Rebecca [mailto:~~rebecca@westoxon.gov.uk~~]  
Sent: 06 April 2015 19:35  
To: CommunityServices  
Subject: Objection - Enstone Parish Hall - Application for new premises license to provide alcohol and regulated entertainment

To whom it may concern

I am a private resident on The Paddocks development in Enstone. I understand that the Parish Hall is in the process of applying for a licence to sell alcohol and provide 'regulated entertainment'. I am a mother of two very young children, neither of whom are yet at school. I bought my house privately and paid handsomely for the peace, quiet, and safety which Enstone provides and which Charles Church sold to me. It was mentioned by the Charles Church site manager that the Parish Hall was for the village and the surrounding areas use and that it was highly unlikely that it would be the sort of venue that would cause much disruption to the peace and quiet which we have bought in to.

I am objecting to the licence application for the following reasons:

1) I am extremely concerned that inviting parties to our small village and selling alcohol will encourage antisocial behaviour and allow people under the influence of alcohol to leave the premises late at night and cause noise disruption, and possible criminal damage to our vehicles and houses. I am aware of people leaving these premises in other villages and hanging around waiting for taxis, talking loudly, singing, and urinating in the vicinity. We are extremely rural here, with very few buses, therefore, it is likely people will have to wait around after a party for collection via taxi or other such arrangement, or waiting for a bus. This is where we are highly likely to be concerned and disturbed, when the village should be peaceful, safe, and quiet.

2) I am extremely concerned about the hall being granted a licence and having regular events which are noisy (live music) and will make it very difficult for our children to sleep, and may possibly cause harm by encouraging drunken behaviour and, therefore, a public nuisance so close to our properties, particularly those backing onto the football field.

I parked in Charlbury to go to the Co-Op on Saturday early evening, about 6,30pm. At the Sports and Social Club there they had had a day time party, from which about 4 men appeared, massively intoxicated and struggling to walk. I was with my eldest female child. They all looked pretty scary to me and my four-year old. One of the men in a pair made a comment about me, a personal one, about my appearance, in front of my child. What is to stop a situation like this happening on my own doorstep?

As another example, the current social club in Enstone, periodically and, thankfully, reasonably rarely hold live music events. The noise is very, very loud until Midnight. The music is very loud and sound travels very well. We can clearly hear talking, shouting, kids screaming, and on one occasion, a group of teenagers gathered on the football field, very near to the bottom of our boundary fence (our house backs onto the football field) and they were clearly smoking, shouting and laughing until well into the early hours, one chap was even kicking a football! We have already had a number of instances where football players have climbed over our fence into our garden to retrieve balls without permission, I am concerned that people under the influence of alcohol might find it amusing to do something silly, particular when we have a large trampoline in the garden!

3) How will events at both venues, the Social Club and the Parish Hall be monitored and scheduled - what would prevent us from experiencing a live music event at both venues on the same night? If somebody wants to have a party selling alcohol in the village, they already have the Social Club - why does our parish hall have to be used in this way?

Enstone is a quiet, peaceful, and safe village. We have paid good money to live here. I do not expect to spend my summer weekends with all our windows shut because every Friday and Saturday night there is a loud wedding reception, barn dance or football social, from which a crowd or drunken silliness descends upon our small village with nowhere to go and potentially difficulty getting anywhere, therefore hanging around and causing a nuisance on our development. They would have to walk through our development to get to a bus stop and cars would be driving through our development to collect people and having to turn around, doing noisy 3-point turns after midnight. Its not on, and not acceptable in our view.

I am frightened that it would encourage antisocial behaviour, criminal damage, jeopardise the safety on the development and encourage public nuisance.

I strongly object to the application for a licence for regulated entertainment and to sell alcohol at the Enstone Parish Hall.

Regards

Mrs Rebecca Coupland,  The Paddocks, Enstone

## Andrea Thomas

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**From:** Kayte Newton <[redacted]@linx.com>  
**Sent:** 08 April 2015 08:00  
**To:** CommunityServices  
**Subject:** Enstone Parish Hall - Application for New Premises to provide alcohol and regulated entertainment

### Enstone Parish Hall - Application for New Premises to provide alcohol and regulated entertainment

To whom it may concern

We write to object to the licence application made by the parish hall to provide alcohol and regulated entertainment.

We understand this licence has been granted for similar village halls in the district however, we feel that this type of licence is not appropriate for Enstone Parish Hall which is located in such close proximity to residential housing. We feel strongly that this type of licence is too open and cannot be assessed on an individual basis.

It will pose an increased risk of crime and bring unnecessary distress to those of us living in The Paddocks. It is not unheard of for certain people under the influence of alcohol to urinate in people's gardens whilst walking home and waiting for taxis or worse, engaging in acts of vandalism. We are a community that looks after our homes and gardens and we do not want to see these spoilt in any way.

On this note, we do not want our two young children to be exposed to people under the influence of alcohol whilst they are out playing not to mention any cigarette ends or beer cans that are likely to be discarded by party goers.

There is also the issue of parking spaces. A regular attendance of large parties will increase the number of vehicles attending the parish hall. As there is a limited amount of parking spaces any excess will attempt to park on the estate causing a risk to public safety, namely the number of children who regularly play on the estate.

If this license is granted it will no doubt increase the number of events held at the Parish Hall and subsequently increase the number of evenings we experience noise disturbance. We already experience some noise disturbance from occasional events at the Parish Hall and the nearby Social Club. This noise can wake our young children and will be a particular problem during the summer months when we need to sleep with the windows open.

Whilst we understand that in order for the hall to function they need to receive an income from these type of events however we do not feel that this type of licence should be granted and only occasional licences issued on a case by case basis.

We moved to Enstone for the peace and quiet and object to living in close proximity of a licenced premises.

Yours sincerely,

Kayte & Paul Newton

~~Telephone: 01608 073889~~

7<sup>th</sup> April 2015

~~///~~ The Paddocks.

Enstone.

CHIPPING NORTON.

OX7 4AZ

Shared Head of Public Protection and Regulation.

West Oxfordshire District Council.

Elmfield.

WITNEY.

OX28 1PB.

Dear Sir or Madam.

**ENSTONE VILLAGE HALL. OX7 4AZ**

**Application for New Premises Licence to Provide Alcohol and have Regulated Entertainment.**

As a former JP of many years including ten years as Presiding Magistrate in a Criminal Court and also Deputy Chairman of a Licensing Bench in the North East. I realise the difficulties balancing the conflicting aspirations' between those who desire more freedom and pleasure and the consequential effect on others in the Community.

I write therefore to formally object to the above application on the following grounds.

**PREVENTION OF CRIME AND PUBLIC DISORDER.**

This is a small rural development of thirty seven properties where many have chosen to retire to the peace and tranquillity of this delightful village. Whilst recognising that the Village Hall is a very desirable location and for those who manage this facility there will be a need to generate enough income to cover costs and set aside funds for future repairs, the extent and scope of the present application is too wide ranging as to be unmanageable and could be open to misuse.

A limited number of 'Occasional Licenses' for a specific event would be more appropriate and difficult to refuse because one has to strike a balance of fairness to all in the Community. For example, an application by a village resident whose daughter's Wedding Reception was to be at the Village Hall would have been granted when I was a Magistrate but a similar application for an unspecified event from a person outside the parish would not.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Experienced Licensees can usually spot trouble before matters explode; those occasionally in charge are far less likely to do so with serious problems inevitably continuing outside the premises. The Police cover hereabouts is strictly limited and every arrest takes one officer off the streets for hours thus limiting a response elsewhere. One would hope those who would be adversely affected would not seek to act outside the Law to defend their properties but that is a risk which needs to be considered.

## **PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE.**

Modern buildings are far less sound proofed than older properties and the Enstone Village Hall is no exception. Music and voices can be heard clearly from a distance and the beat of a Base Guitar can be particularly disturbing.

The granting of an Alcohol Licence until 10.30pm would inevitably leave patrons drinking for a further 30 minutes before eventually reaching the Village Hall car park and elsewhere some time way beyond 11.00pm. The noise of departing revellers with raised voices to friends will echo far and wide thus disturbing many folk nearby. 'Harassment, Alarm and Distress' is a public order offence but who will control and police such behaviour?

Those Councillors charged with deciding this application would do well to visit the area and view the close proximity of the Village Hall in relation to those properties whose owners and families will be adversely affected if this application is granted.

## **PROTECTION OF CHILDREN.**

The Village Hall has to date hosted a limited number of events which have caused complaints about noise levels during and later when people have left the premises and in the car park and beyond. There are a number of nearby homes with babies and young children who have been and in future could be further disadvantaged by disturbed sleeping patterns.

For these reasons Counsellor's are invited to reject this application.

Yours Sincerely,

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Kevin J O'Neill. J.P.,



**The Paddocks  
Enstone  
Chipping Norton  
Oxfordshire  
OX7 4AZ**

Head of Community Services  
West Oxfordshire District Council  
Elmfield  
Witney  
Oxfordshire  
OX28 1PB

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2015

Dear Sir

**Ref: The Parish Hall, The Paddocks. Enstone. OX7 4AZ**

Further to the notice that has been recently displayed outside the above premises and as the owners of 1 The Paddocks, the house immediately opposite the Hall and car park, we wish to make the following comments and objections on our behalf and our successors in title.

We are very largely supportive of the majority of the current activities that occur in the Hall, however it was made clear by the vendors, Charles Church Homes, on purchasing this property last July that no bar facilities would be available on site and any evening functions would be carefully controlled. This was subsequently endorsed at a meeting of the Parish Council which we attended.

Our objections therefore are as follows:

1. The supply of Alcohol for the hours requested is tantamount to a full On Licence. Bearing in mind that this is a residential area, this clearly could contribute to Crime and Disorder and Public Nuisance, to say nothing of setting a bad example to the many children that live in close proximity to the Hall, and therefore should be refused.

We would request that only Occasional Licences should be issued for specific events, with a cut off time of 2300 hours on Saturdays and 2100 hours on weekdays, thus giving the Parish Hall Committee a much greater degree of control over times and types of events and allowing residents peaceful use of their homes.

2. Live Music must be restricted to once a week and also have the same cut off hours as those requested above and for the same reasons, otherwise there is a danger that the place could become a night club. Furthermore these times should apply to all evening activities. Whilst the current regime at the Hall is clearly thoroughly responsible, there is no knowing what might happen in the future.

Over and above these objections, we would strongly request that numbers attending these functions should be limited to the number of car spaces available calculated on a maximum of four people per car, in order to satisfy and ensure Public Safety on the road.

Yours faithfully

Mr and Mrs A C Sinclair