

Response from objectors following correspondence from Applicant

I. Adam Leach

The papers attached are not reassuring. The policies are internal documents that any organisation might prepare. It appears, once again, that the owners of the The Bull and their agents are seeking to secure legitimacy for a course of action that will provide licence to act as they choose, for activities which they judge desirable (but without any evidence that local residents want this or even their customers), and which render local residents powerless to prevent noise and nuisance.

Despite the several statements which appear to be presented as concessions to representations made, there remains no real definition of the limits to the additional source of noise, the need for this in Charlbury, nor clear justification for a benefit that is alleged to be for pub customers but which will only frustrate and harm local residents.

Several points are made in the documents received that are not convincing, highlighted as follows:

"to bring the licence in line with how the venue has been used previously" - this is not true; it may have been used in this way from time time but no evidence is provided that this has ever been standard or customary practice, and certainly not in the last 25 years.

"we are very happy to adjust the red line" - this is not reassuring; sound travels notwithstanding assertions (including 'independent consultant's opinions and limiting devices)

"route background recorded music outside at all times through a sound limiting device" - this is not reassuring;

"restrict live music outside to between 3pm and 8pm on a Saturday or Sunday" - this is deeply worrying: the hours have been extended from '4 p.m.-6 p.m.' (as stated to the Town Council (15 April, last); it is unclear how frequent this will be

"Our existing licence does not have such limitations, but we are very happy to agree to impose them on the new licence, to provide reassurance" - this seems mischievous: there is no means of enforcing any restrictions once the licence is granted or preventing levels of noise and nuisance that residents might be experiencing.

"The level of the sound limiting device is set by an independent acoustic consultant." - this is mischievous: the identity, legitimacy and authority, and competence of this person does not guarantee that noise levels and nuisance will be acceptable to local residents.

"Any live music in the Garden (other than carol singing) may only take place between 3pm and 8pm on a Saturday or Sunday, and at all times at a level that does not cause nuisance to nearby residents." - this is not reassuring: how nuisance to nearby residents will be assessed, what sanctions can they rely upon should the

nuisance persist, and there is no good reason why should local residents be required to make representations in order to limit noise and nuisance.