



WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Name and date of Committee	LICENSING PANEL – THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2026
Subject	APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE – THE FOX INN, 27 ENSTONE ROAD, MIDDLE BARTON, CHIPPING NORTON, OXON OX7 7BL
Wards affected	Steeple Barton
Accountable member	Licensing Panel
Accountable officer	Naomi Hunt – Career Grade Licensing Officer Email: naomi.hunt@publicagroup.uk
Summary/Purpose	To determine a variation application to a premises licence made by Tony O'Sullivan W/26/00779/PRMV
Annexes	Annex A - Application Form Annex B – Plans and location Annex C – Representations
Recommendation(s)	That the Licensing Panel is asked, in light of the representation received, to consider the application and determine whether to: - • grant the application as requested. • grant the application subject to such conditions that are necessary to promote the licensing objectives. • refuse to specify a person in the licence as the premises supervisor. • refuse the application in whole or in part where it is necessary to promote the licensing objectives
Corporate priorities	Ensure that services delivered by the Council are delivered to the highest standard
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO

Consultees/ Consultation	A 28 day consultation has been undertaken with all Responsible Authorities, Ward Members, and Town Council and advertised in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003.
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I. BACKGROUND

- 1.1** The Licensing Act 2003 ("the Act") allows applicants to apply for new Premises Licences, Premises Licence variations, Club Premises Certificates and Personal Licences. This application is for a New Premises Licence.
- 1.2** The Application was received on the 28th July 2026. The Applicant is Tony O'Sullivan, for a variation to the premises licence located at Fox Inn, 27 Enstone Road, Middle Barton, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, OX7 7BL
- 1.3** A copy of the application can be found in **Annex A**.
- 1.4** This variation is to improve customer service by allowing staff to take orders directly from customers seated in the garden and courtyard. The increased staff presence in these areas will also strengthen supervision, complement the existing CCTV coverage, enhance security, and further promote the licensing objective.

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

- 2.1** A copy of the plans of the premises and its location can be found in **Annex B**.

3. REPRESENTATIONS

Responsible Authorities under the Licensing Act 2003

- 3.1** The following Responsible Authorities submitted no objection to the application: Oxfordshire Fire Service, Planning Services WODC, Thames Valley Police, Technical Pollution Services WODC, Oxfordshire Safeguarding Team and The Local Health Body (NHS)

Representations from residents

- 3.2** There has been one objection representation from a local resident and four representations in support from residents. These representations are set out in **Annex C**.

Views of the Licensing Authority

- 3.3** Planning and Licensing are two separate jurisdictions, and the business operator should ensure that they adhere to both and have requirements in place. The Licensing Panel should not consider matters regarding planning requirements for this application.

4. NATIONAL GUIDANCE

- 4.1** The Secretary of State's Guidance requires Licensing Authorities, following receipt of relevant representations, to make judgements about what constitutes a public nuisance and what is necessary, in terms of Conditions attached to a specific Premises Licence, to prevent it.
- 4.2** Where the Act provides for mandatory conditions to be included in a Premises Licence, it is the duty of the Licensing Authority issuing the Licence to include those conditions in the Licence.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** There are no financial implications arising directly from the consideration of this Application. However, any appeal to the magistrates' court against the refusal of the Application or against the imposition of conditions could result in the Council having to bear the legal costs of defending its decision.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1** There is a right of appeal to the magistrates' court within 21 days of the Council's decision, should the Council refuse the Application or against the conditions imposed on the Licence.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1** West Oxfordshire District Council's Statement of Licensing Policy – 2021
- 7.2** Home Office S.182 Statutory Guidance published February 2026.

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