

**Representations made relating to the application for a variation of premises licence:
the Royal Hop Pole, 94 - 96 Church Street, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, GL20 5RT**

1 – [REDACTED]

To whom it may concern, I have seen that Wetherspoons have applied for an extension to their opening hours. I strongly oppose this for many reasons, St Mary's lane is largely a residential area with most of us having bedrooms facing the lane, it is definitely worth noting that our houses do not have double glazing due to them being listed, therefore the noise reduction is very limited. The nature of our buildings in the Lane means that noise echoes all around and increases the volume especially at night when there is limited noise from other factors.

The noise that we currently have to put up with when customers leave the premises is already unacceptable, people shout, sing, fight, slam car doors, play music in their cars, smash glasses and smoke drugs.

We regularly have people doing wheel spins right outside our window as they leave the car park, and we have also had the police right outside our bedroom window a number of times as they try and control antisocial behaviour, if the licensing time was increased this noise would be happening in the early hours which is completely unacceptable and would greatly impact residents general and mental health that comes with lack of sleep, no business should be allowed to cause that amount of distress.

There are no staff monitoring the noise levels in the car park or the lane and no CCTV either so no action can be taken against the perpetrators, which I'm sure they are aware of, so there is no deterrent at all and their actions have absolutely no consequences, which means they are able to behave like that every time they visit.

This end of town is very popular with tourists and we have a number of holiday lets in the area, it wouldn't take many bad reviews regarding the noise and antisocial behaviour for them to stop coming which would impact the whole of our economy and be a travesty for Tewkesbury.

We run The Ice Cream Cottage which is next to the car park, last summer we applied for planning to extend our opening times from 5.30pm to 6.30 pm, the planning was denied, the reason....that opening until 6.30pm would severely impact on our neighbours!! How on earth then can we be refused to serve ice cream to families at 6.30pm due to impact but Wetherspoons can serve alcohol until 00.30! This would be a complete contradiction.

The residents of St Mary's Lane and Church Street are already fed up with the noise impact Wetherspoons has on our beautiful town when their customers start to leave, and I urge the licensing department to take all the residents concerns into account and reject this application.

2 – [REDACTED]

To Whom it may Concern It has been brought to my attention that Wetherspoons Royal Hop Pôle in Tewkesbury, have applied for an extension to their licensing hours to midnight each day of the week.

The Hop Pole Hotel was a comfortable town hotel until Wetherspoons bought the premises, since when Tewkesbury residents have put up with fighting in the streets and not always after hours, together with drug dealing in the Wetherspoons car park, noisy cars leaving their

car park late at night and dangerous driving on occasions during the day, when I myself have been obliged to call the police out.

Tewkesbury is predominantly a residential town. Many of the medieval buildings are not commercial but owned by people who chose to live in, what is a town that could be much more visited by tourists, but sadly there is a continuous blight and that is those that drink until the early hours and spill onto the streets in drunken stupors and who shout and scream and fight up and down the streets into the early hours, vomit, urinate and on occasions defecate in the alleys and private doorways.

I for one who do Neighbourhood Watch around the St Marys Lane area have had to call the police on many occasions. Many of the residents who reside along Church Street, Barton Street, the High Street and St Marys Lane are totally fed up with the behaviour that is caused by those frequenting not only Wetherspoons, but The New Plough and others in the town.

Since the last meeting that I had with the managers from Wetherspoons, together with the police, they have made an effort to keep bouncers on the exit points, however the later the hours extended the worse it will become, therefore I for one and no doubt there will be more residents object strongly to this extension.

I urge you in the licensing department to take a strong view and err on the side of the residents who live in Tewkesbury and NOT allow this extension. It will do no one any good.

3 – [REDACTED]

Having read the Notice of Application to vary a Premises Licence at the Royal Hop Pole Hotel, Tewkesbury, I give you notice that I wish to make representations regarding this Application as follows;- That part of St Mary's Lane which would be most affected by a change in the licensing and closing hours of the Royal Hop Pole Hotel is residential with many residents' bedrooms being on the front of their properties and within 2ft 6ins of the carriageway.

If the licensing extension were to be allowed, this would mean that patrons of the hotel could leave the hotel as late as 12.30 am every night. Some of them would be going to the carpark, slamming the doors of their cars and revving their engines as they leave the 2 carparks in St Mary's Lane, some of them would be leaving on foot and walking the streets, some of them would not be entirely sober, some of them would be noisy and some of them would be inebriated as I am sure you will read about in other residents' representations.

The National Sleep Foundation Guidelines advise that healthy adults need between 7 and 9 hours of sleep per night. Babies, young children and teens need even more sleep to enable their growth and development. People over the age of 65 should also get 7 to 8 hours per night. I personally need 8 hours of undisturbed sleep a night to be able to function properly.

It would be impossible for the residents of St Mary's Lane and Church Street to achieve their proper amount of sleep if this extension were to be allowed. I lived at 93 Church Street adjacent to the Royal Hop Pole Hotel between 1977 and 2021 (some 45 plus years) and am aware of the noise issues since Wetherspoons opened their doors in 2008. Again our bedroom was on the front of the property next to the entrance to the hotel. It is well known that there is a close relationship between sleep and mental health and that poor sleep can have a negative effect on a person's mental health. It can result in tiredness, difficulty coping with daily life, low self esteem and feelings of worry and stress to name just a few of the negative effects. I would therefore urge the licensing department of Tewkesbury Borough

Council to reject this application for an extension to the licensing and closing hours of the Royal Hop Pole Hotel

4 – [REDACTED]

To Whom It May concern My name is [REDACTED] and my business partner is [REDACTED]. We are co owners of Caffè e Vino at 78 Church Street, Tewkesbury, GL20 5RX. It has been brought to our notice that Wetherspoons who own The Royal Hop Pole, have applied to the licensing authorities, for an extension to continue selling alcohol until midnight from Monday-Sunday.

I wish to bring to the attention of the licensing authority that, even though we are a restaurant in Tewkesbury and are open for diners, we have had serious problems over the last year with drunk and unruly clients leaving from Wetherspoons and also other outlets throughout Tewkesbury town who are unnecessarily rowdy, use foul language and have been caught urinating into our flower containers which we place on the street to make our premises more attractive and we have had certain of those who have deliberately pulled the plants out and left them on the pavement whilst passing our restaurant which does not bode well for our clients who are departing after their evening with us, thus discouraging any repeat business.

We started Caffè e Vino eight years ago and worked extremely hard to provide our clients with excellent quality Italian food in premises which we have restored to a high standard and attracts clients from far and wide, who have been recommended to us and a steady regular clientele, however on a number of occasions our clients have been confronted with drunken hooligans shouting and fighting in Church Street and vomiting on the pavement.

We have staff who live above the restaurant premises, who work long hours and need their rest. We do not need more unruly, rowdy, foul mouthed and badly behaved individuals roaming the streets of Tewkesbury in the early hours, nor do the police wish to be called out when they are seriously stretched.

We strongly object to this application on the basis that Tewkesbury needs to be elevated and that there are many residential properties within the area around The Hop Pole.

5 – Councillor Cate Cody

Comments from Councillor Cate Cody (Tewkesbury South), regarding The Royal Hop Pole (Wetherspoons) application seeking to permit an additional thirty minutes of alcohol sales daily and adding an hour to the times in which films can be shown, taking both activities until midnight every day of the week, with the premises closing at 12.30am.

I am objecting to this application upon three of the four licensing objectives which are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Prevention of public nuisance
- Public safety

Several residents have been in touch to say that they are already unhappy with the behaviour of some who frequent Wetherspoons. Is it really necessary to make this worse? Quite frankly, I have heard some horror stories relayed by those living nearest including; anti-social behaviour, ridiculous noise levels - especially late at night, drug taking, unruly driving, urination in the street and worse. (These are crime and disorder, public nuisance and public safety issues).

Surely extending licensing and opening hours is just going to encourage further anti-social behaviour?

Tewkesbury is a small, Mediaeval town, not a city or indeed even a large town such as neighbouring Cheltenham which has a much younger population. The Royal Hop Pole is situated alongside a lane with a number of residential properties. It is in a conservation area and many of the homes are listed. This means that many of the properties many not be insulated against noise as much as perhaps a modern home would be.

Tewkesbury is also a tourist destination, with a high number of older people coming to visit the town for its Abbey and rich history. It's not Las Vegas where many people visit to have a wild time.

I am very surprised to learn that as of yet, the local police have made no comment against this application, given the number of complaints and the number of times they have had to attend incidents at Wetherspoons.

The current licence already permits films until 11pm daily and alcohol sales until 11.30pm daily with the premises closing at 11.30pm, surely this is already late enough for our otherwise mostly quiet town?

I urge you to take seriously the comments of residents living in the vicinity of this establishment and take into account the disruption they already face on a far too frequent basis.

6 – [REDACTED]

I set out below my objections to the above application I would like to register a strong objection to the application for an extension of licensing at The Royal Hop Pole, on the grounds that it would cause a further inconvenience to the long suffering residents of the immediate locality.

I have lived adjacent to The Royal Hop Pole for over forty five years, and for most of that time it was trouble free. The takeover of JD Wetherspoon brought with it a constant succession of problems, inconvenience and noise to all of the residents in Church Street and Saint Mary's Lane. We have frequently had to tolerate late night noise on the street, pools of vomit on our doorsteps, and empty glasses left on the pavement. Fag ends and lighted cigarettes were often thrown over the boundary wall into my garden.

Late night leavers from the rear of the hotel often urinate on my property, and on one occasion even defecated; and I, as a man in his seventies, have had to physically eject two youths whom I apprehended urinating in broad daylight. All of these complaints have been brought to the attention of the hotel management as and when they have occurred, but still they persist. Wetherspoons maintain that they are not responsible for the actions of customers once they have left the hotel, but by extending the hours of drinking the problems that we residents have to endure will only worsen.

7 – [REDACTED]

Good morning I live at [REDACTED] and I am sending this email to object for weather spoons the Hop Hole extending opening hours. In the past there has been some disturbances and it can be worrying. I feel their current hours are acceptable and should not open after 11pm.