

1. Angela Quemby

I would like to express my review of the license of the Black Bear Tewkesbury.

This is an amazing public house. It has brought a hub where residents of Tewkesbury can actually gather to catch up and have a good time.

It is a great part of the Tewkesbury heritage and in its early days there would of been music and entertainment to provide amusement to the patrons that used the public house. It may of been closed for a few years whilst a wonderful and authentic renovation has taken place but it has been there a long time before the newer residential dwellings were built and the people that bought these dwellings knew it was a public house that provided entertainment to the whole town!

Tewkesbury has nothing else like this and we as a community should cherish it and support the owner who took his time with the renovation to ensure that he remained true to the history of our town.

I support the Black Bear and its license to entertain us all!

2. Ben Greenwood

I am a keen supporter of keeping the music license for the black bear!

It brings people back to the town, which brings money to the town! Everyone is enjoying themselves and supporting the pub. It also helps other businesses that the black bear supports such as the food stands they have, also supporting local musicians!

It's the "oldest pub" in Gloucestershire with so much history! For the people to moan about the noise it's an outrage and they are spoiling it for the majority.

I think it will be a terrible idea to stop them playing any sort of music!

3. Andy Phone

The Black Bear needs to keep its license. It's the oldest pub in Gloucestershire and needs to be kept as a pub. The current owners have spent a fortune restoring it to a very high standard. Tewkesbury should be proud to have such an establishment in the town.

4. Martin Adams

I have become aware of a licensing review of the above establishment. My comments are summarised below:

- The black bear is a great addition to the tewkesbury high street providing a unique blend of historical importance with modern atmosphere.
- residents near the black bear should have been aware of the potential to noise up until 11.30 (possibly later on occasion) given it is literally the oldest pub in gloucestershire. The fact it has been closed from a few years is immaterial to its history as a public house.
- Live music not only supports the black bear but also supports tewkesbury's local talent and should be encouraged.

- As a town we need to encourage entrepreneurial spirit it, commitment to the town and diversity which i believe the owners of the black bear have fully represent enter thought the work undertaken at the premises, the operation of thai takeaway at the premises and the refurbishment work done to the premises. The public house sector is challenging and any curfew would reduce their chance of success as a business.

- Tewkesbury is a great town to live in but we also need a great social environment to support this an it's residence which the black bear provides.

Therefore in summary my view is that it would be to the wider towns interest to not limit the live entertainment provided at the black bear.

5. Mandy Wheeler

I am very disappointed to read about the complaints being made on the black bear pub.

I for one fully support the black bear and what it has brought and will bring to Tewkesbury.

The pub is a historic and has been brought back to life.

TBC old keys dont open new doors, have an open mind, not all situations will suit everyone - we need to embrace change thru life.

I fully support the black bear and so should you.

6. Tom Brown

Since its reopening the Black Bear has been a breath of fresh air for the town of Tewkesbury. It has been respectfully restored keeping faith with the older elements of the building but making improvements that make it a fantastic place to visit.

Certainly, other customers must also think this because it has proved to be a really popular pub that attracts many people to the town, providing employment for a number of people and supporting many other businesses.

One of the main attractions I feel is the beer garden next to the river with its provision of food and live music which many people obviously enjoy. In these difficult times being part of the weekend summer audience listening to the music has been a great boost to mine and I'm sure other people's mental health.

I have read the official borough council letter and the communication from Councillors Workman and Sztymiak with dismay as it would appear the decisions have already been made and severe restrictions about to be imposed on the licensee.

Surely a more collaborative approach could have been made to resolve issues without this heavy-handed approach?

The implications of the Environmental Health Team in respect of external music would mean the very reason why people come to Tewkesbury and specifically to this pub would be removed. Does anybody want to be in a shut-in space on a lovely summers afternoon/evening.

The implications of this could be reduced employment and a complete rethink of this very successful venture. Is this really what Tewkesbury Borough would like to see?

I understand the late night cut off times and associated issues and am sure these can be resolved but limiting the outdoor music to 6 days per year, three of which would be the fantastic Tewkesbury Live event is too extreme and would certainly detract from this brilliant venue.

As such I would ask that this review is postponed pending more detailed negotiations between the Black Bear and the Council.

7. Carol Crilly

I have just heard the TBC wants to reduce the Black Bears outside events to 6 per year.

I can't believe that this could be good thing. Since the pub has reopened it has been like a breath of fresh air, it has already brought so much to our town.

Luke is sensible, fair and very community minded and always has the town at the forefront of his business. He has no intention of having a 'rave' every weekend, he is just bringing great events for the town to enjoy.

All of his events tend to be in the summer and are weather dependant and we all know how lousy are weather can be, he definitely should have the flexibility and would never take advantage.

Please do not 'hand cuff' him to 6 per year, please support someone that is great for our community and will definitely bring more business to Tewkesbury.

8. Steve Ward

I write with reference to the Black Bears Entertainment Licence, which I understand is under review.

I would like to show my full support for this establishment and believe there shouldn't be any restrictions applied. The Black Bear has been refurbished to an incredibly high standard at huge expense and brings many new people to the town to enjoy there events, they also spend more money at other local shops.

Ive also spoken to residents who live in King John's Court, most of which have no issue with the live events but have more of an issue with the parking on the bridge and the fact that no-one wants to take responsibility for dealing with that.

I trust that common sense prevails and the committee get behind the Black Bear.

9. Tim Wright

The owners of the Black Bear have done a marvellous and sensitive job of rejuvenating the iconic public house. So much care and thought has been put into its redevelopment for the benefit of all who wish to see our historic town thrive again.

Furthermore, I note that the owners engage willingly and proactively with customers and locals alike and show an eagerness to try and please all.

However, I learnt today that a negative element resent the progress at the Black Bear despite the owners meticulous adherence to planning, building and extant licensing grants. I sincerely hope that the licence is allowed to remain as intended and planned for the future survival.

10. Grace Brown

Although I am not a resident close to the Black Bear I am a resident at Chapel House which is close proximity to a music pub and although I can hear it I expect to hear music as it is near a pub and in the town centre.

In relation to the Black Bear since it's reopening I think it's a great music venue for Tewkesbury, it brings something to the town which I think has sadly been lacking. As a result of the Black Bear reopening I don't feel like I need to spend my money in other towns and cities as we now have everything you need in Tewkesbury.

The outdoor area is great at the black bear and to sit on a nice summers evening listening to live music has been some of my highlights this summer, for example the Tewkesbury Live and Oktoberfest as well the solo artists and bands.

I'm sure that the council, the local residents and the Black Bear can come to some sort of middle ground without having to impose draconian measures. Surely the council can come up with a more collaborative approach so that the pub can carry on providing the great offering that it currently does.

11. Heather Wheelock

I am writing in response to seeing there is a review about the Black Bear premise license and want to offer my feedback.

Prior to its reopening Tewkesbury nightlife was limited and quite frankly dull. The Black Bear has brought life back to our small town offering a variety of different themed nights, live music and great entertainment unlike no other venue here.

The pub existed long before these neighbours lived near by and it will be there long after they leave. I suspect this is a knee jerk response to its reopening after the neighbours have got used to having it closed for so long. It is really quite unfair as I see Luke and his team being very careful about noise levels and ensuring everyone is inside after a certain time.

I visit every weekend and as a result I also visit other pubs in the high street which I never used to do. I will often make a Sunday trip into town to shop and end at the Black Bear for a drink.

It would be a huge shame if they were no longer allowed to do music. Tewkesbury is becoming a thriving, music town and the Black Bears reputation is helping it grow. I believe summers in Tewkesbury will be bigger and bigger each year due to the Tewkesbury Big Weekend and the outdoor live music.

12. Hannah Grainger

It has been brought to my attention that the Black Bear licencing is being reviewed in relation to entertainment at the premises.

I want to express my deep disappointment in the licencing being reviewed at a venue so integral to the nightlife in the town and to voice my support in the Black Bear keeping its current conditions and continuing to be an key part of Tewkesbury's success.

The Black Bear has not only been restored to an impeccable standard, but brought vitality to the town that has not been seen for years - even decades.

I have experienced the venue myself with its events and live music and seen how the venue brings together the local community from all ages and backgrounds in a positive way. I've seen no public disorder or criminal activity. The atmosphere of the Black Bear is one of bringing people together through its history, classy surroundings, brilliant management and, of course, it's regular entertainment. It truly is the heart of the community and encapsulates what a pub should be.

I have no doubt that the success of the Black Bear is and will continue to be critical to the local economy, with the venue being vital to the town's experience to both locals and visitors alike. The pub is steeped in history and the owners should be hailed as heros for saving the historical pub from disrepair after substantial investment, which I'm sure will see no return for a number of years.

It's quite frankly criminal to hear that the entertainment is being challenged at this venue which will not only impact the owner's revenue, but the local economy and the community of the town.

I have lived in the town center for many years. Firstly, by the YMCA and Royal Hop Pole and now a stone's throw away from the Black Bear. To live in the town, you have to embrace that you are living in the heart of the nighttime economy and with that comes some level of noise pollution. With the decline of the high street, without a successful nighttime economy the town will die. I couldn't even dream of complaining about it; ruining the experience for others now and years and generations to come. How short sighted could one be?

For the first time in a very long time, this summer and autumn, I have seen a community come together through music. Families, young people, older people. What the Black Bear brings to Tewkesbury is a unique and heartwarming experience. To see that end or limited would be absolutely tragic and a very sad day for the a town which was just coming back to life.

13. Timmy Hasselhoff

I'm originally from Tewkesbury although I no longer live there, I feel that the licensing restrictions regarding noise and the residents of the area are absurd. This establishment has been a part of the whole shire for hundreds of years and should remain as is. Live music and human connection are worth more than a few complaints from disgruntled people that bought a property next to an historic gathering place.

Anyway. I vote boo! Don't do it.

14. Nadine Clarke

I understand the license for the Black Bear is under review.

I wish to comment regarding this as I feel it is an asset to Tewkesbury. I am a Tewkesbury resident. The property has been renovated to a high standard sympathetically. It is also aesthetically stunning.

I am sure it has brought in additional visitors to Tewkesbury and therefore helps the local economy. I have visited at various times, days with entertainment and days without. I would say the majority of

the time it is quiet and does not impact direct neighbours. Please do not restrict them as I feel that would be a detriment to Tewkesbury

15. Samantha Woodrow

I am writing as a Tewkesbury resident in favour of the Black Bears License renew.

It is a historic and well restored tourist attraction and for locals, a part of our heritage.

For the music scene in Tewkesbury it is a fantastic venue. For the community, the events it hosts and supports such as Tewkesbury Live and Tewkesbury big weekend is essential I'm bringing us all together, especially now given the difficulties we all face with national and global crises.

16. Rob Morris

I would like to voice my opposition to the possible proposed changes to the Black Bear license.

As a Tewkesbury resident of over 40years, having grown up with using the Black Bear, it is wonderful to see it open again, especially after having been shut for so many years.

The owners have created a unique atmosphere within the town, and the venue has something for everyone. To change that so soon after opening would be a travesty and make a mockery of your original license.

I enjoy listening to live music and the Black Bear is a great place to go to do this.

Your new possible proposals listed are completely Draconian and without merit. It reduces both people's enjoyment and the local economy. If you are reducing the terms of the license at the Black Bear, will this be the thin end of the wedge and you would have to do similar reductions at other venues in town.

17. Paul Bevan

I support the view that the Black Bear, Tewkesbury has become an important venue in the town for leisure and enjoyment and general wellbeing , in its new format. It is a place to be proud of with the new renovation and the way it is run. A true asset to the town.

Their support of local talent to provide music to customers is fantastic and in my opinion needs encouragement.

Being centuries old supports the view that it has existed long before nearby households but if you choose to live in a town then there will be music, noises etc. It's inevitable and part and parcel of town dwelling.

Imagine next year's highly successful Music Festival missing its premier location or being seriously curtailed!

Please add me to "Supporting the current licence continuing"

18. Pete Lancaster

Hello. I wish to express my support for the Black Bear and Luke the landlord. The renovation of this ancient inn has been extraordinarily professional and is a major attraction for the town. The self imposed rule is that no drinks are to be taken outside after 11pm in order to limit any noise

nuisance. Music played inside the building can hardly be heard outside. Please remember that the king in power when the inn was built was Edward the second. Any nearby houses are much less ancient.

19. Charlotte Gurney

I would like to register my support for The Black Bear, what an absolutely fantastic place. The investment that has been made in this business and property is a triumph for Tewkesbury and not only will attract the residents of the Tewkesbury area but will also attract visitors to the area. The development team have achieved a lovely atmosphere with the property being restored to an exceptionally high standard whilst also conserving the original features of the property.

I understand that local residents living near to The Black Bear are raising concerns and complaints. Please take in to account when listening to these that they live in a Town centre property and some noise must be expected because of the location they have chosen to live.

It would be such a shame to see any infringement put on the activities of The Black Bear as they give so much to the area. They are taking in to account the history of the building and the impact they have on the community to an exceptionally high level.

I would prefer to remain anonymous when showing my support but would appreciate my input being taken in to account please.

20. Elizabeth Gilbert

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for The Black Bear, a cherished establishment in our town that is currently facing a license review due to noise complaints. This pub, with its rich history dating back to 1308, is not merely a place of gathering; it is a testament to our community's heritage and a symbol of our town's enduring spirit.

The recent refurbishment of The Black Bear is nothing short of remarkable, and I believe it will stand the test of time, much like its 700-year history. The investment made in its preservation is a testament to the dedication and commitment of the current landlord and staff.

In the mere four months since reopening, the pub has become an integral part of our town's cultural fabric. The fantastic events they have organized have drawn local residents and visitors alike, offering unique experiences that were previously scarce in our area. This not only enhances our town's appeal but also keeps our local businesses thriving.

One of the most remarkable aspects is the peaceful and friendly atmosphere it provides. In an era where feeling safe is paramount, the security personnel employed at the establishment, particularly on weekends, are not only effective but also kind and non-intimidating. As a young female, I appreciate this, as it is one of the few places where I feel comfortable going alone.

Moreover, the efforts made to mitigate noise disturbances are commendable. The sound curtains around the bands and the soundboards for the outside terrace over summer are clear demonstrations of the current landlord commitment to harmoniously coexisting with our local residents. The noise levels have been managed effectively, making the pub a good neighbor to its surroundings.

The live music at the bear adds an incredible vibrancy to our town, and the steps taken to reduce noise disruptions demonstrate the responsible approach taken by the Landlord.

In conclusion, I urge the council to consider the historical significance, cultural enrichment, and economic contributions of the black bear when reviewing its license. It is a rare gem that we should proudly support and preserve for generations to come.

21. Pauline Evans

The Black Bear pub is a wonderful facility to have in our town. It is ofcourse the oldest public house in the county and the historic value of this building is amazing.

I worked at the Black Bear in the late nineties myself and it is no more busy now.

The team are working hard to make the pub into a success and be part of the community and it would be so sad to lose such a wonderful facility.

If you wish to contact me to confirm any details please do not hesitate to contact me by email or phone.

22. Jen Cook

I have become aware that the license of the black bear in Tewkesbury is being reviewed.

Whilst I appreciate that living next door or close to a public house will have its downsides the residents bought their houses knowing this and all of the ups and downs that this brings.

The newly refurbished black bear is a real asset to Tewkesbury and a real destination point for Tewkesbury and beyond.

I do hope that you consider the views of all Tewkesbury residents and vote in favour of the license being continued.

23. Natalie Burford

I would just like to say what an amazing job they are doing at the black bear. It is so lovely to be able to walk to a local pub with our dog and children. We are regular visitors and I have never had a bad experience yet. The staff are friendly and I love the fact that they encourage local musicians to show the community their skills. The pub is an asset to the community.

24. Kevin Bradford

I understand that the Black Bear public house in Tewkesbury is currently undergoing a review of its licence.

I would like to share my observations on this topic. It is my intention to try to be balanced. As you will note from my address at the foot of this email I do not live near to the premises.

I have visited the Black Bear on a couple of occasions as a customer. I have no negative comments in relation to how the premises were being managed. Quite the opposite in fact. I found it a very pleasant experience.

I do however pass the premises on a regular basis as both a motorist and a pedestrian, at various times of the day and night. It comes as no surprise to me that the licence is under review. It must be purgatory for those that live within the immediate vicinity.

Below are a couple of observations:

- The number of people in the garden area adjacent to the road is huge. The noise and disruption caused as a result is significant.
- Both during and outside of opening hours the parking on Mythe Road is both disruptive and dangerous. As you appreciate the premises have no off road parking of its own. It has become common practice for people attending the pub to park half on the road and half on the footpath. The inconvenience and dangers are obvious, particularly when, at busy periods, the line of vehicles extends a couple of hundred yards towards the Severn Trent premises. This was never the case prior to the pub reopening so any suggestion that the vehicles do not belong to customers is flawed. This matter will only be resolved with the introduction of legally enforceable parking restrictions on Mythe Road.

As I stated above, hopefully an informed, accurate, and balanced contribution.

25. Bev Jackson

I just wanted to email across to say what a delight the Black Bear has been for the town. There has never been a sophisticated venue with appropriate entertainment in this town in my lifetime (40+) with exception of Tewkesburys big weekend. (not the style of the old montels).

This development and provision for the upmarket residents of Tewkesbury is what will keep the town alive.

This business has no 'drink offers' Discos or Trouble - in keeping with the Town it has dog walkers, children and respectful visitors.

I have visited a few times and have always found the venue a delight. It is fantastic to be able to walk to this store and spend nights in the town again - which I'm sure creates good business for local take always / taxis and Buses.

My cockapoo enjoys it too !

I hope you will support them going forward to continue with this wonderful addition to our Town.

26. Gordon Wheelock

I understand that The Black Bear public house is under review for its licence. Understandably, residents in the surrounding area will be concerned if the levels of noise and disturbance are unreasonable. If this is the case, then that's regrettable. Hopefully, there are measures that can be taken to ensure that annoyances are kept to a minimum, without the need for revoking their license.

However, I just wanted to express to you that as a customer and fairly regular visitor to this recently revived establishment, my family and I experience a great time whenever we go. The staff are friendly, responsible, welcoming and professional; the atmosphere in the place is a great one; and the general feeling I have when I speak to others about The Black Bear, is one of positivity. It seems to have revitalised the town somewhat and I wanted you to factor this into any decisions you are having to make regarding their licensing renewal, for what it's worth.

27. David Mason

I understand you're carrying out a licence review of the Black Bear pub.

Points you need to consider are.

This has been a pub for hundreds of years.

There is a need for live entertainment venues in Tewkesbury. To bring much needed revenue into the town. Not just to the Black Bear but to restaurants takeaways ect.

This trade will go elsewhere if venues aren't allowed to prosper.

Many years ago Montells had a licence for a nightclub till the early hours . Why should the Black Bear be treated any different.

Many pubs in Town have live music on the weekend. Why is the Black Bear being singled out?

28. Tim Faull

Having the Black Bear re-opened has brought new life into Tewkesbury town centre and not only has the pub done that but also the surrounding restaurants and other town pubs have also benefitted. I have also been astounded by the number of new faces I have seen in the pub along with faces I've not seen in many years.

Yes, I can understand how some of their close neighbours have been somewhat frustrated by the music at weekends, but this has now been contained within the pub and I have noticed that the music stops at 11pm. To even consider removing the music license therefore, could be catastrophic for the pub and indeed detrimental to the wider Tewkesbury community.

We should all be extremely pleased that the Black Bear has once again become part of this historic town and the council should be doing everything it possibly can to ensure it thrives and succeeds.

29. Catherine Taylor

I am a resident of Tewkesbury town centre. I would like to speak up in support of The Olde Black Bear pub and its live music.

It has added to Tewkesbury's unique and flourishing live music scene and has brought that end of the town to life.

It is no louder than Inferno, The Albion, The Nottingham, The Berkeley, The New Plough, The Britannia, The YMCA or The Bell.

I live next door to The Berkeley and near enough share a wall with them. You take it into account when you decide to live there. Living in a town centre means a bit of noise at weekends.

The Bear brings trade and positivity into town.

Live music is a huge part of this.

30. Gill Downes

I understand that the Black Bear's licence is under review and I'd like to let you know the positive effect the venue is having on my life in Tewkesbury.

The pub is a great, well attended venue, serving the whole community. I am particularly grateful for the support it gives the community hosting such things as the Age Concern weekly meetings for the isolated and vulnerable residents, the remembrance Sunday event, the live music, etc.

I feel Tewkesbury has benefited greatly since the pub opened, it's a great space, serving all age groups. Staff are friendly and well trained and I look forward to supporting it in the coming years.

31. Mr and Mrs Price

I understand there is to be a review of the above premises license due to a complaint being made regarding noise issues.

Whilst I understand some people may not be happy with living near to a busy pub I sincerely hope it can continue on in its current form.

Since reopening this year the Black Bear has proven itself to be a real community asset.

A greater part of this is due to its ongoing commitment to live music. The effort the current owners have shown in making it a hub for local musicians and music lovers alike is I think to be highly commended.

In a town that has lost so many of its pubs it would be a terrible blow if such a premises was to be held back by further restrictions on its licence.

I hope these views are taken into account at the forthcoming review.

32. Sara Napper

To who it may concern, this email comes as support for the fabulous Black bear. I am a 63 year old who has never really felt safe going into pubs on my own. This has now changed. The Black bear is more than a pub, its a safe happy place, fabulous staff, great food and smashing entertainment. when I have been there in the evening, I have been asked to come inside at 10.30, so the noise is kept down. Luke and his staff deserve to keep doing the amazing job they are doing.

33. Leanne Thornton

My feedback is with regards to being a local resident at mitton.

The opening of this venue has been fantastic. It has not only drawn people into the town and to his historic building, but it is providing much needed entertainment and food which is **delivered by local individuals**. The vibrant and warm welcoming atmosphere reminds people of how the town used to be - it makes people want to go out and visit the high street.

I have personally felt so happy there is something bringing life back into the area.. I live locally and can walk to the pub and it has given me the opportunity to go out and enjoy life.

34. David Leggett

I just wanted to let you know how much my friends, family and I have enjoyed the various events that the Black Bear has provided since reopening.

I feel it is important that a local pub provides those community building like occasions. These events do pull people into Tewkesbury from outside the town.

Also, the Black Bear is independent and not Whetherspoons chain.

35. Amanda Mace

I wanted to write to you to say I am in total, total shock, Tewkesbury people have waited years wondering what/ how The Black bear project/ restoration was going to turn out. We would walk by intrigued by the goings on, we all waited so long to see this beautiful building brought back to life, I'm 58 and have lived in Tewkesbury all my life and I used to use this public house many years ago, the gardens were always a meeting place every summer, it was the place to be. Anyone who was born and bred here in Tewkesbury would also tell you this .

Then it reopened in 2023 and it brought Tewkesbury back to life, Luke and his team have done an amazing job restoring this beautiful building , people have come from far and near to visit. the newly restored amazing building.

People came to support Tewkesbury live throughout the town, but were so impressed by The black bear and its organised nature, extra bars, food availability , security They came and supported The beer festival, The bands they have playing are truly amazing, The quiz night is exceptional .

My sister and partner both live in Gloucester but now prefer a night out in Tewkesbury since the black bear has opened up with its great music choices, there is something for everyone.

The pub has been a pub for years on years, if people around chose to buy a house near a pub surely they must realise that there would be music, people, vehicles... noise It makes no sense to me 1 of the best things that has happened in Tewkesbury in years and years and you are questioning it .

This young couple are working so hard, they employ a great team of people, I've heard they are great to work for, they have fantastic standards ... every where in the pub is so clean the toilets, the bars areas, the gardens which can't be said for other public houses in and around Tewkesbury. The accessibility for disable people has really been thought through too. Nothing is ever too much trouble fir them. It's a great place to be, please go and try a night out before you make any decisions. Please think about these people and what they have gone through to give this treasure back to the people of Tewkesbury.

I work in a school and all of the staff enjoy this bar for many different reasons, some of our staff go to the quiz, some love to meet there for a chat and a drink, others go to support the bands.

A few of us meet up for food there, they have great variety on offer.

I live on my own and feel very safe going into this bar on my own, I am always so welcomed by a lovely warm welcome.

36. Mark Albutt

I hope this email finds you well.

I believe the license is soon to be reviewed for the Black Bear public house, and wanted to very briefly voice opinion from long term Tewkesbury residents.

With current economic strains on the food and beverage industry, it is paramount that those establishments that are truly looking to meet standards, benefit residents, and the town tourism as a whole, be given all the support they need. Many will state that if people choose to live by a pub they are to expect and accept certain noise levels, which is true. The same as when people move to villages expecting constant peace and quiet, then finding that they have farm vehicles trundling past (especially during harvesting). The point is, it is human nature to moan and complain for personal gain, and expect others and surroundings to change just for their benefit. Even when those said surroundings have been established for many more years.

I haven't met the owner(s) of the Black Bear, however I have been and thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere and loved having this truly historic public house back with the Tewkesbury community.

The owner(s) really have made the place look fantastic and it is clear to see the effort and investment they have committed for us all.

To finish. Ever time I have visited the Black Bear since reopening, the atmosphere has been fantastic, really fantastic. All ages and characters of all different backgrounds enjoying the pub and the events put on. It really is a great historical public house and means so much to so many Tewkesbury residents. I, like so many, truly hope that when the review takes place all of the above, that the majority residents interest is put first, the fact this is a historical venue, how hard the owner(s) is working to meet the public expectations, which I'm sure they are being as courteous to neighbours as much as a public house can be, and would ask on behalf of so many Tewkesbury residents, that you support the Black Bear and all it is bringing to Tewkesbury.

37. Julie Tomlinson

I am totally in favour of issuing a license to this pub which is bringing in much needed classier clientele to Tewkesbury

I for 1 have been to the local pubs and most are rough as

However this pub has been refurbish to an amazing standard and should be supported

38. Samantha Fitzpatrick

I'm aware complaints have been made against the Black Bear that has bought its license into review.

I full support the Black Bear and can only imagine that the complainant is somebody that has moved to the area in the last 6 years and has never had to deal with it open.

A lot of time and effort has gone into refurbishing and re opening the pub, which looks incredible. Not to mention the amount of money to bring this once thriving pub and hun of Tewkesbury back to life.

More and more of the pubs within town seem to be moving to live music events which don't always sound great and I appreciate should be kept inside after a certain time of night (perhaps 9.30pm)

With that said I think everyone has more important things to worry about, so I implore you to leave the Black Bears licence alone and to encourage the new landlord in what I can imagine is a very stressful time. Everytime I have visited it's busy and it's great to see the locals once again getting behind the black bear which has been a staple in most of the residents lives since their teen years.

39. Paul and Julie Gold

We live at The Mythe .We feel we must email our support for the owner of the above.

We have waited with much anticipation the remedial work carried out .

A fortune has been spent on the work to a very high standard . Now because it is successful , objections have been made. We would be forced to drive to Cheltenham if the restrictions are applied.

We understand the smoking area at the rear of the premises would have to be closed at 10.30 pm , the smokers being forced out onto the streets, crazy !

The outdoor entertainment would only be allowed on two weekends a year , having given two weeks notice to the licensing authorities . How would the owners know if the weather was going to be suitable two weeks in advance ?. The restrictions would make a viable business , marginal .

They have employed local people , local caterers .

Do a lot for the community , Tuesday Quiz nights , Age concern meet there once a week . Halloween parties for the children , no charge .

My wife meets her friends there, for coffee , safe environment .

We understand they are only carrying on with the licence conditions that were enforced , when it was a neglected pub owned by Greenall King

40. Neil Williams

I am writing in support of the Black Bear retaining its current license.

The Black Bear has injected some life back into the town, and this kind of effort should be rewarded, not sought to be brought down at every opportunity. This was exactly what the town needed and should be protected not punished

I will never understand why people move to a town centre and then complain about noise. It's like moving next to a golf course and then complaining about golf balls landing in your garden.

The license review is ridiculous and they should be allowed to continue the excellent work they have been doing.

41. Rebecca Tomkins

I can't believe that as a resident of Tewkesbury that I'm having to write this. The Black Bear needing to reach out for support that you as a council should be offering. After the long-awaited opening of the public house 'The Black Bear', I can honestly say, I feel like they have introduced the life back into the town. To have a place to gather and socialise with the added bonus of entertainment is a great addition to the town and the community. Lockdown has had a huge impact to society and how we socialise. The Black bear have done a great job of re introducing socialising with friends and family in our community. The inviting space is great for all ages, we have gone out as a couple to the public house and as a family with the children.

I realise that live music is played but how wonderful to have the opportunity to listen to different genres of music and they also support local talent.

I have seen when music is played later in the evening that it is moved in doors to respect the community living close to the public house.

When someone buys a house close to a public house, they surely must take into account, that some noise may happen. The noise in this case is of great musicians in practise.

Surely as a council you should be supporting this business to renew their licence and continue to be a hub in our community, along with offering a large amount of employment and supporting other catering businesses.

42. Stephen Howarth

I would like to send my support to the black bear licensing this is the best thing to happen to tewkesbury in a long time and has brought life back into the town without the problems it would be a great shame to see it shut because of a few narrow minded people surely everyone can see how good it's been for the town you only have to look at tewkesbury live to see what a success it's been.

43. Stuart McVicker

In support of the Black Bear current premises licence. I dare say the amount of time, effort, and no small sum of money, that have been put into this business was on the basis of abiding by plans and guidance set out by the council and licensing authority. You can't just change the goal posts because someone is offended by something, this is for the majority of Tewkesbury people not the few. The Black Bear is far from a public nuisance, in fact a gem of the Tewkesbury community, catering for young and old alike, and has done so for hundreds of years. A good selection of beers, freshly cooked food to order, great entertainment, music/ quiz nights, and a warm friendly atmosphere. There is no argument for this change, so I fully support the black bear and live directly opposite the pub so I am a local resident and I even like hearing the music say in my back garden on a summer's evening.

44. Philip Burnham

I wanted to bring to your attention a matter of pressing importance concerning The Black Bear Pub. Serving Tewksbury for over 600 years, it represents much more than just a pub – it is a hub of our community, a beacon of our town's rich history, and a significant contributor to the local economy.

The Black Bear Pub, with a welcoming atmosphere, has been instrumental in fostering togetherness in our community. It has helped make Tewksbury the appealing town that we know and love today. Its importance has been underscored in recent times, following a costly renovation that saved the pub from previous neglect and disrepair. The significant investment brought the pub back to its former glory, restoring its role as a communal anchor and reviving its 600-year old legacy.

Still, these achievements face significant risk as its license is now under review. It's a heart-wrenching thought that the pub – freshly renovated and revitalized – could face closure. This would cause not only emotional distress amongst the community but could also ultimately deter future investments, a blow from which recovery would be challenging. The review is truly not conducive to the town's growth and development.

Undeniably, pubs across the country are struggling in the current economic climate. The threat of license revocation acts as another barrier to success. It's vital for us to foster an environment where such community establishments can thrive.

Hence, I humbly ask that you reconsider the review for The Black Bear Pub. This esteemed establishment carries a legacy that goes beyond just brick and mortar; it also carries the pulse of our community.

I appreciate your time and trust that you understand the gravity of this situation for the future of both The Black Bear Pub and our beloved community in Tewksbury.

45. Russ Grimmett

I am emailing for my part in trying to keep the black bear alive and well in saving the public house from having its license revoked. Being a local company we are keen to keep local businesses thriving for the local economy.

Given the venue has been going since 1308, it's hard to understand that anyone, and I mean anyone, can complain of the place being a "nuisance", unless of course people living nearby have been there prior to the bear opening....??

The bear has been in restoration for a long time with an outset to provide an all-age place all year round for people to come together in the town with enough space.

It's been restored wonderfully, even exposing some of the town's history during the process (something that sits in EXTREMELY well with the town's new heritage scheme and for tourists and historians alike). If anything, it's helped the history of the town and made the heritage scheme more appealing.

It's brought MANY local jobs to the town, employed local tradesmen in the process, and has brought many a great atmosphere to the town, and quite frankly, a welcome addition, more so over national chains like KFC. Other venues such as the Albion have been restored and offer live music and events most evenings and we see no complaints or reviews of licenses, so why has the bear been subject to this? Seems a little unfair and non-consistent.

The entertainment and music have probably been a factor here and the reason for complaints. It's sad that people must complain about other people rejoicing and having fun with one of the few things we all have left to enjoy in the world. Live music is great for the soul, brings people together and lights up happiness. People will go out to enjoy live music, which means more jobs, more money spent locally.. more money for the council..

It baffles me how people can try and stop happiness and local businesses making an impact for the greater good. They will also be the first to complain that the town has gone to ruin when there are no tourists, and businesses are on their knees.

SUPPORT LOCAL, SUPPORT ENTERTAINMENT, SUPPORT THE BEAR

46. Charlotte Phillips

I seek to submit a representation in support of The Black Bear, Tewkesbury to MAINTAIN its current licence, without prejudice.

The Black Bear is an independent business in our busy but struggling market town. With the local economy, and indeed the wider economy, still recovering from the effects of the pandemic, The Office of Statistics quoted that in 2022 a record 534,777 businesses were dissolved.

In times such as these it has been refreshing to see a heritage venue such as The Black Bear be sympathetically and lovingly renovated and reopened. The management and renovation team at the Black Bear should be applauded for the preservation of both local independent business and of a building of significant historical importance (dating from 1308) with connections to the Abbey.

Tewkesbury Borough Council prides itself on its website as offering " high quality solutions to help businesses prosper and grow", but in the same breath issues this review of a premises licence which could sound the death knell for a local and much supported business.

I have reviewed the constitution of 'Public Nuisance' on the [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) website. From the information provided there, I believe that the members of the public who have sought this review of the Black Bear's license, are likely to have done so on the basis of the 'vehicular obstruction of the highway' that occurs regularly on King John's Bridge.

Should the root of this review be founded on the basis of vehicular obstruction, then far from it being a matter for a licensing review; this should be pursued as a legal matter directly with the drivers of said vehicles, under the Highways Act of 1980 (part IX - obstruction of Highways and streets).

The actions of the licence holders are neither to blame nor to be held accountable for the actions of users of the public highways.

In summary, I submit this declaration of support for the Black Bear to maintain their current licence without prejudice on the grounds of the management team having:

- Invested in the local economy
- Provided employment in the local area
- Preserved a building of historical importance
- No direct involvement or influence in the vehicular usage of the A38 road at King John's Bridge.

47. Karen Seager

I am writing to you to show my support for the black bear.

Since reopening it has brought the community together, giving a sense of nostalgia and fondness for the pub and given many opportunities to local small businesses -independent catering companies and local breweries.

They have also employed many young locals on their staff and they are able to tell you some historical facts about the oldest pub in Gloucestershire.

As a place of historic interest it is visited by tourists and boosts the tourism trade in other pubs and small businesses in town.

I visit the black bear and as a smoker after 10:30 you are not to take drinks out to keep down the number of patrons outside in consideration of the neighbours and doors are kept closed.

I feel it would be a great loss to the economy, tourism and community of Tewkesbury if they were forced to close.

48. Susan Peters

I am writing in support of the owner of the Blackbear Pub in Tewkesbury.

Many of us in the town have watched the huge undertaking of renovation at the bear. We were so pleased to see it restored and back in use as an attraction and amenity in the town.

I would expect some noise to be associated with such an establishment, the garden being in use on warmer evenings and around closing time as people leave.

The landlord and staff advise patrons to be aware of the neighbours when leaving, keeping noise down. What else should the do?

Parking restrictions are in place.

I wholeheartedly support the licensee.

49. Keith and Hilary Davies

I am writing in support of The Back Bear in the upcoming licence review.

The new owners have done a brilliant job of renovating and reopening the pub after some years of closure.

It is now a real asset to Tewkesbury, a wonderful, historic building given a new lease of life and a great venue for a drink.

The atmosphere there during the Music Festival was really great.

We have not been to any of the other music events there, but they bring life to the town and should be encouraged not discouraged or banned.

Do we want a dying town or somewhere alive and vibrant?

The parking issue along the A38 does need to be sorted out though.

50. Sonia Merry

I am emailing on behalf of the black bear and fully support them remaining open. They have bought so much life back into the town with the live events. They cater for all generations and are extremely family friendly. To revoke their licence would be a huge loss to the town. Tewkesbury has needed a family friend pub for such a long time and they are just what we need.

51. Lucinda Williams

I am writing to give my support for The Black Bear in Tewkesbury. I live in Mitton and love the fact that we have a local for our community. The work there has been incredible and Luke and his staff are doing so much for Tewkesbury. Do we really want Tewkesbury to be a dead little town with coffee shops and charity shops? The Black bear has bought the town to life. I am a sister at Tewkesbury hospital and the lead for dementia. I am a part of the Tewkesbury Alliance action group and I know Luke is supporting Age uk to hold a group at the Black Bear, resources like this are so, so important.

If you choose to live in a town next to Pune surely you must expect some noise. I would not choose to live near a river in Tewkesbury and then complain about flooding. I fear if the Black Bear were to close this would very much be in favour of the minority not the majority of people in Tewkesbury who welcome the joy and sense of pride in our town that the Black Bear gives us.

52. Stuart Holyoak

I am writing as a concerned resident of Tewkesbury and regular customer of the Black Bear Inn.

I understand that there is a proposal to suspend the Inn's License on the grounds of a noise complaint.

Since opening the Black Bear has brought huge improvements in both day time and evening entertainment to a very tired Tewkesbury town centre. They have set the bar for how to adapt to the challenges of running a public house in 2023 via innovative evening entertainment, wonderful beer and food selections, superb staff and all set in the most wonderful converted building.

Personally I have gone from visiting pubs in Tewkesbury perhaps once a month to visiting the Black Bear to drink and/or eat at least twice a week. I have even brought family and friends from other towns and cities to show them how lovely an environment has been created, all commented on how they wish had similar places where they live.

On Sunday evenings you can walk past empty pubs all the way down the high street only to find the black bear full and buzzing. Where on a Tuesday would you find upwards of 150 as attending a quiz night?

The Inn should be seen as a shining example of how 'to do it' to all the other pubs with the hope we can revive our town.

Please do not consider revoking Thier license. I'm and sure with good consultation any concerns can be resolved.

53. Darren Sawyer

I wish to express my support for The Black Bear. Whilst I appreciate that it can be noisy for residents, the live music and excellent beer garden are real positives for Tewkesbury residents and visitors alike.

I hope any changes in their licence arrangements will be proportionate, and not spoil what has become an excellent venue.

54. Rob Hall

I have read that the license of the black bear may be under review. I'd like to write in favour of the license being renewed.

It is clear that the Black Bear is a public institution on Tewkesbury High Street and is beloved by residents such as myself. Indeed, the painstaking restoration of the building has been watched closely and we have all been extremely excited about its completion and opening. The place looks fantastic and is just as special as it was when I was younger.

The fact that it is now able to host live music events and other live events is going to be a huge part of the restoration of the entertainment industry in Tewkesbury which was decimated by Covid. Personally, I have been appalled by the rapid turnover and loss of valued companies on the high Street and I see it as a complete tragedy that so many have closed. Unoccupied buildings are an eyesore and inhibit the progress of other shops. I firmly believe that if the license is revoked or altered significantly, the business will fail and the building will become unoccupied.

Additionally, I have no doubt that the plans for the Black bear restoration were submitted to the council a long time ago and were approved. These plans will have included an outdoor area facilitating live music and festivities. To revoke the license now would betray the investors who were very open about their intentions. Who would want to invest in our town if we close businesses after such a huge restoration process?

I understand that the license is being reviewed on the grounds that it may cause public nuisance. I do understand that local residents may worry about noise at night as customers enjoy themselves and also when they depart the venue. However, there are so few late night venues in Tewkesbury that to reduce the hours of the license or even revoke them completely would betray the residents of our town and stifle an already struggling entertainment industry.

In summary, I urge you to renew the license in the name of our town,

55. Leanne Needham

This email is in support of The Black Bear to keep it open. As its a great venue for all ages and what Tewkesbury has needed for such a long time. The venue supplies great local live music and

entertainment that brings a lot of people together. I have seen that when the music is played later in the evening that it is moved indoors to respect the people living close to the public house. I totally support the black bear.

56. Michael Warner

I was surprised to find out a review was being carried out on these license premises.

I do not live near to the Black Bear but have watched it being carefully restored and adapted to guarantee its use as a riverside pub and social centre in the 21st century .The restoration of this historic building must be congratulated as it has significantly impacted on the entry to the town and its riverside location.

I am a happy customer and would not want to see the premises restricted to such an extent that its viability is effected.

I am not supporting late night music after 11pm but support riverside music and food events events in the garden as week as special events .

The management of the premises appears to be sound and caring.They also keep the immediate surroundings clean and tidy and must be congratulated.

Tewkesbury needs more investment like this if it is to maintain its historic fabric for the next generation and investors must not be penalised by the few who seek to complain.

The premises are in a town on a main road and a noise free environment does not exist in towns and cities.

57. Lisa and Darren Guest

I am absolutely astounded & disgusted to see that you are reviewing this premises licence.

As a family we are fairly new to the area and have visited the Olde Black bear as we now live in walking distance into Tewkesbury centre. We have visited the Black bear as a couple and a family during the day & evening finding it to be very warm welcoming family atmosphere.

It is such a bonus to Tewkesbury & most of the families we've met there have been locals coming into the town, bringing mi eh I to the town so it's shocking to see that you are considering this action. The pub is a bonus to Tewkesbury.

We live fairly near and have never had any trouble with noise from this establishment.

58. Amanda Reid

I hope this email reaches you - I was unsure if the miss spelling of our towns name was just on the poster or actually on the email address too.

I would like to make a representation regarding the Black Bear.....

It is such a beautiful addition to the town, the way it has been improved and the gardens are stunning. I'm guessing that without the love, care, attention, and I can only assume, enormous financial investment of the owner it would have been allowed to fall into the same state of disrepair as the Mill has which would have left us with another shameful neglect of our towns historic buildings. Instead we have a stunningly restored building for which I am so grateful to the owner for. Them not being able to get a return on this investment would be unthinkable.

Its a great addition to the pubs in town too - family friendly and with an outside space to enjoy the river views from - something which is surprisingly lacking for a town with 2 rivers.

I'm a single female and I feel comfortable going in there on my own to enjoy a drink and something to eat - this is a rare atmosphere to have created, there are very few pubs in town that I would be as comfortable doing this in.

They are very supportive of the local community and the arts - inviting community groups to use their space for meetings and they hosted a huge number of acts at the free music festival in the summer with little or no trouble as I understand it. Having spaces that provide local talent with an opportunity to perform is hugely important for their development and the enjoyment of the patrons.

I can't imagine the town without the Bear now - it's welcoming, vibrant and varied in it's entertainment and food choices, providing employment for locals, a stunning venue and attraction for locals and visitors to the town.

If there was one downside it would be the lazy individuals who refuse to use the many car park within a 2 minute walk of the pub and instead park on the road/pavement alongside the Bear - but this is not the Bears fault and would be easily remedied by putting double yellow lines all along that stretch.

I don't know what the particular alleged issues are surrounding the Bear but as a resident of Fletchers Alley who has made a couple of complaints (unanswered) about the very long opening hours of the New Plough at the weekend, specifically in regard to fighting and intimidating behaviour in the alley in the early hours of the morning, sick, used condoms and broken glass in the alley (residents having to clean this up) and Barton Street, I don't understand the criteria for invoking a review. As a patron of the Bear and walking the town regularly in the mornings I've never seen any evidence of this type of behaviour/public nuisance/mess in the area surrounding the Bear.

I fully support the Bear and its activities.

59. Cherisse Shaw

I am writing as a newcomer to the area and recent patron of the Black Bear. We had friends visiting two weeks ago and took them there for a pint while the kids played. Not only were we impressed with the pub, our friends purchased pint glasses they enjoyed it so much. We were so proud to call Tewkesbury home that day (and every day since) because of that historic pub. The staff were amazing and the atmosphere was pleasant and welcoming.

I am putting my full support behind the Black Bear and hope this helps in any way in this licensing issue.

60. T McVicker

2023 has seen the restoration Of The Olde Black Bear, one of the oldest pubs in the UK! And what a transformation it has had! So much hard work and expense has been ploughed into this project, with immense consideration to conservation and a huge respect to heritage. This pub has brought so much to the town in the short time it's been open. What could be better than sitting by the river with a drink on a lovely sunny evening with family and friends?! The size of the establishment has

made it a wonderful meeting place and the staff have gone to great lengths to ensure a high level of service is delivered. Just what Tewkesbury was missing!!

To hear that certain individuals are trying to get this wonderful pubs licence revoked is absolutely ludicrous!

I understand that it must be frustrating at times to live next to a busy pub, but surely if you buy a property in the town centre it is to be expected to have a few disruptions! It has been there since 1308 after all - it's not like it's a new build!!!!

Please please please listen to the majority of the town and the positive reviews on this matter and not the few disgruntled neighbours!!

61. Pat and Ron Vickerman

I can't believe that as a resident of Tewkesbury that I'm having to write this. The Black Bear needing to reach out for support that you as a council should be offering. After the long-awaited opening of the public house 'The Black Bear', I can honestly say, I feel like they have introduced the life back into the town. To have a place to gather and socialise with the added bonus of entertainment is a great addition to the town and the community. Lockdown has had a huge impact to society and how we socialise. The Black bear have done a great job of re introducing socialising with friends and family in our community. The inviting space is great for all ages, we have gone out as a couple to the public house and as a family with the children.

I realise that live music is played but how wonderful to have the opportunity to listen to different genres of music and they also support local talent.

I have seen when music is played later in the evening that it is moved in doors to respect the community living close to the public house.

When someone buys a house close to a public house, they surely must take into account, that some noise may happen. The noise in this case is of great musicians in practise.

Surely as a council you should be supporting this business to renew their licence and continue to be a hub in our community, along with offering a large amount of employment and supporting other catering businesses.

By the way you have also put the incorrect email address in your notice, Tewkesbury is spelt incorrectly. Not sure if that's a ploy to have no objections?

Yours totally disgusted with Tewkesbury Council

62. Chris Wyse

I have just seen the update that the license for The Black Bear could be under threat and would like to express my objection to any consideration there be on reducing or removing the current license.

As a local resident I can say with confidence the Bear is one of the best businesses in the town and I think they've done an exceptional job of operating at a high level while keeping local residents in mind.

It would be an absolute travesty for this local business, offering something nobody else in the town is, to be forced to close or restrict their opening hours.

63. Oonagh Hughes

I have grown up in Tewkesbury, and in Ye Olde Black Bear. I started working there as a waitress when I was 16, and a barmaid at 18, and then returned there during uni holidays and in between other full time jobs in my 20s. It has a huge place in my 40-year-old heart and in the hearts of everyone in Tewkesbury.

I was overjoyed to witness and be a part of the Tewkesbury Live festival in its garden, and everyone who attended said that it was something so special, and not a venue or experience that you'd expect to have in Tewkesbury. It was truly epic and it is vital that we fight to keep this outdoor venue for events like this.

Music has always been prevalent at the Black Bear, from jamming in the garden, to full bands inside. The pub has, obviously, been there far longer than any residential property. Therefore, any residents would have known the implications of living near the pub when they bought their properties. Several of these properties now obscure the beautiful view of the ham from the beer garden, and should not be allowed to negatively affect anything else that the pub has to offer. Listed building regulations are in place to preserve physical features, but I propose that it is the duty of your organisation to have regulations to preserve Tewkesbury's traditions and rituals, especially when it comes to music and social spaces that promote community. These elements are just as important, if not more so, than the beautiful buildings that we respect and preserve. Also, in order to respect and preserve the Black Bear, surely it must be given permission to promote itself with exciting events and entertainment, in order to raise funds to maintain itself. It must be allowed to continue to be the stunning music venue that it has become and to encourage people to come out in town again. It's the right thing to do.

64. Stacey Hann

TBC you have let people spend money doing up a derelict building to now what to review/remove a licence? Why?

Since the black bear has re opened and restored to a fantastic standard it has created a heart to the town, something that has been lacking for a number of years. It has live music and a reason to go in to town on an evening, it has re created everything the town has lost.. it has created jobs for local people of various ages.

A restriction on a licence could drive the premises to close which is already starting out in a dying trade, do you really want another empty premise rotting? Do you want to kill the town?

This is a local pub creating a community for the town, everybody is welcome.

If the parking is an issue, you as the authority can action this! If noise is an issue. It has been a pub for very long time, residents should not purchase a property close to premises like this!

How can the minority over rule the majority?

Do not kill the town. Also please check your spelling when issuing an email address.. it's doesn't look professional that you can not spell Tewkesbury..

Tewkesbury the borough council you work for, Tewkesbury the town on which we are lucky to have the black bear.

65. Megan Dunford

I am emailing to give me support for The Black Bear being able to have a licence for Music and events in Tewkesbury. Since reopening the pub has brought a vibrancy and sense of community spirit to this end of the High street again.

Luke and his team have worked hard to achieve this and have been offering high quality events that not only support local businesses such as food and catering pop-ups, they also keep the rich music scene in Tewkesbury alive and were one of the key venues for Tewkesbury Live music festival. Not wanting to only support local socialising - which makes sense as they are a public house, they go one further by creating free family events and work hard to partner with local community minded venues, such as The Roses and regularly offer space to local groups.

Having this kind of community establishment at this end of the High Street also supports other local pubs and businesses who are situated nearby - so it has a knock on effect. This brings more people into the town, as well as keeping locals spending their money here, rather than heading further afield to Cheltenham or Gloucester.

As the borough grows and is increasingly developing with constructions such as the garden town and new housing developments in places such as Bishops Cleeve. I feel the Borough Council has a responsibility to protect and look after these venues, as well as championing them. They will increase high street footfall, offer employment opportunities both now and for future generations and encourage new business to the area, which is integral to the health of our local highstreet and economy

I have socialised and attended events at The Black Bear several times. I have always felt safe, as they employ security as and when it is needed and they clearly want to offer a friendly pub environment, where many people feel welcome.

I fully understand and agree that the parking on the bridge is not acceptable but this is not encouraged at all by the pub and as far as I'm aware this is a concern that Tewkesbury Borough Council clearly don't have any influence over and is a matter for Gloucestershire Highways. I appreciate that if you live next to a pub that offers live music it may sometimes be disruptive to your life, but the pub has been there for centuries and the likelihood of someone coming in and wanting to reopen it as a pub was always going to be a possibility when people moved into the residences near by.

I hope you'll take these matters on board when considering their license review

66. Nicola Arlin

I was shocked and appalled to read the notice of your hearing.

As a community we have been waiting for the Black Bear to open for a very long time. The new owners have clearly spent a considerable amount of money and time restoring the Black Bear to something Tewkesbury can be proud of. The atmosphere in the pub in the evening is fantastic and I have not witnessed any antisocial behaviour that I have in other pubs and takeaways in Tewkesbury. On the occasions that I have been, the customers have either been in their 40s and 50s or with their families. The pop up food is a fantastic addition generating income for other businesses who sell

their food in the pub. Other than the lazy motorists parking outside the pub, which is for the council and/or the police to resolve, I really cannot see what the issue is. If neighbours are complaining about the noise of the pub, they should not be living so close to one. I suspect they have got used to the pub being closed but no doubt these same people would complain should the pub close and fall into disrepair.

The high street is struggling to attract business and when you finally get a business that is successful, you want to close it down! I wouldn't come into Tewkesbury if it wasn't for the Black Bear and since it has opened I have visited other restaurants that I wouldn't normally go to.

Surely by looking at the outrage on social media you realise that what you are threatening is unfair and unjustified.

Finally your email address is incorrect in your Notice. I assume you will need to serve a revised Notice?

67. Amy Eckersley

I am unable to find any specific details around the 'public nuisance' that is the cause of a licensing review for The Black Bear, but I am astounded that the council would consider such drastic measures to shut down operations of a relatively new business given the scale of investment in restoring the pub to such a high standard, and given the positive social and economic impact it has had on the wider community.

The Black Bear has brought a real buzz into Tewkesbury, creating a social hub for the community and smartening up a quieter part of the high street.

The premises has been a public house for hundreds of years; I'm certain that any negative impact on local residents could be countered with some less severe measures that also reflect their choice of residence nearby.

Please think about the message that revoking a licence would send to other potential business owners who may be looking to invest in our high street in the coming years. We surely need to work together to find resolutions rather than revoking licences and undoing hard work and significant investment that positively impacts our area. Nick

I hope you will take these views into account when considering the outcome of your review.

68. Nick Dare

Firstly I would like to highlight the email address highlighted in the Public Notice is incorrect, Tewkesbury is spelt incorrectly.

That said I would like to voice my support for the Black Bear and highlight the positive impact it is having on the town. Whilst I can understand the pub has been closed for a long time and the local residents have felt the benefits of this it should not be forgotten the reopening of the Black Bear has benefitted the local economy by providing extra jobs and increasing visitors to the town.

Surely there must be an acceptable compromise position which is suitable for both the local residents and the owner/employees/customers of the Black Bear. I strongly encourage you to work with everyone involved to find the middle ground.

69. Jay Watkeys

I can't believe that as a resident of Tewkesbury that I'm having to write this.

The Black Bear needing to reach out for support that you as a council should be offering. After the long-awaited opening of the public house 'The Black Bear', I can honestly say, I feel like they have introduced the life back into the town. To have a place to gather and socialise with the added bonus of entertainment is a great addition to the town and the community. Lockdown has had a huge impact to society and how we socialise. The Black bear have done a great job of re introducing socialising with friends and family in our community. The inviting space is great for all ages, we have gone out as a couple to the public house and as a family with the children. I realise that live music is played but how wonderful to have the opportunity to listen to different genres of music and they also support local talent. I have seen when music is played later in the evening that it is moved in doors to respect the community living close to the public house. When someone buys a house close to a public house, they surely must take into account, that some noise may happen. The noise in this case is of great musicians in practise.

Surely as a council you should be supporting this business to renew their licence and continue to be a hub in our community, along with offering a large amount of employment and supporting other catering businesses.

For the sake of the community, I hope The Black Bear retains its license.

70. Tina Dickson

Please add myself to the list of people who would like to support this business in Tewkesbury town.

While I appreciate there may have been minor violations of the terms of the license for these premises, this business is on the whole very community minded and is a key part to the regeneration of Tewkesbury town centre.

It is very good to see a beautiful historic inn operating as always intended and as it had been for hundreds of years, after a very faithful restoration of the fabric of the building. I would respectfully like to make 3 points.

1:- As an inn has stood on this site for some hundreds of years, I am surprised that some noise is now considered a public nuisance. Anyone living in the vicinity has moved in after the inn was there, and must therefore have reasonably been expected to experience the usual sounds of a successful business upon it reopening.

2:- any noise from live music is not a very regular occurrence- not even once a week. It is also limited to weekends, in consideration of working residents.

3:- if the parking situation is considered a public nuisance, surely this is the responsibility of the drivers, highways department or police to deal with? It is grossly unfair to expect the business owner to police this for them.

I hope this and other supporting comments will enable you to make the correct decision in this case and not close the premises or withdraw any of their current permissions/licenses.

71. Clare Ryman

This venue is fantastic.

Why?

1. It's family friendly.
2. It's dog friendly.
3. It's ASD and ADHD friendly.
4. It got fantastic disabled access.
5. The selection of real ales is fantastic and I love the Nightjar, only place outside of Hereford I can get it.
6. Different themed nights.
7. Broad spectrum of ages use the venue making it a great community space.
8. The design is so convivial.
9. Plenty of room in the bar area for getting acces to the bar.
10. It's clean and tidy.
11. Well maintained.
12. Food variety for all needs.
13. Great outdoor space.
14. Provides jobs.
15. Historic building kept alive.
16. I'm fussy about where I drink and I can take my dog, 10 year old son and grumpy husband and have a lovely SAFE time.
17. It's been a pub long before many of the local houses were built.

It's a fantastic addition to Tewkesbury and I've only been into Tewkesbury twice in the past three months to just visit this pub.

72. Katie Beards

I am writing in support of the newly opened Black Bear in Tewkesbury which you have put notice of a licence review.

The Black Bear is the oldest pub in Tewkesbury and has been in existence for a lot longer than any resident in the vicinity. Any resident must expect a level of noise particularly in the summer months when outside events will take place.

The Black Bear has become in integral part of Tewkesbury Live festival which has grown in the last 2 years to a fantastic event bringing much needed trade to all pubs in Tewkesbury as well as supporting musical talent much needed at a time when pubs are under threat from declining business. To suggest restricting The Black Bear on 6 events per year will have a detrimental effect on supporting local bands who desperately need venues to play.

Many of the pubs in Tewkesbury provide live music on weekends so why are none of these venues under review? The whole of Tewkesbury is a mix of business premises and residential. If you choose to live in such a location you have to accept the diversity.

The Black Bear has become a great local venue well as supporting the local community and local businesses.

Local government need to support local businesses not seek to destroy them as a result on the minority

I also find it very irresponsible of local government not providing the correct spelling of Tewkesbury on their notice within the email address. This shows a lack of respect for Tewkesbury as a town or poor management at the local government or more concerning, deliberately trying to avoid receiving any support for the Black Bear.

73. Louise Haggett

2023 has seen the restoration Of The Olde Black Bear, one of the oldest pubs in the UK! And what a transformation it has had! So much hard work and expense has been ploughed into this project, with immense consideration to conservation and a huge respect to heritage. This pub has brought so much to the town in the short time it's been open. What could be better than sitting by the river with a drink on a lovely sunny evening with family and friends?

The size of the establishment has made it a wonderful meeting place and the staff have gone to great lengths to ensure a high level of service is delivered. Just what Tewkesbury has been missing!!

To hear that certain individuals are trying to get this wonderful pub's licence revoked is ludicrous and shameful. I understand that it must be frustrating at times to live next to a busy pub, but surely if you buy a property in the town centre it is to be expected to have a few disruptions!

It has been there since 1308 - long before we all arrived and hopefully it will be there long after we have all gone. It's not a new build and neither has its use changed over the centuries. People knew what it was when they moved into its vicinity! Due to being Gloucestershire's oldest pub, it was always going to reopen at some point.

Please listen to the majority of the town and the positive reviews on this matter and not the few disgruntled neighbours!!

74. Luke Scudder

I am emailing in support of The Black Bear for its upcoming licensing review.

Having lived in Tewkesbury for 36 years the black bear is a major part of the local community and serves as a vocal point for both locals and tourists alike.

The black bear has been a pub for centuries and has stood while the rest of the town was built up around it. It is incomprehensible that the black bear could potentially have unfair and unjustified restrictions imposed on it for being what it has been for centuries; a major part of a community where people get together in a nice environment while enjoying the atmosphere this great place offers.

This establishment is a part of Tewkesbury's history and should be protected to ensure it can continue as a pub and vocal point of the community for centuries to come.

The community complained for years while the pub was left to rot and now after being so carefully brought back to life and having millions invested it now has to face such bureaucracy.

I hope Tewkesbury Borough Council understands the power it currently holds over the future of not just this business but this huge part of our history. As a resident of this historic town I will hold tbc in contempt should your decision cause the demise of this amazing establishment.

Lastly, I would like to know why the official notice that has been given to the licensee has the incorrect email address for responses? I find this ridiculous given tbc can't spell Tewkesbury!!

I would expect the paperwork to now be reissued with the correct information on and an extension made so individuals can actually respond to an active email account.

On the matter of inaccurate information on the official notification, I would like to know who formal complaints should be directed to as I find this disgraceful and truly hope that this wasn't an attempt to stop being responding and having their say!!

75. Andy Mitchell

I live in Mitton and have been a resident in Tewkesbury for 12 years. I don't drink alcohol but I have visited the Black Bear on multiple occasions since it reopened. On most of these occasions it was to watch live music. The most recent, The No Good Nancies, was an incredible performance by a local group and the pub was packed. I also visited during Tewkesbury Live; what an incredible event for everyone in Tewkesbury and the Black Bear was at the heart of it.

I was there last night for a quiet drink and something to eat with a friend, and the incredible job they have done of the refurbishment made me feel proud to live in Tewkesbury; it is truly one of the best buildings in the town.

The review of their license agreement gives me concern for the future of the town. Are we going to encourage investment of this scale in the high street, or make it look appear risky. Are we going to support live music in Tewkesbury so that the recent interest from many bands who visit during Tewkesbury Live, and then return to play during the year, bringing their supporters, is encouraged?

With the refurbishment of the Black Bear, and Tewkesbury Live, we have the best opportunity to encourage more people to visit to listen to bands all through the year. Pubs have had it tough enough and need our support if they are going to thrive and continue to invest in the town.

Please support the Black Bear and live music; we have an incredible amount of live music and local musicians for a small town, and Tewkesbury should be synonymous with that.

76. Jim Graham

I read with absolute absolute disbelief the notice served on the Black Bear public house. For once someone in Tewkesbury has taken the trouble to undertake and deliver a stunning transformation of this building and business. The parking issue is clearly the direct result of The Police not wishing to "get Involved" causing an obstruction on King John's Bridge parking on the pavement is obstruction and should be treated as such. There is plenty of parking within a short walking distance the only thing that is required is some action by the Gloucestershire Constabulary.

I would respectfully request that you work with the owner of the Black Bear, Residents and the Police and solve some of the outstanding issues do not perpetuate the currently held opinion in this town that TBC is part of the problem here.

Never forget which was there first by about 200 years.

Re my original e-mail to your Department, I now appreciate that additional information has clearly highlighted noise as the main issue here. That said, I stand by comments about parking on King Johns Bridge and lack of interest or action by the Police.

On Noise my comments on working with the owner of the Black Bear stand, six days a year from 365 would make this business unviable. For your information the buildings next to the Bear was before renovation the Riverside/Montels until conversion to dwellings it held live music events for years. Incidentally could you point out to your staff that Tewkesbury is spelt as written.

77. Richard Hyett

I am writing in support of the public house retaining all its licenses.

This building is an important part of the history of Tewkesbury and maintains its right to serve the local community and the many visitors to Tewkesbury is vital.

I have used the venue to meet friends and family who live locally on numerous occasions and have not noticed a great deal of disruption caused by patrons of the pub.

78. Paul and Louise James

I am writing in support of the above establishment and its retaining its licence.

Clearly the pub has been there for a very long time and the current owners have committed to providing a great amenity for the people of Tewkesbury and the visitors to the town.

It is in the High Street - not a residential area, so if home-owners wanted peace and quiet surely they should have bought further out. Instead they understandably want the convenience & ambiance of town living.

79. Rosemary Warner

Please, please SAVE THE BEAR !

This is the most wonderful restoration of a very long established Inn, that must be one of the most historical buildings in Tewkesbury, and we congratulate the landlord for his excellent work, and efficiently running a quality hostelry in the Town.

I have to drive past on my way home, so I do that at all times of the day and evening and night, and I have NEVER EVER seen or heard any form of unacceptable behaviour or noise. It is a joy to see new life and investment in the town, and it would surely be a travesty to destroy a wonderful asset to the town. Please support this business, and be grateful for the jobs created and the outstanding work that has improved the street scene dramatically, and has brought tourists and locals a lot of pleasure. Local people are very much in support of this ancient Inn and the respectful way it is run.

80. Christine Lannen

I write to express my sincere support for the Black Bear.

To learn there is an action to revoke the licence is bewildering.

Luke and his team have contributed to providing Tewkesbury with a community minded forward thinking facility that is unbelievably stylish, well managed, involving local trades producing a wonderful restoration that our town should be proud of.

Every time I have been in the Bear to enjoy the live music scene and also recently to participate in the Tewkesbury Pub Singers concert on Remembrance Sunday, I feel pride and admiration for what Luke has achieved and would beg you strongly to support his vision as part of the Tewkesbury community. I note he has put in place door staff to ensure no drinks are taken outside after 10pm and notices requesting patrons to respect the local residents upon leaving, they do not open on Mondays, the guy is trying really hard, I therefore once again reiterate my support for the Black Bear.

81. Bill Hunt

(sent to Cllr Sztymiak and licensing cc'd in)

As the councillor on the TBC licensing committee who lives nearest to Ye Olde Black Bear, I am writing to you as a local resident in order to declare my support for the pub. The current owners have done a terrific job in bringing the Olde Bear back to life, creating a worthy establishment for both locals and visitors from near and far. The reinvention of this iconic Tewkesbury building has attracted business to the town and provided numerous jobs for locals. I fully support the Olde Bear in its efforts to, along with the renovation of the Tudor House, to reinvigorate their end of the High Street. However, like any other business in the town it should not be causing noise pollution and that is a situation which has to be managed, whilst giving full encouragement to the business and the positive contribution it is making to the town. Any parking issues are presumably a matter for Gloucester Highways to manage.

82. David Peters

I have become aware of Tewkesbury Council reviewing the license for The Black Bear in Tewkesbury. I cannot believe that this may be in jeopardy ! Apart from saving an Historic building that was falling into serious disrepair. Luke and his family have worked tirelessly to make it a go to venue for lots of local people.

It has provided valuable footfall into Tewkesbury as well as numerous jobs for locals and the caterers that rely on the opportunity to keep their own business's alive.

Surely in a town slowly being swallowed up by charity shops this should be indeed hailed as a success and not the object of a minority of people (who probably never grew up in Tewkesbury) to discredit and try to close !

I am now 67 years old I grew up in Bredon, Northway and now live in Bushley So have seen many changes at The Black Bear and whole heartedly support the whole concept of a different style of pub in our town, So I implore you to think hard about the decisions you make !!

83. Lisa Howchin

The Olde Black Bear is a very popular, location in Tewkesbury. It has been carefully and wonderfully restored. As a frequent visitor to the pub, I find it extremely hard to understand the need for this review.

It is a welcoming family pub that supports local people of all ages and backgrounds, employs local people and even supports other local small businesses.

The entertainment provided is well supported, and those that attend events at the black bear are likely to have also visited other establishments in the Tewkesbury area as part of their activities, therefore supporting even more of the local economy.

Being one of the oldest establishments in the UK, the town of Tewkesbury should be celebrating this wonderful building, and using it to create a firm grounding for the local community.

I do hope this investigation is a reciprocal one and it will also serve to help prevent abuse from complainants to the staff of the pub as that is wholly unacceptable.

84. Dale Corrigan

I am writing in support of the Olde Black Bear pub in Tewkesbury in response to the licensing review. Having recently reopened after the refurbishment I regard the pub as show casing the "best of Tewkesbury" offering great food, drinks and live entertainment.

The pub is well run and staffed and I am of the opinion that removing the license would be a great loss to the town. As a local performer I am finding that local venues that host live music are getting more and more difficult to find please do the town a favour and keep this venue open, otherwise the town will suffer as trade will go elsewhere and the local community will lose out.

Its hands down the best pub in Tewkesbury please don't close it down.

85. Jonathan Bristow and Maureen Sullivan

We are writing in support of the Black Bear. It is a significant social and economic community asset and it is important for Tewkesbury that it continues to operate as a pub. It is also an historically important building.

86. Richard Howard

I am a resident of Tewkesbury, one of many that are wishing to support local commerce of this town.

On the notice erected at the black bear your email has been spelt incorrectly causing emails to be returned, tewkesbury has been misspelt.

It is of great disappointment to myself and others that a review is even necessary, given the Black Bear is one of the oldest pubs in the England and anyone that has purchased a property next to a high St commercial area should expect noise and for it to be busy.

The Black bear ensures the garden area is completely empty and quiet at a reasonable hour. Parking on the bridge is not the responsibility of the pub owner but of local highways who should be patrolling this.

Given the level of public interest in this area I fear the damage has already been done with the incorrectly spelled email address, I would wish to know how you will rectify this.

87. Amy Cobb

I write with reference to the notice posted on The Black Bear public house, regarding the licensing act 2003. I understand Tewkesbury Council are to review the license with regards to the prevention of public nuisance.

I can only describe the Black Bear as the hub of the community. It was greatly missed in the years it was being refurbished and when it opened it's doors, my partner and I were one of the first to step inside. The work Luke and his team have done is without doubt, of the finest quality. There isn't anything that's been overlooked, including the entertainment.

As a CFO, I run a large finance team and after a long day the thought of visiting The Black Bear fills me with joy. My partner and I will find a quiet table in the front room, where we can sit in peace and unwind. On a Saturday night when we fancy something a bit different we will venture out into the

main bar area and be more sociable. We welcome the live music, and take his son along who is 7 years old. He will dance, sing and play with other children - not something he's ever done anywhere else in the town. The Black Bear makes you feel welcome, a very warm welcome.

We took my (step) son just last weekend. We sat in the main bar and played monopoly for hours. We chatted to local folk and people who were just visiting. The live music started early evening and we thoroughly enjoyed it. The singer was very good with the choice of music, appreciating there were children around and brought people together who had probably never spoken before.

Whilst I appreciate the music is generally outside during the summer months, I do feel it brings the community together. My partner and I visited during their Oktoberfest event and the amount of people dancing around, enjoying the music was wonderful to see. It really is the hub of the local community and would be a travesty if the license was revoked.

The Black Bear has been a public house longer than any of the residents have been alive. The music should be encouraged, not challenged. How the council can support a music weekend ("Tewkesbury live") and then consider a review of the license, is beyond me.

I will continue to encourage colleagues, friends and family to travel to The Black Bear. They will hopefully continue to bring money to the town and help it flourish, as after lockdown it was a very concerning time for all businesses. If the council revoke this license, it will have a substantial financial impact to the town and local businesses. If the council want support from local residents and businesses, I would take on board all of the letters and comments in support of the public house.

We have finally got our community spirit back after lockdown, why would anyone want to take that away again.

I hope my comments are taken on board and welcome any further communication.

88. Alison Keen

I wish to show my support to The Black Bear. I feel that the pub has been refurbished to an extremely high standard and been respectful to the whole town with this.

I'm sure there is noise and having been in there, this is called an atmosphere. Towns around the UK are dying out because businesses are closing down. We have a chance to bring life to our town. When we use the black bear we either catch the bus, get a taxi, eat in town. If there was nothing there to use we wouldn't be using other services.

Instead of threatening to close them down maybe a comparison needs to be reached.

Maybe the residents close buy also need to take some responsibility as they chose to buy a property in a town.

Please don't kill our town anymore than it has been already. What the new owners have achieved is exceptional. Maybe we need to pull together and not divide.

Please do not close this amazing, unique establishment.

89. Duncan Quemby

I'm so disappointed to hear this has got to this point, the black Black has under gone a massive transformation in keeping with the history of the town & is now attracting customers of all ages which is great to see, its employing a good number of staff & bringing people back in to the town, we've meet a number of people there on holiday here have fallen in love with the Black bear & now town due to a place which actually runs live music & supporting new & up & coming musicians.

If the noise is an issue support them in sorting this with sound barriers etc, be an advisor & not a new business killer, people like the Black bear bring new visitor to the town which in return boosts business & this town really needs it. I have taken supplies there from across Europe, if this venue wasn't there I would of had to go to out of town.

We live in cotswold Garden so in the town, we have & had more issues with customers going home from the plough drunk peeing against our garden wall & throwing stuff in our gardens & at the back of the houses, didn't you give them a late licence ?

Keep our local business going support the DONT close them

90. William Rendell

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the Black Bear Public House in Tewkesbury and to advocate for the favourable consideration of their licence appeal. As a resident and patron of the local community, I have witnessed first-hand the positive transformations the establishment has undergone under the dedicated ownership, and I believe these efforts should be acknowledged in the context of the licence appeal.

The Black Bear Public House stands as a testament to the commitment and vision of its owners, who have painstakingly renovated the oldest pub in Gloucestershire to an exceptionally high standard. The restoration efforts have not only preserved the historical significance of the establishment but have also breathed new life into a cherished local landmark. The owners' dedication to maintaining the authenticity of the pub while elevating its facilities to contemporary standards is commendable and speaks volumes about their respect for tradition and commitment to excellence.

The meticulous attention to detail in the renovation process is evident in every aspect of the Black Bear, from the carefully restored architecture to the tasteful interior design. The result is a welcoming and aesthetically pleasing environment that enhances the overall experience for patrons. The owners' investment in the restoration has not only revitalized the physical space but has also contributed significantly to the cultural and historical richness of Tewkesbury.

In addition to the physical improvements, the owners have consistently demonstrated responsible management practices that prioritize the safety and well-being of their patrons. Trained staff, state-of-the-art surveillance systems, and strict adherence to licensing regulations are all integral components of the Black Bear's commitment to providing a safe and enjoyable environment for the community.

The Black Bear Public House has become an essential hub for social interaction within our community, fostering a sense of belonging and camaraderie. It has played a pivotal role in hosting various events that bring people together, contributing to the vibrancy and cohesion of Tewkesbury. Moreover, the establishment's active involvement in supporting local initiatives, charities, and events underscores its dedication to the overall well-being of the community.

I firmly believe that the Black Bear Public House, with its rich history and recent renovations, is an asset to Tewkesbury. The continuation of its current licence is not only crucial for the establishment's success but also for the continued prosperity and cultural richness of our community. I urge the Licensing Team to consider the owners' outstanding work in preserving and enhancing the oldest pub in Gloucestershire when reviewing the licence appeal.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I trust that you will recognize the positive impact the Black Bear Public House has had on Tewkesbury and grant a favourable outcome to their licence appeal.

91. John Saunders

In support of the Black Bear current premises licence.

I dare say the amount of time, effort, and no small sum of money, that have been put into this business was on the premise of abiding by plans and guidance set out by the council and licensing authority. You can't just change the goal posts because someone is offended by something, this is for the majority of Tewkesbury people not the few.

The Black Bear is far from a public nuisance, in fact a gem of the Tewkesbury community, catering for young and old alike, and has done so for hundreds of years.

A good selection of beers, freshly cooked food to order, great entertainment, music/ quiz nights, and a warm friendly atmosphere.

There is no argument for this change.

92. Wendy Jackson

I am writing in support of the Black Bear.

I am want to say what a pleasure this pub is the staff and the owners. They have put so much hard work and money into refurbishing to a superior standard. This pub is a breath of fresh air. A lovely place to chill with a drink with friends. They have made the surroundings a beautiful view when sitting in their outside area along with the spacious inside area which makes you feel happy and comfortable. The only other pub we really have a pleasant garden area is Wetherspoons. Spoons has an outdoor curfew of 10pm not a total closure and revoking their license. Is that because you won't revoke big companies but will a small independent. Unless you want to walk out of town to Newtown. I have friends and family that live in close proximity to the pub and they also find the place a pleasure with very little noise pollution. Please please don't take the view of a few over the pleasure of the majority. Take notice of the petition to save the pub as it is currently being run. Don't kill the hospitality trade it's already on a decline and certainly not what is possibly the oldest pub.

93. Vivienne Tinker

I feel compelled to write and say how very angry I am that the most historical building in the county of Gloucestershire (apart from Tewkesbury Abbey) is under threat of closure, due to a licensing review and NIMBY neighbours complaining about a property of not just great significance to the local community but is also rich in the history of Gloucestershire and surrounding areas.

This public house has been in existence since 1308 and it has recently undergone a six-year extensive restoration (which in my humble view is to the highest of high standards) and has only just re-opened in June. So I am therefore staggered, that only 23 weeks later there is such a backlash to its vibrancy ?!

A young man and his family have poured their hearts (and many millions of pounds I would imagine) into lovingly restoring an Establishment that quite poignantly exposes many original features and highlights the rich history of this building – along with procuring the skills and talents of many local trades from within the town and surrounding areas.

This public house also has a very rich and diverse history. Whilst never deviating from being a public house, it has also been used as a field hospital during the battle of Tewkesbury in 1481. It was also used to rehabilitate injured prisoners of war during WW2, and during the floods of 2007, my husband and two children sought refuge here overnight (with the then landlords Paul and April). It is not only a pub, but a meeting place and a symbol of hope during desperate and unwarranted times!

I am therefore aggrieved to find that just months down the line, this beautiful building and its rich history is now under threat by certain locals, who sadly have become obsessive in trying to keep this local establishment closed and restricted.

Whilst Tewkesbury was closed down during 2020 in response to the National Lockdown connected to the fight against Covid. As a result, it's obvious that the neighbouring properties will have become somewhat used to a quieter pace of life due to this. However, off the back of this the Black Bear should not be made to suffer by their now personal / selfish / inward views.

Parking on the bridge I'm sure will also have exacerbated their concerns, but again, the owners of the Black Bear should not be punished for this, nor their licence revoked - as this is a concern for the Police and The Highways agencies. As for noise abatement, the properties in the surrounding areas are all recorded on Government Websites with EPCs graded C and above, and have double glazing marked as average, good and excellent. So, there should not be any issues...

In addition, The Boat House and the White Bear also have had live entertainment and they're not being threatened (although they could be next I'm sure)!

So from this, I feel that there probably is an ulterior motive afoot by one or two people, who are attempting to drive a narrative that suits them, rather than the town as a whole. Local conversation on social media drives that a certain counsellor has personally written to these neighbouring properties to ask for their support to object to the Black Bear and its livelihood, but said counsellor also sits on the licencing committee – so that must surely be a ***conflict of interest!!!***

It is therefore an absolute crying shame that a very small minority within the town of Tewkesbury can harass a business such as this, for their own personal needs, rather than look to build a balanced sense of pride and community for many!

Encouraging a town to thrive and an establishment like the Black Bear to be around for another 700+ years should be actively supported and I for one wish to be known as a supporter of this facility and all it has to offer.

94. Roger and Pat Jenks

I write with concern regarding the proposed revocation of the Music Licence for The Old Black Bear.

After so many years of gradual decay, this building has been brought back to life After considerable investment by the new owners. As you know, it is the oldest Pub in Gloucestershire and has been saved from dereliction.

The new owners have worked very hard to provide a warm and friendly environment For the people of Tewkesbury and the surrounding areas, and as such it is a big asset to the town of Tewkesbury. As you must be well aware, public houses Are finding it more and more difficult to survive by relying on wet sales alone. The new owners have endeavoured to provide a wonderful music venue including, And especially the Music Festival this Summer.

When all of the other pubs in town have live music, the music floods into the Streets through open doors and provides a very pleasing atmosphere on Summer evenings. The Black Bear has always been at the heart of the Tewkesbury community and I am Assured that the live music ceases by 10.30 in the evening.

When the music licence is reviewed at the end of November I would urge you to renew The music licence, given that the pub's survival in these austere times relies very Heavily on providing the general public with something other than alcohol.

95. Declan Shiels

I was shocked to see the notice appear in the window of Old Black Bear, Tewkesbury after all the hard work and effort that the owners have put into this important historical landmark.

Also the notice has put the incorrect email address on it (licensing@teweksbury.gov.uk), you should extend the deadline and put corrected posters up to be sure you are receiving all comments from the general public.

Not only is this pub a famous landmark, full of history, which has been lovingly restored over a substantial period, but also a key provider at bringing visitors into the town of Tewkesbury.

Tewkesbury is growing into an important tourist destination, backed up by traders, like Olde Black Bear, offering various opportunities to bring money into the town.

Olde Black Bear is one of those rare quality establishments that offers a wide range of entertainment and services to its customers.

It also gives job opportunities to local people, and with venues supporting live music declining across the UK, it is vital this establishment is allowed to host live music.

If the complaints are about the parking, then there are lots of car parks nearby, which the customers should use. If they choose not to then that is no fault of the establishment.

If the complaints are around noise levels, then this is ridiculous. It is a thriving town centre, the live bands always finish on time, and the customers asked to go inside when it gets late. Live music brings extra people into the town, saying in local hotels, buying in local shops and generally bringing more money into the town. There used to be a night club next door, so it isn't as if this is something new in the town.

Other towns, like Upton, have regular outdoor music festivals that bring people from long distances and deliver revenue to their town.

The easiest thing to implement is that all live music should finish by 11pm, which is the norm in music venues around the country.

Next you'll be saying the Mop Fair is too loud, and the cannons during the Medieval Festival should be silenced!!

96. Edward Bunty

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the Black Bear Pub located in Tewkesbury, this esteemed establishment has rapidly become an integral part of the community, contributing positively to the local social fabric and its economy.

The Black Bear Pub has consistently demonstrated a commitment to fostering a safe and welcoming environment for patrons. The management and staff have shown exceptional diligence in upholding licensing regulations, ensuring that all activities on the premises comply with legal requirements. And have always operated within the licenced agreement

Furthermore, the Black Bear Pub has been a venue for various community events and gatherings. Its presence has not only enriched the cultural diversity of Tewkesbury but has also played a vital role in creating a sense of unity among residents.

Revoking the pub's license would not only be a detriment to the local economy but would also strip the community of a valuable social hub. I believe that the Black Bear Pub's continued operation is in the best interest of the community.

I kindly urge you to consider the broader impact that the Black Bear Pub has on the local community before making any decisions regarding its license. I am confident that the pub will continue to contribute positively to the social and economic well-being Tewkesbury and the surrounding area.

To revoke its license would be to strip the very character from Tewkesbury and its main attraction would begin to rot once again.

97. Marius Račilauskas

Hello I am new food business in the area and been operating for the past 5 months. I am from Cheltenham. I been trading in 131, curious cafe, six ways wine and many others. I have to say Olde black bear is my favourite by far. The job is been done on the pub is fantastic and is big attraction point for the locals and also for us even we live 10 miles away.

With new noise restrictions and no music allowed people will loose the jobs not been busy enough. Also will effect my business in my favourite pud in Cotswolds.

This decision can affect thousands of people that adores the pub.

98. Emma Butland

I wanted to write to say please reinstate the Black Bears license. I have visited there 3 times in the last two months, to see bands and go for a meal. And the reason why I went to Tewkesbury.

It's really great to see what the black bear have done to restore the pub back to its former glory.

It's a lovely place, can you please keep it open.

99. Joanne Woodfield

Good Evening, I am writing to support the Black Bear.

In my opinion since the Bear reopened its breathed new life into the town. Other pubs seem busier its refreshing to see pubs busling again and a buzz about the town.

The events they put on have been fantastic and I've never seen any trouble.

I agree there needs to be conditions in place to protect local residents I.e. no live music after a certain time, no movement / delivery of goods between certain times.

Please work together to make this work. Tewkesbury has a treasure we need to keep for the people of Tewkesbury to use and be proud of.

100. Jill Barnett

I understand that the above premises licence is under review.

This building has been lovingly restored by the current owners to a standard that all Tewkesbury residents should be proud of.

To even consider rescinding the license is complete madness. This pub is a venue that is a real attraction to tourists and residents alike.

I sincerely hope that the owners are able to continue trading, providing a fabulous place for us all to continue to be proud of.

101. Beth Walton

I am writing in opposition of your recently proposed licensing review for the black bear.

To limit the pub to 6 outdoor events a year would be an absolute travesty!!

This summer has been the best Tewkesbury has had for a long time and that is all down to the black bear.

As one of the oldest pubs in Gloucestershire, it has been part of the town for as long as anyone can remember. The eagerly anticipated reopening of it has kept everyone on their toes and when the doors finally opened, it did not disappoint. The labour and love that has gone into the building has been nothing short of spectacular and the environment and atmosphere it provides has been what this town needed for a long time.

The pub has created many jobs and opportunities for local businesses, small food traders and live musicians to name but a few and the sense of community it enthral has been just wonderful. To even consider jeopardising this is shameful, let alone actually going through with any unnecessary changes!!!

As a local resident I have enjoyed this pub for many years and hope to be able to enjoy it for many more! Since it has reopened I have never seen any trouble in there, the bear oozes class which can not be said for all establishment in the town (e.g The Plough, The Brit, The Anchor and The Albion). It is also definitely not any louder than the other establishment just listed and believe those than think it is, shouldn't decide to reside next to a pub or live in the middle of a town!!!

From the out pour of support I have seen so far, I know I am one of many that feel this way, and truly hope that the people of Tewkesbury can convince the local authority to deny this review of any further consideration and allow the bear to continue to do what it does best!!!

102. Rob Ward

I would just like to put in writing my full support of the Black Bear retaining its premises licence. This pub has always been an essential part of the Tewkesbury community and the new renovation is nothing short of remarkable. Indeed it's a place where the everyone involved can be immensely proud. It's been so heartwarming so see the building thrive since it's reopening. Please do whatever you can to ensure the Bear's licence is retained.

103. Robbie Jackson

I write this email in response to the ridiculous and unnecessary review of the Current Licence at The olde Black Bear.

I find this Licence review infuriatingly frustrating and extremely disrespectful to the Local family that have put blood , sweat , tears and a bucketfull of money into this ancient landmark and have turned it into a place of enjoyment and happiness. Including providing a lot of work for local companies during the refurbishment and for the current staff.

Since re-opening friends, family and myself have had many a good time here , we've never encountered any trouble .We very much appreciate the time and effort the Black Bear team have put into ensuring we all safely and responsibly enjoy ourselves.

Tewkesbury is a community Town and venues like the Bear are few and far between. This venue should be getting praise and commendation from the local Council for the hospitality and entertainment it us providing.

Most Market Towns would give their right arm for a venue like the Bear.

I'm sure many local people will share my views and I indeed hope that the Licence Committee will see sense through all this.

Looking forward to enjoying plenty more good times at The Black Bear

104. Stuart and Susan Payne

We write in support of the Black Bear which we consider to be an asset to the town of Tewkesbury.

Someone has had the courage and foresight to plough a lot of money and effort into refurbishing what is purported to be Gloucestershire's oldest pub. It has been transformed from a semi-derelict eye-sore into an attractive venue for the whole family to use.

Tewkesbury needs places like this and people willing to invest in the town and we believe that removing the license from the Black Bear and may well deter further investment in other properties in Tewkesbury town.

105. Graham Lane

I am writing this letter to you regarding my concern about the Black Bears licensing review, this historic public house has been part of this town for centuries and has been a popular venue for as long as I can remember, it was a sad day when it closed its doors and was very much missed, now that it has been reopened, it has brought back new life into the town.

The restoration of this building has been sympathetically done, keeping some of the old interior but also having a modern twist, has made it more impressive and brings a lot of people from far and wide to see.

Unfortunately, when you choose to live next to or around by a public house, you will I'm afraid, experience noise and it's very sad that the Black Bear has gone to a lot of efforts to restore and bring life back to Tewkesbury that it's now facing these concerns.

I hope you are able to look past the negatives and allow the Black Bear to continue with their journey.

106. Nigel Bethell

As I former resident and regular visitor to Tewkesbury it was a great day when Ye Olde Black Bear opened its doors again to the public. The restoration and conservation of this fine old building has brought it back to life and is a credit to the town. Over 700 years history can now be added to in this fine gateway to the town's High Street. The fact that it remains as the oldest pub in Gloucestershire should be celebrated.

So it comes as a bit of a shock to hear that in such a short time its licence is under review due to a small number of complaints from anonymous residents. Ye Olde Black Bear is a pub, and has been so for far longer than ANY resident of Tewkesbury has lived there, so if you choose to live close to a pub you have to expect some movement of people to, from and within the pub. Next thing they will asking the Abbey to keep the bells down a bit, and the choir to reign it in !!!!

Ye Olde Black Bear, like so many of Tewkesbury's pubs, is a hub of community and socialising which is so good for the mental health and wellbeing of their customers. A few NIMBYs sat miserable at home grumbling about anything and everything should not be allowed veto over the hundreds of delighted customers that Ye Olde Black Bear have welcomed back.

Has the licensing committee or officer spoken to the pub owners to discuss and agree possible mitigation to the alleged "nuisance" ? If not then it is a pretty poor show and lacking in support and empathy to a business that contributes massive amounts of business rates to the council and employs local residents.

Any mitigations must be practical and not financially onerous.

Also to be considered should be mitigations by the complainers, for example keeping their doors & windows shut if they perceive a "nuisance" to be taking place, drive their cars gently past the pub, stop their dogs barking at home (especially when dogs are left home alone), or to keep their TV volume down so that it does not disturb the quiet banter in the pub garden. There are always two sides to such discussions remember.

I hope that common sense prevails and any mitigations required can be agreed with the pub owners, rather than imposed on them. Tewkesbury is on the up, as demonstrated by the fabulous turnout at Tewkesbury Live in the summer. The few complainers should not spoil it for the sociable majority.

107. Ida Pöschel (Age UK Gloucestershire)

Our vision at Age UK Gloucestershire is to make Gloucestershire the best county in which to grow older. In our long-standing work with and for the older people of Gloucestershire we work towards this vision every day.

An important step in our strategy towards achieving our vision is to create social spaces in which older people can connect with each other, their local community, and find information about local

activities and support. We have therefore created, and successfully run, social groups that serve this purpose all around the county.

Since we started our focused work in Tewkesbury in October 2022, we have been working towards the creation of such a group in Tewkesbury and were delighted when Luke, manager of the Black Bear in Tewkesbury, offered his support in the summer of 2023.

Luke's vision for the pub to exist at the heart of the community has enabled us to bring to life what we envisioned our social group to be. To be a space where people can come together, socialise, connect with each other and their local community, find information and ultimately a social space which is accessible to them.

Our first meeting at the beginning of October brought together 13 people. I am convinced that the way Luke and his staff welcomed people has played an important role in lowering the barriers for people to come along to a new group for the first time. Since our first meeting the group has been growing steadily. Each week Luke shares with us a small part of the history of the pub. This has become the highlight of our meetings and enables us all to learn about the heritage of the Black Bear, connect with each other, and for residents to connect with their home and feel part of the rich history of Tewkesbury.

Luke and the team at the Black Bear enable us to not only offer a welcoming social space but to give access to information and invite speakers who share information about other activities in the local community. With their work they have created a space which is accessible and welcoming to some vulnerable older people in the community.

We are very grateful for the support Luke and his team have given us and we hope that they will be able to continue to run their pub and be the welcoming space it is, at the heart of the community of Tewkesbury.

108. Jag Dhanak

I'm writing to express my strong support for this established not only because it is an integral part of the town but also there is a significant history attached to it.

Following my recent email, I did a bit of research on this matter. I now realise what the issues are and why you are having to focus on the way the pub operates.

I completely agree that residents living around any pub have a right to have a reasonable and peaceful environment regardless of their location. Whilst I still feel that The Black Bear should be allowed to operate but I also hope that the proprietors see that the way they are running their business is affected residents and will make alterations to their methods to co-exist in a harmonious way.

109. Helen McIlvaney

I am writing in support of the Black Bear and the continuation of its existing licence. I note that the grounds for the review involve the 'prevention of public nuisance'.

I live in town and have used the Black Bear since it re-opened this year, taking visitors who live outside Tewkesbury and going myself with friends/family for anything from morning coffee and cake to a meal and drink in the evening. All of my visitors have been impressed with the quality of the

refurbishment, the glorious garden and have noted the family atmosphere at the pub. I have not witnessed any rowdiness, trouble or any form of public nuisance and am at a loss at the grounds for the review. As I mentioned, I live in town and obviously accept the level of noise that goes with that. Are we to lose other events such as the Mop Fair or the various music events over the summer months? Tewkesbury is a beautiful town that can attract visitors to enjoy its different amenities and events. In my view and experience, the refurbished Black Bear and garden is an asset to this community and is a business that should be encouraged.

110. Paul Goodman

I am writing to express my strong support for the Black Bear in Tewkesbury and to voice my opinion regarding the notice of application for a review of its premises license.

Important to Tewkesbury Community

The Black Bear is a valuable and integral part of our community, providing a welcoming and vibrant space for residents and visitors alike. The establishment has demonstrated responsible management and a commitment to maintaining a safe and enjoyable environment for patrons.

I believe that any review of the premises license should consider the positive contributions the Black Bear makes to the local community. It is crucial to acknowledge the establishment's efforts to promote social responsibility and comply with licensing regulations.

Furthermore, the Black Bear has been a venue for cultural events, community gatherings, and a supporter of local initiatives. The diverse and inclusive atmosphere created by the Black Bear reflects positively on Tewkesbury as a whole.

I trust that the licensing authority will carefully assess the situation, taking into account the establishment's positive track record and the support it has garnered from the community. It is my sincere hope that the premises license of the Black Bear will be maintained to ensure the continued prosperity of this valuable community asset.

Preservation of the Black Bear's Historic Legacy

The Black Bear, as a public house with a history spanning hundreds of years (back to 1308), holds a unique and cherished place in the heart of our community. The recent loving restoration to its original condition is a testament to the commitment of its owners to preserving the rich heritage of our town.

This establishment is not merely a business; it is a cultural landmark that adds character and historical significance to Tewkesbury. The meticulous restoration work undertaken reflects a deep respect for the past and a dedication to maintaining the authenticity of our community.

I urge the licensing authority to consider the historical importance of the Black Bear in any review process. Preserving this iconic public house is not only in the interest of its current patrons but also for the benefit of future generations who should be able to enjoy the charm and history that the Black Bear brings to our town.

Keeping Tewkesbury & The Black Bear Viable

The town needs good venue, such as The Black Bear to attract people into the town centre – which is important to all the businesses in town.

Without a viable town centre Tewkesbury will eventually die as a destination market town with a detrimental impact on local businesses, house prices and the community as a whole.

111. Jane Clatworthy

As a Tewkesbury resident and business owner I would like to submit my views on the entertainment license for the Black Bear Tewkesbury.

As a near by resident I have not been unduly disturbed by the level of music from the pub. I think 11/11.30 pm is a totally reasonable time for music to be played on a weekend. I'm delighted to see people out enjoying local musicians sharing their talents

As a business owner I run weekend workshops for artists who come from all over the U.K to attend. They stay in local bed and breakfasts and eat out in town. However many complained that there was nothing to do in the evening and I had nothing to suggest that I felt reflected the rich culture of our town. Since the sensitive restoration of the pub that has changed. My clients have been able to enjoy memorable nights out and they leave with a view of Tewkesbury as a thriving, culturally rich ,location which they can recommend and return to.

I imagine I am not the only business that has benefitted from the restoration of the Black Bear and the entertainment it provides.

I believe your suggestion of limiting events to six per year is very short sighted . We don't want to be sending residents and visitors elsewhere to be entertained. The Black Bear owners have created a perfect venue and we should celebrate it.

112. Sabina Lechowicz

I am writing to passionately advocate for the Black Bear Pub, an establishment that serves as a cornerstone of our community, contributing significantly to our town's cultural vibrancy and economic vitality.

The Black Bear Pub has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to operating responsibly within the confines of its license, employing various proactive measures to ensure compliance and mitigate any disturbances to the surrounding neighborhood. The installation of acoustic curtains, regular decibel perimeter checks during music events, meticulous maintenance of noise control logs, and vigilant monitoring of the smoking area are exemplary actions that showcase their dedication to upholding standards while respecting our community's tranquility.

Moreover, the events organized by the Black Bear Pub have attracted a diverse audience from across the country and beyond, providing a space where individuals of all ages can gather and partake in peaceful enjoyment. The landlord's decision to employ security personnel every Friday, Saturday, and during major events is a testament to their commitment to ensuring a safe and secure environment for all attendees.

The Black Bear Pub not only fosters a sense of community but also serves as a pillar of support for its workers. The employees consistently express contentment and a profound sense of security, knowing that they can always rely on Luke, the landlord, regardless of the circumstances. This atmosphere of trust and support undoubtedly contributes to a positive workplace environment.

I kindly request confirmation of the receipt of this letter and urge your favorable consideration of the Black Bear Pub's pivotal role in our community's social cohesion, safety, and workplace well-being.

Thank you for your attention and support in recognizing the significance of the Black Bear Pub to our town.

113. Emma Wild

I'm getting in touch to show support for The Black Bear in Tewkesbury.

The refurbishment and reimagining of the pub is one of the best things to happen to the town. It's fantastic for the economy and provides a venue that is fun and inclusive.

I fully appreciate that the noise issue must be upsetting to residents but it does seem strange to move next to a pub and then complain about it.

To keep this historic and important cultural asset alive the venue have come up with unique events that attract large numbers of patrons.

It would be really tragic to lose this fantastic venue because of a licensing change that made their business model unworkable.

114. Clive Wilson

I fully support the Black Bear in its latest form. It has been tastefully restored and repurposed to suit 21C clientele.

I was a regular since early 1970s and from 1974 to 1978 it was My Local.

I returned to the Town in 2020 and was pleased it was being painstakingly renovated. I have frequented it on many occasions since it reopened and look forward to many more visits.

115. Pauline Peters

I have become aware that Tewkesbury Council reviewing the license for The Black Bear.

In my opinion I think that Luke and his family have saved an historical building from disrepair. That have created many jobs during the renovation employing many local companies. They have also carried on with employing many local people, given local caterers and musicians a chance to show case them themselves. They have created a lovely space and atmosphere both inside and out for people to get together, especially families and dog walkers.

Surely we would not want another empty building in our lovely town.

I am 64 years of age and have always lived in this area and have seen many changes in the town. I whole heartedly support the Black Bear.

116. Daniel Bevan

I am writing to you after becoming aware of a license review for the above establishment.

I wanted to write to you as a long standing resident of Tewkesbury, all but 10 of my 47 years, to raise my opposition to further restrictions being placed upon this establishment. I appreciate that this end of town had become quieter following the closing down of a number of establishments but it was very sad to see the Black Bear closed and in a state of disrepair for so long.

The Landlord / owners should be applauded for bringing such an important establishment and historic building back to life and for revitalising that end of town. This must have come at enormous expense and I question whether those that have invested will ever get that money back but the renovation was un-rushed and appeared to be a project of love for such an historic building.

I understand that it must be a change for some residents local to the Black Bear but they need to appreciate that this pub is an asset to the whole town and all those who might visit and must be protected and allowed to prosper. The Black Bear was there long before all of the local housing and if you choose to live near to a pub, you have to accept that the area will be lively.

Any noise in this area must be massively reduced from the days when the Black Bear was flanked by Brothers/The George, Tewkesbury RFC & King Johns Tavern/ Winking Frog when these were the main pubs in Tewkesbury. The choice of pubs in Tewkesbury is now more dispersed and this should be appreciated by those living close by.

I fully expect Tewkesbury Borough Council to back and support the Black Bear and not to impose restrictions that might risk the long term future of this important and beautiful public house.

117. Chloe Redmond

I understand that the licensing for the Black Bear is currently being reviewed. I would just like to say that I think the reopening of the pub has been well overdue as is really the gem in Tewkesburys crown. It is attracting visitors who will in turn spend money in the town.

The owners have spent time and money creating something wonderful and surely to see somewhere that was once closed for years now flourish is exactly the message that should be shouted from the rooftops?

118. Keziah Gibson

Please do not shut down the beating heart of this town! The Black Bear has really helped the town come back to life which can only be a good thing for all other businesses! such a good reason to stay local!! I no longer feel the need to spend my money else where in a neighbouring town!

119. Deborah & Gary Bridge

I would like to offer our support to the Black Bear.

We have been coming to Tewkesbury in the summer, by boat for over 20 years, normally staying for at least several nights, and on occasions up to a fortnight.

We visited the Black Bear in its previous life before it closed, and we were very disappointed. And then we watched - visiting every year, as it sat, unloved, deteriorating and spoiling that end of the town. We have a similar situation in our home town where a large empty, dead pub affects the whole surroundings.

We visited the Black Bear on our trip to Tewkesbury in July, and we were stunned to see what an absolutely brilliant, sympathetic restoration has been carried out, such that we were moved to the point of tears. The staff were friendly and helpful, the beer was good, the food on offer was good. The place was busy every time we went, with people from out of town as well as locals, and all the customers I saw were well behaved and enjoying themselves.

I see the pub as an important attraction which will bring visitors into Tewkesbury and I have been telling all my friends about it. It is a significant, historical building which should be enjoyed properly

by being used, not just looked at from the outside - a cold, lifeless structure. I believe it will bring people to the town and benefit all businesses, which has to be important in the current economic climate.

I can imagine that this has been a bit of a culture change to residents who have been used to living in a quiet backwater, especially as it has been so successful. Hopefully, with everyone working together and some minor adjustments, this pub can continue to be one of the stars of Tewkesbury.

Given that it has only been open for a relatively short period of time, I feel that everyone should be given time and a chance to iron out any teething problems.

I for one would be desperately sad if this establishment were to close, we have already lost the White Bear, and the street Twixtbears, will just be a whisper of the past.

120. Emma Clarke

I'd like to take this opportunity to champion the owners/landlord and staff of The Black Bear. The restoration has been completed to a very high standard and is a place that is inviting and an asset to Tewkesbury Town. The entertainment they have put on over the Summer has really brought life to the Town and following on from Covid encouraged many, myself included to go into Town when I would normally stay at home. I am sure that the custom from the black bear is seen throughout the town and this can only be a good thing. There are residential properties all around the premises but the Pub itself has been there a very long time and if it's the noise that is a complaint, then the residents complaining should be thought of the impact of living near a thriving pub prior to it closing and once again now it is open. Sadly we now live in a blame / complain society where if there is something somebody doesn't like, we make it a massive issue until we get our own way. The events are widely advertised so it's not ever been a surprise if there is music playing or cars parked along the road. Please take my letter into consideration when making a decision as I really do hope the Black Bear will be there for many years to come.

121. Karen & Dan Firkins

We are very concerned to learn that the oldest black bear pub in Tewkesbury may lose its license.

After watching the transformation over the last few years to preserve and protect the integrity of this precious historical building, it saddens us to think that it may have to close therefore putting the building at risk of becoming derelict in the future years.

It is a popular pub for many to meet and enjoy the building once again.

We appreciate that residents in the area may find the popularity intrusive but the public house has always been there well before any other properties in the area.

There are many photographs of years gone by which depict the inn.

Please please don't let us lose our history of Tewkesbury

122. Paul Forman

Ye Olde Black Bear has been a mess for years and although old, was not inviting. It has now been very carefully renovated and although not being opened for very long looks to be the main tourist attraction in Tewkesbury.

I belong to a social group that meets there on Wednesday mornings. The group has a large, ever increasing number of elderly members who have been given talks by the manager, Luke. He has told us of the finds made during the restoration and in depth history of the site.

It appears that some of the residents complaining about the Pub are relatively new to the area. If they don't like noise, why are they living in the town center? There are not many pubs that don't have live music and that is usually one or two evenings a week.

It is essential that all of Tewkesbury's History is retained, that is what attracts visitors to the town and there is so much history in this pub.

123. Douglas Winton

I have visited The Black Bear on several occasions since it reopened earlier this year.

The quality of work, care and attention to detail in the property and set up is amazing and a real asset to Tewkesbury town.

Tewkesbury has been missing this type of independent public house.

It's so nice to have a real ale free house locally, providing a lovely relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.

I'm always happy to take my family to enjoy the safe, happy environment.

The staff are always very pleasant, polite and on the ball.

It's great to see the team of local young staff getting employment in their local town.

It would be a great loss to the area if this freehouse was forced to close.

Please keep this establishment open...

It's a far safer environment than many in Tewkesbury.

124. George Done

I am writing this letter in support of the licensing currently in place at The Black Bear Tewkesbury.

For centuries The Black Bear had been a part of Tewkesbury, dating back to the war of the roses and beyond, this public house has stood proud and the work that has been undertaken by Luke and his team has been nothing short of extraordinary.

To allow this pub to lose its licensing would be criminal after the journey it has been on throughout the years. The atmosphere of the pub is fantastic for family's and 4 legged companions alike, there is always a warm welcome a crackling fire and a cold beer to suit.

Maybe instead of complaining about noise and trying to shut down a business that has only just opened its doors, these individuals could have spoken directly to the new owner or at least tried to work together to ensure that there was some form of status quo.

125. James Byron

Since it's opening in town I have frequented the Black Bear public house in Tewkesbury on a number of occasions. It's become a wonderful venue for food and entertainment, meeting with friends etc.

As a resident of Tewkesbury a whole heartedly support the Bear. It has quickly become a focal point in the town for gathering and all things 'fun'.

To hear that other residents are opposed to it is very saddening. The pub is very much part of the history of the town. It's not a sports pub or one that cheapens the town. It itself is a draw to the town and an establishment which we should all be supporting.

Please listen to the majority of the town and not the noisy minority.

126. Sarah Thomas

The Black Bear re-opening has been the best thing that has happened to Tewkesbury in a very long time, nothing else of substance ever seems to happen within the town and now that something finally has it is being scrutinised by a small few people, who could as far as we know be individuals that have moved into the town and not lived here for that long.

The Black Bear has supported local businesses throughout its renovation, using local skilled tradesmen, and is continuing to support local businesses now that it has opened its doors with local culinary businesses being invited to sell there trade from the garden.

The fact that a license review is even being undertaken for public nuisance is laughable, all public houses in the current climate have to adapt to survive and the Black Bear have done so from the get go, with holding "temporary" events in the garden like Oktoberfest, which is well within their rights, as well as providing live music for a "temporary" live music festival which the local council permitted. On top of which they continue to support local live musicians by inviting them to perform within the premises.

The loss or change of licensing to this fantastic pub would be devastating for Tewkesbury, the pub has been on the site for hundreds of years and the residents over the river have been there for a fraction of its life and have had an issue with it since they moved into the properties, the problem isn't the pub it's the select few that have decided to dwell in the houses and maybe if they had more of an open mind and actually discussed their concerns with the publicans then it wouldn't have had to go this far.

127. Chris James

This pub has been brought back to an excellent standard with the refurbishment that has taken place by Luke and the team.

A great spot rain or shine and is a great place to have back open in Tewkesbury.

128. Kara Willetts

Please take this email of support for the black bear pub in Tewkesbury. The pub has been beautifully restored and provides a large welcome space for families during the day and great entertainment at night. Whenever I have been it's always full of patrons bringing much needed money and footfall to the high street.

As a fairly new resident to Tewkesbury it's been a breath of fresh air to have an establishment like this in the town. Do not take the licence off this establishment it will be a big mistake!

Tewkesbury is a growing town with an ever growing diverse population and if the council do not understand this then people will go elsewhere to spend their money. In order for the town to grow it

has to have something to suit all parts of society. There is no reason why this establishment cannot thrive side by side with the other options on the high street.

129. Richard Seymour

Please don't change the Black Bear Licence. This is a fantastic asset for the whole Town of Tewkesbury as well as an architectural gem.

130. Adrian Pope

Dear oh dear here it goes again yet another issue to complain about let's all stick another nail in the coffin of Tewkesbury town centre.

NO ! stop and think about what you are doing.

Yes the vast population of Tewkesbury are of the older generation with some that don't seem to care much for the younger people.

Don't forget with all the crap going on around the globe and recently struggled mentally through COVID and still having the effects with Brexit ,ALL age groups have applauded the hard work and determination of all involved with the renovation of a very historic and memorable old public house.The Black Bear.

How many more of our local public houses and businesses need to close and drive the social life out of our town,are we to become a retirement home?

If we do not support our town centre for the young and old we will lose the younger generation to the city life which has been seen in many small towns throughout the uk.

Compromise I'm sure is the answer residents living around the town centre must have realised that when they bought or rented their properties there could be certain times when people would have fun and socialise even if it is every weekend.

I think I can speak up for all of our friends and families that I have grown up with and socialised with all of my life,so far, and I can say this summer has been the best and most memorable for a long time with many nights out at the black bear especially when there has been live music or theme nights on.

Tewkesbury live was amazing for the whole town which included all surviving public houses which looks like they all had an amazing time.

I'm a hard working man in my 50s and a pint in the black bear it just what I need to relax with friends

Well done to the landlord and all staff at the Black Bear hope all goes well for your future.

Only thing that could be improved upon which is not your fault is ,drivers please be responsible and use the car parks or alternative bays.

131. Jack

To anyone whom it may concern I implore you to reconsider the ongoing license revocation on Olde Black Bear, Tewkesbury. The business is an iconic part of Tewkesbury history that shouldn't be taken down or put under pressure because an inane few don't want people to enjoy themselves.

Many other businesses in Tewkesbury town provide entertainment with no complaints but this does? Seems rather pointless and frankly tragic to even consider when you look at the many months

of hard work which has been put in to revitalise the pub. Not to mention the economic benefits, I would love to see the draw of a crowd it brings during the medieval festival. Please reconsider and let the business live.

132. Jane Burton

I write to provide my support for the continued existing licence for the black bear including its music license in tewkesbury.

Tewkesbury has recently seen an emergence to being a vibrant town of music entertainment in various pubs throughout the town. Those running the black bear have been at the forefront of this activity given their involvement leading tewkesbury live. The spin off to this is that the black bear now fully open -has become a sought after venue for townsfolk and visitors looking for entertainment . this brings business into the town at a time when business survival is harder than ever. The spin offs are significant. The pub runs family friendly events eg recently Halloween as well as evening Live music so is a well needed social commodity. Other pubs do not have the same space available to attract family inclusion. I have lived in the town for 40 years. I have not seen tewkesbury so vibrant since the 90's. It has been a rather sad 'nothing significant happening' except for restaurants town since 2000. Please do not allow a few noise complaints by those who sit at home who do not contribute to the vibrant growing town society to spoil this recent improvement. Their opinions will stifle the potential growth in town success. The energy and the live music is the source of this positive change. The success needs the music which attracts the custom. Allow the black bear to thrive it is a showpiece on course to be one of tewkesburys best attractions. tewkesbury live won't work without this and the town will suffer greatly if the black bear is not supported by ventilation of the licence.

133. Gary Wiggett

I recently discovered the black bear (as a friend recently moved in nearby), and it is a FANTASTIC place to socialise and see live music.

Its ALWAYS bristling with energy and laughter and it seems RIDICULOUS to me

that its license is in jeopardy!!!. I do hope a solution/compromise to the problem can be found as this place is a jewel in tewkesburys crown rivalling 'the abbey' in terms of putting the town on the map and invigorating local economy.

If it goes, i can see my visits reducing by 75%!!

(the other pubs are ok, but the bear makes me wanna

go to tewkesbury...it is THE destination around here for a good night!!!)

134. Nick & Kate Wood

I wish to express my support for the Black Bear. The pub, having been given new lease of life by the new owners has been a breath of fresh air and has added a much needed venue to Tewkesbury, attracting both locals and visitors, old and young. We ourselves have had some great times in there.

The town feels as though it has become much more of a destination and long may it continue!!

135. Linda Harding

We have visited The Black Bear the oldest pub in Gloucestershire many times over the last 30 or so years. We were so sad when it closed, to then find out it was being refurbished again we were so delighted. The pub since opening has been a real asset to Tewkesbury, all the work the owners have put is incredible. I can't believe their licence is in jeopardy.

Please think about what the pub brings to the community, a place for families, dogs, couples and friends.

136. Kirk Walton

This is our heritage and needs to be kept as a pub, which will help Tewkesbury especially for tourism in the summer.

I did not realise it had reopened as I had been waiting to visit and see the renovation work.

To date I have only been able to view from outside.

All the pubs in Tewkesbury are in residential areas so are at risk of localised noise and disturbance, whilst that is not a defence against a breach of the peace.

Surely the owners can produce a plan to satisfy licence renewal?

I was a new manager at a large supermarket that the police objected to the alcohol licence due to the amount of calls, arrests and site problems by instigating changes and working with the police to remedy the issues.

137. Jean Barnett

The new owners of the Black Bear have done an absolutely outstanding restoration job. They have clearly put huge amounts of time, energy, effort, work and I'm sure a great deal of money into saving and restoring a building of huge historic significance. Not only have they preserved original features and atmosphere they have managed to make it suitable for present day use without losing its character and charm.

I live in Cheltenham and have visited with family members who live in Tewkesbury. None of us would be considered regular 'pub-goers' but we are all very impressed with the revived Black Bear and continue to visit and support it.

The Black Bear provides a warm and welcoming place for locals and visitors and, I understand, supports/hosts community groups. Isn't this just what the traditional British Pub is all about? With pubs closing daily there must be towns and villages crying out for someone who could do a 'black bear revival' in their own communities.

I would like Tewkesbury Borough Council's Licensing Department to hear that I and I know, many others, fully support the owners of this establishment and wish them every success in their endeavours.

138. Brad Jacklin

I hereby support the Bear in Tewkesbury. It's up to council not to destroy institutions that date back 700 years...this is 33% of the way back to the time of Christ and deserves saving

139. Faye Walker

The bear has been renovated beautifully and is a fantastic riverside pub. It is situated in a noisy area of town by virtue of water and traffic not desperately close to homes which were built knowing a pub was there. There is no question that this pub should retain its licence.

140. Heide Stansfield

The people of Tewkesbury have waited for years for such a fantastic, family friendly, dog friendly public house! The landlord follows the rules with respect to music and events... it's absolutely tragic that a minority of people should ruin it for the rest of the town... as per usual .. killing anything good this town has!! Please think of the majority of the people of this town along with the many visitors to Tewkesbury!! SAVE THE BLACK BEAR!! DONT KILL THE TOWN!!!

141. Paul Llewellyn

I have been visiting the Black Bear for over 30 years and it is fantastic to see it restored so fantastically well. We really missed it when it was closed.

Since it has reopened they have put on some great events and has been very well supported by people who are keen to see it succeed as an incredibly important part of Tewkesbury town.

It provides many jobs for local people and they are all so very friendly.

It supports many events in the town and has a fantastic garden with lovely views.

Since reopening it has created such a buzz in the town and cannot believe that there is a question about the renewal of their licence. This would be a great loss to the town.

142. Kirstie Hopton

I live in Mitton and for the large events such as Tewkesbury Live we were able to hear the music from our house BUT we were pleased to hear it! It's so nice to have some life injected into a failing town centre.

Other than the large, full town, events we are unaffected. I drove past at 10:30/11pm last Friday night and it was quiet, with only a few people outside. This is nothing like the issues that were in the town when Montells (riverside) was open and I'm shocked that there have been complaints.

The re-opening of the black bear has been one of the best things to happen to Tewkesbury town in years.

Residents need to remember that the black bear has been a public house for hundreds of years and that the music licence enables the pub to organise events, providing them with an income.

The consensus in Tewkesbury is that we are happy to see the bear open and enjoy having a lively venue to spend time at. It would be a shame to have this ruined for the many due to the complaints of a few.

143. Suzanne Belmont

I'm writing in support of the licence for the Black Bear pub!

They have spent a lot of time and money making sure this building has been done to specifications set out by TBC etc and it's exactly what Tewkesbury has needed for a lot of years , certainly since we moved here nearly fourteen years ago.

Not only is it a pub it is the hub of the town where most locals meet each other, I can't believe you are even thinking of revoking their licence because of a minority who have complaints who I'm sure knew they were moving close to a pub, it has been there forever!

please use common sense when reviewing this!

144. Paul Chambers

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed closure/review of licence of the Black Bear in Tewkesbury. This iconic establishment, situated in Gloucestershire and boasting a history spanning over 700 years, is not only one of the oldest pubs in the country but also a vital part of our local heritage.

The Black Bear holds significant historical value, having witnessed numerous changes throughout the centuries. As a site said to be haunted, it has become a fascinating attraction for locals and tourists alike. The building's intriguing past, including its use as a hospital during the Battle of Tewkesbury in 1471, adds to its allure and makes it a unique destination within our town.

In addition to its historical significance, the Black Bear plays a crucial role in fostering a sense of community within Tewkesbury. Locals and visitors alike gather here to enjoy live music, socialize, and forge meaningful connections. It is a place where people can come together, meet new friends, and create lasting memories. The Black Bear is not just a pub; it is a hub that brings our community closer, providing a welcoming environment for all.

Furthermore, the Black Bear attracts tourists to our town, boosting the local economy and supporting other businesses in the area. Visitors are drawn to Tewkesbury because of the Black Bear's reputation as a historic and haunted establishment. Its closure would not only rob us of a beloved pub but also have a detrimental impact on the overall tourism and vibrancy of our town.

In conclusion, we urge the authorities to reconsider the closure of the Black Bear in Tewkesbury. This establishment holds a special place in our hearts, preserving our rich history and fostering a sense of community. With its unique haunted tales, live music events, and warm atmosphere, the Black Bear is an integral part of Tewkesbury's identity.

145. Lee Austin & Karla Currigan

Respect to this family for the hard work, vision, investment, commitment & time.

Tewkesbury Town Council should be wholly supportive in attracting those prepared to invest in the Towns future without imposing any further financial losses on those brave enough to invest & make a difference to the town appearance & towns attraction for visitors? There will always be those few that focus on all the negatives & want nothing to change! The whole town will benefit in the long run with investors who love the place now attracting further investment because it is financially viable..... Now we just need somebody else as brave to complete the Healings Mill and the road leading up to it which is an absolute dereliction & eyesore, thats where the focus should be? maybe Tewkesbury could then thrive like Stratford on Avon in the long term.

146. James Ford

I am writing this email to show support of the current licence at the Black Bear pub in Tewkesbury. This pub has had a huge amount of time and effort to renovate the premises and the effort has resulted in a much-needed lively hub for socialising in Tewkesbury. The Black Bear boasts a very

enviable atmosphere, it's an approachable and enjoyable venue, catering to all walks of people, young and old alike, to enjoy drinks and entertainment and the patrons all hold it in high regard.

It would be a great shame to change anything about the way this Pub is operating, in fact it shines as an example of how to run a pub in these times when many pubs are facing closure and struggling.

147. Brian Crago

Further to the notice served against the above establishment, the following are brought to your attention.

The Black Bear is the oldest public house in Gloucestershire and holds immense historical interest by many visitors to this market town.

The building is unique in its appearance and photographed by many visitors.

The location is of great significance due to having views over the Severn and Avon and the Malvern hills. This sight is of great interest to all who like to sit and while away much time.

The present owners have put extreme time and effort in maintaining the buildings magnitude.

The owners are outstanding hosts and have give so much of their time, money and effort to ensure its clientele enjoy the ambience.

The establishment employs good well trained staff which in turn reduces the employment in the town.

Their entertainment to date has been greatly supported by locals and visitors alike.

The Black Bear holds the prestige of being the location, headquarters and supporters of the much loved Medieval Festival, again supported by many from various nations.

The entertainment from the Black Bear should not be reduced to 6 external events (days/evenings) each year as this would reduce the enjoyment of many, especially during our summer months and for sure will be supported by many for the Xmas and New Year celebrations.

The timings of the entertainment should not necessarily be reduced to 22.30 hrs, ask oneself what time the famous Mop Fair stops their music etc. This can be heard in places as far afield as Mitton, Newtown, Priors Park.

The vehicle parking along the A38 is questionable, is it not the owners in the Black Bear who should take the flak for lack of compliance of the road. Yes it's a 'clearway' so that problem should not be directed specially at the Black Bear but to the relevant authority to enforce day and night.

We should be encouraging the caretakers of the Black Bear and the locals that this is a facility that Tewkesbury should be proud of.

148. Dennis Cash

I've lived in Tewkesbury all my life and have seen so many businesses come and go including the Black Bear. It has been wonderful to see it being rejuvenated and returned to a beautiful pub. It has been well supported by all ages, many originally from Tewkesbury as well as many new people. I am 71 years old have have thoroughly enjoyed some of the live music events. It would be a great shame if it was to penalised for being a success, when we should in fact be encouraging any business in the

town. As well as bringing employment to the town it has also brought many visitors keen to see the renovations. This in turn brings income to other businesses. How can this be wrong?

149. Martin Hardy

was absolutely amazed to read of the licence issues with the Black Bear inn Tewkesbury.

I have been using the pub since it reopened after its fantastic makeover and restoration work over the past years.

It is a truly special place to spend an evening enjoying what it has to offer, which is a great selection of drinks at reasonable prices, live music and tasty food.

It has a very friendly and welcoming atmosphere, which includes dogs.

I think it is a great advert for Tewkesbury and locals and visitors will enjoy all it has to offer.

So please keep this place open.

I am sure the owners and management will do what it takes to placate any concerns the council have.

150. Julia Cash

It seems totally unbelievable that The Black Bear is having its license threatened for being successful. It has brought a much needed boost to Tewkesbury. I understand that many of the complaints have come from people living near but as the pub has been there for hundreds of years, they can't really say they didn't know about it. The new management have made a huge success of the place and shouldn't be penalised for doing so. It has been renovated to an incredibly high standard and has improved the look of the High Street and the whole town.

151. Owain Jones

We've been so impressed by our visits to the Black Bear as a family. To the point of inviting friends to visit so they can see and experience it for themselves. It's an absolute gem of a pub and the owner can be so proud of what he's recreated there!!!!

The town is going through a dreary decline!!!! Empty shops, big branded closures.

The Black Bear in contrast has given the town a much needed boost!!! Driving past daily and seeing the length of time it's taken to renovate and restore it; we felt compelled to go and support it! And wow what a transformation!!!! We've been so impressed. The town is lucky to have such a fantastic well set out and inviting pub which recognises its place in history and has been so beautifully restored. Friendly staff who can't do enough to make you feel welcome. Amazing food. A great location overlooking the river. A space that incorporates the inside and out - it's fantastic!!! We've enjoyed the music there and plenty of day time visits too. Friends have been equally impressed!

It's absolutely shameful that the licence is even being looked at, or that anyone has felt the need to complain!!!

152. Megan Bryan & Jamie Reed

The black bear has been influential in Tewkesbury for hundreds of years. It has unfortunately been closed for far too long but the recent revival has brought life back to the town. Luke, Beth, and their team have worked so hard to renovate the pub and get it to the standard where it is now a visually

and functionally stunning historical building, able to host weekly quiz nights and large scale events. These not only help to improve the community by providing a much needed meeting spot for locals, but also brings money into the town when people come to visit. The possibilities the Bear offers for tourism alone are huge.

There are far more people both local and distant who love and are in support of the Bear and the team who have worked so hard to get it to the where it is now, than those small few who oppose and complain about it.

If you chose to live next to a pub or any public venue that is closed, you do so fully accepting that it may reopen in the future. Anyone who has chosen to live near the Bear has done so in the full knowledge that the pub had the potential to open again. They should celebrate how successful the Bear has been and the opportunities it has brought to the area rather than complain about small inconveniences.

If the issues that are being raised are so influential that they could cause this historical landmark to close, then alternatives should be looked at rather than the first solution being to close the Bear. Work with the team who have poured their heart, soul, and lives into this pub to resolve the issues rather than penalise them for doing what is ultimately a great thing for the town.

The Bear should not close by any means. To do so would not only be a massive disappointment to the local area, but it would devastate those who have made an incredible effort to bring this beloved pub back to life.

153. Diane Irwin

I am writing in support of The Black Bear's request to maintain its current licence.

I would contest who is causing a "public nuisance"? Is it the overwhelming majority of the general public of Tewkesbury, who strongly support The Bear, or is it the tiny number of people who have complained - causing us all to have to write in to support such a well loved institution?

The Black Bear contributes so much to the well being of Tewkesbury and it's residents as a whole. It is regarded as a community hub and serves the community from the very young at Halloween parties to the elderly with regular coffee mornings and a chance to socialise. Those in between are well served with an excellent vibrant pub. In the short time since its reopening it has become the place to meet. Everyone has been welcomed from the new Vicar of Tewkesbury Abbey to our military servicemen and women. Our ties with our wider community are strengthened by events such as the Oktoberfest - a week-end loved by many. I know all age groups enjoy the atmosphere created in such a beautiful building. It provides employment for many and gives opportunity to many young and upcoming local musicians who would struggle to find such audiences elsewhere - should we not be supporting our young musicians? It also supports local catering businesses - why would anyone wish to stop this? Supporting local businesses is essential in these difficult times and The Bear should be applauded for doing so.

It is totally unrealistic to expect The Bear to limit outdoor entertainment to just 6 days per year and to clear the back garden of everyone by 10.30pm. The population of Tewkesbury overwhelmingly enjoyed attending the music festival, held in part, at the Black Bear. Does hundreds of people's well earned night out have to be curtailed by the kill-joy attitude of a few?

If people living near the pub complain about the noise, surely they are the ones at fault for not realising that a pub may generate some noise? I live in the countryside but don't complain when the

dawn chorus wakes me at 5am in the summer - it's what I expect and people living next to a pub should realistically expect some noise too. After all , the pub was there centuries before they were.

I feel strongly that the views of the vast majority of Tewkesbury residents should outweigh those of a tiny minority who wish to damage something very precious to so many.

154. Helen Sherborne

May I offer my support for the marvel that is The Black Bear in Tewkesbury

It's a massive asset to the town.

It hosts something for everyone

it has been lovingly restored and is a marvellous example of Tudor England

A community hub at its best

The premises are spotlessly clean inside and outside, the pavement is swept daily!

It would be a great shame if it were to close.

155. Elaine & Steve Paddock

It is with sadness the Black bear in Tewkesbury is under review of their licence. A lot of restoration and determination to get the black bear living again so to speak. Please let us keep this lovely pub

156. Luke Andrew

It's disappointing to see that after a local resident has invested thousands of pounds and even more hours into a community establishment in Tewkesbury High Street that now it's is facing issues with licensing.

As a small business owner myself (of a decade in Tewkesbury) I know firsthand how hard it is to make a living in Tewkesbury. The town has been on the decline with shops closing, traffic issues and rising costs. There isn't much that brings people into the town anymore.

This has changed recently with patrons of the Black Bear venturing into town. This has positive impacts on the town itself and other businesses as many people try a couple of venues as well as the Black Bear.

There isn't much for younger clientele in Tewkesbury and the Black Bear provided a solution for this. I've heard of no trouble or fighting and the "noise" in question I would argue is perfectly appropriate for a public house in the middle of town. It doesn't go on too late and is NOT too loud.

The pub itself has a brilliant friendly, welcoming and family atmosphere.

The pub also adds to our local economy by supporting local businesses for wholesale trade. Not to mention providing employment for our community too.

TBC should be supporting new businesses in their borough, not hindering them! A thriving public house has so many positive impacts on everything else in Tewkesbury. The events held will even likely bring in people from outside of town too, which is much needed.

If there are issues then I agree a resolution should be reached but removing a licence for a pub, effectively closing the business, is a terrible solution. The lack of thought process is disturbing and TBC should do better.

157. Catherine Robertson

As a relative newcomer to Tewkesbury I watched with excitement as the work on the black bear was completed and was delighted when it opened. It adds character to the town as well as a lovely venue with a mix of music, a quiz and a beautiful garden. I've taken friends and family there, in the day and the evening, and feel it has added so much to the town in terms of vibrancy and fun. The owners have clearly spent time money and love making it the great venue it is so for it to be curtailed so soon would be disappointing and shocking. It's been a pub for centuries and I for one hope it continues as it is and thrives even more for centuries to come

158. Judith & Leslie Wressel

The Black Bear pub is more than just a building in Tewkesbury - it's a piece of our town's rich history.

It has been painstakingly & sensitively restored by the current owner & is the pride of Tewkesbury.

It serves as a social gathering place for locals (we're local from Mitton area) but also provides jobs for many locals from Tewkesbury and the surrounding areas. Its re-opening has been long awaited by many, including ourselves. We love the whole ethos of the pub, (created by the owner), & enjoy the indoor & outdoor experience it provides. So lovely to walk down to & sit & enjoy Tewkesbury from this side of the town!

We cannot believe that the impending review of its premises license could mean closure of this amazing historical establishment. Surely closing The Black Bear would be detrimental to our community, both socially and economically?!

It would be a sad day for Tewkesbury & sad day for the many locals who support & enjoy it.

An especially sad day for my husband & I as local pensioners!!

Pubs in the UK are part of our cultural heritage. We have already lost too many. They play a huge part in local economies by providing employment opportunities and contributing to tourism. Please. We implore you, do not let The Black Bear be another statistic.

159. Amy Rigg

We moved to Tewkesbury ten years ago.

Since then we have had one or two evenings out in the town but that's it. There simply wasn't anywhere to go that appealed. We had fond memories of The Black Bear in years gone by and when we heard it was reopening we were delighted, and watching the stunning and sympathetic restoration was wonderful to see.

What has been done there by the current licensors is a real credit to the town. Since it opened we have been down there a number of times, and we are extremely impressed with the love and care with which the venue has been presented and managed. We have been proudly telling people all about it and advising them to visit. It is a genuine joy to finally have somewhere like this in the town, that is a real delight to spend some time whether during the day or night, and the live music has absolutely been a big part of what makes it work so well. There has been a genuine buzz and palpable excitement about the place that is rare and special, and not something easily rectified - and as lifelong live music fans with many gigs and festivals under our belts, we think we know a little bit about this sort of thing.

If some compromises must be made, we would strongly suggest they are not at the expense of the live music. By all means have longer notice periods, and perhaps a slightly earlier curfew, but cutting down to very few nights a year would be a tragedy. The immense joy these events bring to local and live music fans, not to mention local artists looking for a platform, is out of all proportion to the mean-spirited grumbling of those who frankly knew what they were doing when they moved into a house beside a pub. After all, it has been there quite a while!

Without the live music footfall, this venue will struggle to survive and that would frankly be a catastrophe for Tewkesbury. Hoping for some common sense to prevail in this situation, and for the best thing currently in the town to be left alone to bring joy to those who visit.

160. Olga Heath

I am a resident of 27, Lincoln Green Lane, Tewkesbury GL20 5TU.

I am not a drinker, and a rarely will go out, but sometimes I will go out for a cup of tea with my daughter, and we go to the Black Bear and other places in the town too.

I am also Deaf, so am not a music lover as I cannot hear the music. But, what I know is that this is a business that has been thinking about how they can bring more to the town and cater for all ages.

I have lived in Tewkesbury since 1974 when I met my late husband and the town was full of pubs that were all supported, there would be dances and bands that would play and our friends would go along and we would too. Seeing people dancing, seeing people smiling and being together was something that creates memories and makes Tewkesbury the place it is...a friendly town, with amazing people.

This business have done alot of work on restoring an incredible building, enhancing it so much. Having a licence for just 6 days music is silly, we have Tewkesbury Festival every year...this is 3 days already! The pubs in town like Berkley, New Plough, Canterbury, Nottingham Arms, Albion, Brittannia and Anchor all have music most weekends, why should Black Bear (biggest venue) be restricted for just 6 days!!!!

You need to be reasonable in your approach and have a think about the business, think about the people that come to the pub, think of the town and its future.

I wish Black Bear all success.

161. John & Julie Irwin

We are writing in support of the current premises license at The BLack Bear

We are dismayed at the current threat to the future of the pub

Having waited years for the pub to reopen and looked with joy at the painstaking refurbishment, upon opening what a joy

A wonderful historic building nought to life with fantastic attention to detail, a true asset for the town encouraging locals and visitors alike

We now have a family friendly pub with a wonderful garden, and a great entertainment area

The music occasions thst have been held have been well organised and well run

What a great place to meet friends and socialise

We strongly support the pub and believe it is such an asset for the town it can not be lost

For those who complain about music and entertainment, the pub is the oldest in Gloucester and was there long before the houses

People should be able to enjoy themselves at home, however if live near a pub should recognise it could well be popular and busy

Please do not change the terms of their license, we have waited a long time for a pub of this quality in Tewkesbury

SAVE THE BEAR

162. Abby Daly

I am writing in support of the license renewal for The Black Bear (Tewkesbury).

I believe that closure of The Black Bear would result in a detrimental effect to the community, both socially and economically.

I live in Cheltenham and make regular visits to Tewkesbury. I did not tend to venture into many pubs in Tewkesbury prior, but since The Black Bear's refurbishment and re-opening last year, I have visited on many occasions due to the pleasant and friendly environment, lovely food and drinks and wonderful entertainment that they have helped to provide.

I know many people from Tewkesbury who regard The Black Bear as an integral part of Tewkesbury's history and now it has beautifully restored and refurbished, it would be travesty for Tewkesbury to lose it.

I have also met people in The Black Bear who have travelled to visit and have praised its welcoming environment and enjoyable entertainment.

I think that fact that it has remained busy since its re-opening, suggests it is a popular establishment which is doing well. Considering how many businesses are struggling, it is surely a positive notion that a business is thriving and is demonstrating that it is of considerable benefit to Tewkesbury's reputation and economy.

I would urge those reviewing its license to consider the broader impact on the community and surrounding areas, if it were to close.

I would also like to make you aware of a mistake on your public notice - it currently reads licensing@tewksbury.gov.uk, when I believe it should be licensing@tewkesbury.gov.uk

163. Isaac Burner

The effort and determination in transforming The Black Bear into its current form is obvious, resulting in a pub where there is something for everyone to enjoy.

The friendly service, range of drinks on offer, street food and entertainment are second to none and I would wholeheartedly oppose any changes to their licence which would negatively impact the establishment.

Quite simply, in my opinion The Black Bear has become the best pub in Tewkesbury and every step should be taken to ensure that it can thrive for the benefit of its ownership, staff and patrons.

164. Karen Costantinou

The landlord of the black bear took this pub on knowing he had a music license. He has spent a lot of money over the past five years renovating and restoring it to a beautiful pub, where people can dine, relax and listen to music.

The music is only "6 times" a year outside which finishes at 10:30 promptly.

We have traveled from Cheltenham to this pub several times and met a few people that have also come from different areas to the Bear.

I believe this lovely pub is a great asset to Tewkesbury.

It brings people in from different areas.

What a privilege it is to have such a place like this in Tewkesbury .

I very strongly support the Black Bear and want it to keep its music license.

165. Nigel Hughes

I'm gobsmacked the Black Bear is under review, this is madness.

I live on the Wheatpieces estate. I normally went to Cheltenham to go out drinking, as I don't find any of the local pubs in Tewkesbury friendly and there's little room for children. Plus the size of them is rather claustrophobic. The Black Bear has been like a breath of fresh air and is now my pub of choice over going to Cheltenham.

I've been a frequent visitor to the Black Bear since it's reopening. It's a lovely welcoming pub with plenty of space, friendly staff and a good choice of alcoholic and non alcoholic drinks. The burgers are just divine. I've never witnessed any issues inside the Black Bear in the months I've been going.

The best part for me, is being able to sit outside and relax (when it's not chucking it down) looking at the river. As I suffer from PTSD and depression, the chance to sit by the river with just a pint is therapeutic and helpful. It's my mindfulness moments.

Added to which, The Black Bear supports local musicians. They supported Tewkesbury Live, which allowed several bands to play over 3 days. I took my kids and they thoroughly enjoyed the music, as it was outside in a safe environment. My kids enjoy going their for soft drinks and nibbles. The Black Bear also supports other music throughout the year, which allows musicians to play to a wider audience and get the exposure and experince they wouldn't have had before.

The Black Bear has become a huge part of the community in such a short space of time and it beggars belief this could all be taken away.

I understand from FB comments, that there's been noise complaints. What next, complaints about the Abbey Bells, complaints about the aircraft from RAF Brize Norton etc.

Leave the Black Bear alone. It's successful, popular and is helping to draw visitors in from outside Tewkesbury. I thought the councils role was to help increase the numbers coming to Tewkesbury to spend money, not close down businesses that are successful.

166. Steve Dodds

I am shocked and saddened to hear that there are plans to prevent the Black Bear from running as it has been in recent months. This wonderfully restored venue has regenerated the town, supported

local artists, and given residents somewhere exciting and pleasant to go at long last, with the wonderful addition of live music. What a shame to have it endangered after so much love and energy has been poured into it.

Begging the council to reconsider this threat to this beautiful old pub and save the best venue in Tewkesbury. There is nothing else remotely like it and it should be treasured as something the town can be proud of.

167. Anthony Nash

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed closure of the Black Bear in Tewkesbury.

This iconic establishment, situated in Gloucestershire and boasting a history spanning over 700 years, is not only one of the oldest pubs in the country but also a vital part of our local heritage.

The Black Bear holds significant historical value, having witnessed numerous changes throughout the centuries. As a site said to be haunted, it has become a fascinating attraction for locals and tourists alike. The building's intriguing past, including its use as a hospital during the Battle of Tewkesbury in 1471, adds to its allure and makes it a unique destination within our town.

One of the most intriguing aspects of the Black Bear's history is the discovery of medieval horseshoes during renovations. Witnesses have recounted incidents where these horseshoes were mysteriously flung off the walls by an unseen force, captivating visitors with their supernatural occurrences.

This paranormal activity has created an atmosphere of intrigue and curiosity, making the Black Bear an irreplaceable part of our cultural landscape.

Moreover, the pub has become renowned for its spectral sightings, including a Cavalier soldier, the sound of horses' hooves, and even a headless man dragging chains. These tales, intertwined with local history, add an element of mystique to the Black Bear and contribute to its unique charm. In addition to its historical significance, the Black Bear plays a crucial role in fostering a sense of community within Tewkesbury.

Locals and visitors alike gather here to enjoy live music, socialize, and forge meaningful connections. It is a place where people can come together, meet new friends, and create lasting memories. The Black Bear is not just a pub; it is a hub that brings our community closer, providing a welcoming environment for all.

Furthermore, the Black Bear attracts tourists to our town, boosting the local economy and supporting other businesses in the area. Visitors are drawn to Tewkesbury because of the Black Bear's reputation as a historic and haunted establishment.

Its closure would not only rob us of a beloved pub but also have a detrimental impact on the overall tourism and vibrancy of our town. In conclusion, we urge the authorities to reconsider the closure of the Black Bear in Tewkesbury.

This establishment holds a special place in our hearts, preserving our rich history and fostering a sense of community. With its unique haunted tales, live music events, and warm atmosphere, the Black Bear is an integral part of Tewkesbury's identity.

Let us come together to protect this cherished pub and ensure its place in our town for generations to come.

168. John Eckersley

Your suggestion that the Black Bear is a public nuisance is as absurd as it is potentially damaging.

This historic building has been lovingly and painstakingly restored to an excellent standard (at great expense).

It now provides an excellent service to the people of Tewkesbury and beyond, providing much needed jobs to many.

The only nuisance is the fact that inconsiderate people park on the pavement of the bridge.

But that is not the Black Bear's fault.

Painting of double yellow lines there would solve that issue.

Shame on you for causing great and unnecessary upset to many.

169. Phil & Louise Richards

We would like to express our support for the Black Bear's current licence in the proposed review.

The Black Bear provides an excellent setting for indoor and outdoor socialising for the people of Tewkesbury and the wider area. Since its restoration it has been a valuable asset to Tewkesbury - a great traditional English public house that the town should be proud of. It has served a hub for a series of excellent music events, supporting local artists. It has a great atmosphere, is well managed and has been trouble-free.

The historic significance of the building should also not be forgotten. Without a thriving business, buildings of this type fall into decay, as was seen several years ago and thankfully reversed by the significant investment from the current owners.

The industry as a whole has never fully recovered from the impact of COVID. The Black Bear is an exceptional success story which should be supported by the Licencing Department. We are confident that the majority of Tewkesbury people support the Black Bear, vastly outweighing a small vocal minority of complainants.

170. Vicky Farrington

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the review of the licence of The Black Bear, Tewkesbury.

The Black Bear is an incredible venue providing a plethora of entertainment for all ages. The Black Bear has very quickly become our community's social hub and should be encouraged and supported. One huge asset of the pub is the vibrant music scene and the effort and investment in providing a variety of music appealing to a wide spectrum of our community must not be underrated.

We are a military family who were posted to Tewkesbury over 10 years ago. We settled here to raise our family but outside of the military confines we struggled to be part of a community in Tewkesbury. We just felt like we never fitted in as we weren't born and bred here and struggled to access social groups. Just as The Black Bear opened, we had started to look at houses outside of Tewkesbury searching for a community that we desperately wanted to be part of. When The Black Bear reopened, we found the community we had been searching for. We can walk in there on any given day and be welcomed. We speak to different generations and all socialise together in harmony

- on many occasions brought together by music. Music is such an important part of bringing people together.

The Black Bear pub has so much to offer this town. For many years, the young people of this town have socialised in Cheltenham but are now supporting the pubs on our doorstep - we have The Black Bear and the music they provide to thank for that. These young people, like us older people, don't have to search elsewhere for musical entertainment, The Black Bear has provided it whilst supporting many other businesses in our town.

We are so fortunate to live in a town with glorious rivers. The riverside in the town's entirety falls short of being appealing but things are changing! The Tudor House hotel has recently contributed to this and now the huge input and upgrades from The Black Bear mean that that part of the river and the beer garden are both visually appealing and a place that locals and visitors alike want to visit. This outdoor area is an ideal music venue for a town like ours that has so much potential. I would urge caution to change of licensing. The huge investment in this venue should be taken into consideration. We have many other buildings within our town desperately crying out for investment on this scale - what message do we send to future investors by changing licensing agreements post investment?

In addition, Tewkesbury Live festival has been a huge asset to our town and its success would not be on the scale it is without The Black Bear. The huge numbers of people, young and old who support Tewkesbury Live demonstrate just how much the community of Tewkesbury need and want a live music scene. The Black Bear is the hub of Tewkesbury Live because IT is the hub of our community.

I completely understand that the reopening of the venue and the increase in noise levels may have been detrimental to those living in the immediate vicinity but the pub has long outlived the residential properties. If we want our High Street to remain as a High Street then commercial properties and licensed venues should take priority. The High Street is something to be celebrated, having many independent businesses - The Black Bear being one (and a huge one at that!).

Again, I urge you to seriously consider changing the current licensing agreement of The Black Bear. This one establishment has the potential to raise the bar for the whole town for not just our generation, but future generations to come.

171. Celia Harris

Please save the Bear Pub beautiful restoration work cannot stress how lovely it is to see the beautiful old pub open and feel it should be kept open. Cannot think noise will be problem

172. Terry Boulton

Hi Luke, very sorry to hear of your problems with the council. You have my full support. It's really annoying having you spent a lot getting the pub renovated and a few moaners , who are probably all strangers to the town and only there at the weekend, trying to close you down.

I have been drinking at the Black Bear since 1973 when it was a good pub then. You have recreated that.

If the pub was in Upton.... they would love it....

Trouble with this town... too many moaners.

Laurence used to have the same problem when he had bands at the Berkeley. One famous incident.... some twat from the Council came in one day saying that a complaint had been made

about noise at the pub.... on enquiring about the date.....it turned out to be fair night!!!! The council plonker went off red faced with his tail between his leg's.....

Good luck

173. Stuart Hutchinson

I have seen an article suggesting there is a threat to the Black Bear retaining it's licence. I presume that there is no actual threat that the pub could lose it's licence completely? The reason I have made that presumption is because, to me, it appears obvious that an establishment like the Black Bear is just what Tewkesbury needs to bring in business and tourism to the town. The restoration has been top quality and it is a great place to meet up. It only adds to the quality of the town and must surely be supported wholeheartedly.

174. Jennifer Lazenby & Richard Birkby

This is a very old established alehouse that has been trading for years. It brings a lot of money into Tewkesbury from many miles around. It is ridiculous to pander to residents who CHOSE to live next to an 14th century public house. I fully support any action to keep this fabulous place OPEN under its current licence, for the enjoyment of families in an otherwise turbulent world. It is a heritage site and needs to be nurtured and enjoyed by all.

175. Lesley Hiron

I am, frankly, shocked that TBC is considering amending the licence of The Black Bear.

Regarding the building: it has been lovingly restored at huge expense and is an asset to Tewkesbury as a historical building. The owner has spent a large amount of money to fund traditional craftsmen and the building itself is a joy to see, both inside and out.

The building was renovated with the aim of returning to its use as an historic hostelry and the owner has ensured that the hospitality service is provided of a superb quality and training of the staff is excellent.

Licence: since opening, The Black Bear has provided entertainment and enjoyment to a huge number of residents and their guests. They have supported the town's free music festival and contributed in many positive ways to the ambience of the town. I know little about any 'infringements' of the licence, but suspect that any complaints have been made by residents of St John's Close who BOUGHT PROPERTIES KNOWING THAT A PUB WAS A CLOSE NEIGHBOUR, the pub having preceded their own houses by centuries.

If TBC chooses to pettily remove the licence of this amazing pub, rather than provide guidance for future events, they will be penalising the town of Tewkesbury and demotivating any future committed business owners other than soulless, generic multinationals, thereby allowing Tewkesbury to become a bland, carbon-copy town, losing all character and discouraging the tourists which are so essential to the life of this currently thriving town. The attraction of the town will be threatened enough by the M5 retail outlet, and TBC should be doing every single thing in their power to encourage local, quality businesses on the high street.

176. Abi Watts

We as a family of two adults and two young children very much enjoy the entertainment which is held at the black bear day or night.

We have noticed that consideration to neighbours in the evening have been implemented by using sound proofing curtains etc around the area of which the bands play. Unlike most of the other pubs in Tewkesbury that have groups of rowdy people outside on the streets.

With the visits we have to the black bear there never seems to be any shouting or customers being asked to leave due to fighting or disrespectful behaviour.

It would be a massive shame to alot of people and Tewkesbury to see this lovely pub that has had alot of work done to restore it have to be closed due to a small minority.

177. Jodie Hopkins

I am writing in relation to the upcoming license review of the Black Bear Pub in Tewkesbury. From my understanding the licensing is under review due to various issues but a main one being the local residents complaints.

As a local born and bred in the Tewkesbury district and growing up visiting the black bear from childhood right through to my teenage and mid 20's I was very excited to see the pub back open and even more thrilled to see how the oldest pub had been restored to its former glory. I would like to point out that in its previous life the pub was a busy bustling venue often hosting quiz nights, disco's and private functions. It was a meeting place for all generations and it really was a mix from teenage right through to those in their 70's and 80's. I therefore cannot see that albeit new and shiny and therefore popular that it is any way different to what stood here before. It's been quiet for years yes but only through the devastating closure of the pub.

I do think the issue with cars parking along the main road should be dealt with (although this is a customer issue) rather than a licensing one as the pub is not responsible for where an individual decides to leave there car.

I hope for the whole of Tewkesbury and its visitors that all the hard work gone into restoring this beautiful pub has not been for nothing and that a sensible decision can be reached.

178. Roger Finch

I cannot believe that after years of being vacant and a multi-million pound investment the licence of this famous building is being threatened.

This building was derelict for a number of years yet the owners were willing to take a risk and bring it back to life. The reward for taking this risk and breathing life into Tewkesbury is to threaten their licence. Please see sense and confirm their licence

179. Sally & Joe Henry

About 6 months before The Black Bear opened I was talking to the owner who was so very, very passionate about the building & so caring about getting every little detail correct, he knew that it was something that Tewkesbury needed & oh boy was he right! No one else was brave enough to take on the huge task. The Black Bear is definitely something that Tewkesbury needs, it has been a hostelry for HUNDREDS of years & people living near knew that when they chose to live there....so let the music begin, twice a week if they can, you are dead too long!!!

180. Will Davis

The old black bear must be supported and allowed to continue to operate .

Much time effort and money has been invested to restore this beautiful building.

The pub has been there for years and any residents who bought houses near it should have considered the implications of living near it.

Thus pub is an asset to the town, creating employment and serving the local residents with a beautiful riverside pub

We wish them all the best in the future.

181. Tracy Slater

I have just read that Tewkesbury council are debating on whether to renew The Black Bear licence. The pub as you know, is the oldest in Gloucestershire. It's a fantastic tourist attraction which brings money into the town. The pub has been restored to a very high standard with beautiful garden leading onto the riverside.

If the pub was forced to close yet again. It would fall into another run-down building, yet one more eye sore for this once beautiful town.

We as a community need to rebuild this town with respect for the old buildings, not close them down.

The mill and empty run-down shops are enough of are eye sore let's not make another one.

The council needs to support all the hard work, money spent and dedication of many local traders who have lovingly brought this beautiful place back to life.

182. Jack Irwin

2023 has seen the restoration Of The Olde Black Bear, one of the oldest pubs in the UK! And what a transformation it has had! So much hard work and expense has been ploughed into this project, with immense consideration to conservation and a huge respect to heritage. This pub has brought so much to the town in the short time it's been open. What could be better than sitting by the river with a drink on a lovely sunny evening with family and friends?! The size of the establishment has made it a wonderful meeting place and the staff have gone to great lengths to ensure a high level of service is delivered. Just what Tewkesbury was missing!!

To hear that certain individuals are trying to get this wonderful pubs licence revoked is absolutely ludicrous!

I understand that it must be frustrating at times to live next to a busy pub, but surely if you buy a property in the town centre it is to be expected to have a few disruptions! It has been there since 1308 after all -

it's not like it's a new build!!!!

Please please please listen to the majority of the town and the positive reviews on this matter and not the few disgruntled neighbours!!

183. Kirsty and Rob Parkinson

We waited long enough for bear to re open

The bear provides a pleasant relaxing atmosphere for all ages in my opinion!

I have been to many quizzes on a Tuesday (which gets me out of the house)

Weekends a nice stroll to the bear with the dog!
 Facilities are great and good to see all ages and even the dogs enjoy it!
 The bear has brought tewkesbury back to life! It was a dying town.
 Please 🙏 keep open! Otherwise! Goodby Tewkesbury

184. Therese and Philip Stephenson

My husband helped to restore this beautiful building and has first hand knowledge of the dedication and expense it took to renovate to its original state. We do hope that the local council support the landlord and let him keep What is a great asset to Tewkesbury.

185. Sue Wilmot

I'm writing in support of keeping the Black Bears licence. I attended the Oktoberfest weekend. It was fantastic and so busy. A pub like this is just what the town needs

186. Karen and John Smith

40 years ago my husband and I spend many happy evenings in the Blackbear as a courting couple. I also joined others there as we formed the companions of the Blackbear and birth of the Battle of Tewkesbury reenactment.

So we were sadden to see it closed for so many years and watch this beautiful building decay.

To see it not only bought back to life but modernised so that a new generation can enjoy it as we once did is a joy. It has been wonderful to go back to our old haunt and take our grown children.

To close it would be a huge mistake not only for locals but for the whole of this rapidly growing town. Tewkesbury is changing and desperately needs more venues like the Blackbear.

Tewkesbury Borough Council should consider ALL of Tewkesbury residents. Should the complains of the few take away a much needed place for people to gather, especially after all we have been through in recent years.

Surely comprises can be met so that we can continue to enjoy somewhere that finally gives life to the town centre.

187. Fiona Wilkes

Your decision to review the licence and potentially put this business at risk of closure is absolutely abhorrent!

This pub has not just been restored physically but socially too - the history of this building is one of joining together a community, and that is what has been achieved so thoughtfully by the current licence holders and building owners.

This is now a hub of activity for all the community, young and old with community groups like AGE UK using it as a meeting space.

The venue has become a jewel in the musical crown of the town, I have enjoyed listening to the Cotswold Male Voice Choir, Spunge, The Achievers, No Good Nancy's and so much more local talent.

We as humans have suffered at the hands of covid, losing connections with friends, missing out on celebrations and that sense of community - this venue caters to alot of the social need in this town.

Do not make unreasonable decisions, and I certainly hope those councillors that live IN THE TOWN will offer their support as Tewkesbury Borough Council need to listen to the 7 TEWKESBURY town councillors, not those 30 out of town councillors who have NO IDEA on what OUR COMMUNITY wants, needs and celebrates.

188. Karen Beirne

The black bear has reignited Tewkesbury's social scene providing a very special place to meet friends and family , for live music to be played and enjoyed while raising the profile and support for local bands and musicians .

The time spent and TLC that the Haynes family have invested into this spectacular place can only be admired and commended. They have given Tewkesbury back a central place for people to enjoy themselves and socialise (something much needed after the upheaval of covid)

I can also vouch for the positive vibes that the black bear provide not only from a customer perspective but as an employee too .

The team are just fantastic, they work so hard and always happy , all the customers I have served have always been nothing but positive and complementary.

This truly is a happiness hub and has put Tewkesbury in the map for sure .

A compromise and understanding can be met with regards to the issues outlined from the small minority of people. I would love to see this place go from strength to strength as it so deserves to not just for Tewkesbury but the whole of Gloucestershire.

189. Rebecca and Rob Wilson

In support of the Black Bear current premises licence.

I dare say the amount of time, effort, and no small sum of money, that have been put into this business was on the premise of abiding by plans and guidance set out by the council and licensing authority. You can't just change the goal posts because someone is offended by something, this is for the majority of Tewkesbury people not the few.

The Black Bear is far from a public nuisance, in fact a gem of the Tewkesbury community, catering for young and old alike, and has done so for hundreds of years.

A good selection of beers, freshly cooked food to order, great entertainment, music/ quiz nights, and a warm friendly atmosphere.

There is no argument for this change.

190. Toby Elwes

I am shocked and disappointed to hear that the black bear has the risk of being closed.

The poor people who have worked so hard and invested so much money into reopening the pub. How many local trades were given work to help get the place up and running again. All the staff that it employs, local food that get to sell their produce there. Whoever has raised this issue clearly has no sense of community.

I am not a fan of a lot of things that happen in Tewkesbury but as a resident, I understand that it is for the greater good of the town.

I hope common sense prevails on this matter.

191. Claire Bevan and Stuart Hurren

Myself and my whole family support this lovingly restored pub in its application for an extended licence. It brings much needed life into Tewkesbury, providing excellent hospitality and entertainment. We are planning on visiting this establishment many times in the coming months and years. The food and drink is always excellent and sitting by the river in such nice surroundings brings myself and my elderly father great joy. This is our usual treat after a nice walk in the surrounding area.

Places like this should be appreciated and supported as much as possible to protect the longevity of Tewkesbury as a lovely place to live and also to visit.

192. Paul Courtney

The black bear is a historic building and it was sad to see it fall into disrepair. The current owners who have put so much into saving it have my full support, they have created a vibrant public place that is a big benefit to the town

We we had covid we realised the value of pubs like this that cater for all demographics and I see it as a real asset to the town

193. Megan Robinson

I write formally in support of the current licence of the Olde Black Bear.

A pub that brings happiness to families around the surrounding areas. Its outstanding views and well ran pub brings support to local pop-up food businesses and brings custom to Tewkesbury town as I wouldn't have ever thought to spend a Saturday afternoon there until the Black Bear made its spectacular refurbishment.

It is what Gloucestershire needs and it pins Tewkesbury on the map with something to offer everyone. Would be a great shame to be at risk of closure. I know I have a whole Cheltenham community which back me up on this.

194. Richard Stockman

I write this email in relation to the absolutely absurd license review that has been placed on the Black Bear pub in Tewkesbury.

This pub is and always has been by far the best pub in Tewkesbury, possibly in Gloucestershire.

It was a great shame when it was closed due to needing a long awaited renovation, which was a task only for someone with huge ambition and very deep pockets. When it finally re-opened back in the summer it was the talk of the town and still is.

I have visited a couple of times since the re-opening and I must say that the painstaking and meticulous renovation that has been carried out on this building, is nothing short of outstanding.

Somehow the building has been brought up to date without losing any of its character, in fact it seems to have more now if that's even possible.

To even be considering revoking the license of this pub baffles me. Let's not forget that this pub was built in 1308, to be a pub, and has been a pub ever since. I don't believe that anyone alive today should have the power to take away some thing that has stood for 715 years.

This pub is the right of our town, it's our heritage and it's our history. When people think of Tewkesbury they think of the Black Bear! It has just as much importance to the history of our town as the Abbey, and no one would dare take that away from us.

William Shakespeare performed in this pub when it was a new building and Queen Elizabeth 1st even visited. Now we're contemplating closing it, really?

Sure there may have been some noise pollution with the live music and people outside back in the summer, but surely this is a discussion to come to a compromise and not to question if it remains open. There are many things that can be put in place or agreements made to keep everyone happy, and make sure that the pub can continue to do what it has always done.

There are lots of other pubs in Tewkesbury that all manage to operate without the threat of losing their license so why not this one?

I feel yet again this is a case of a small minority will ruin everything for the rest of us. The minority always seem to have the louder voice and it's just not acceptable.

You might point out that the pub re-opening has had an impact with parking on the mythe bridge, which I totally agree with. That is something that needs to be addressed and is a hazard for motorists. However, I can't help but feel that if the council hadn't ruined the high street by attempting to widen the paths, and in doing so taking away tens of parking spaces then maybe we wouldn't have a parking issue.

Yes some discussions need to be had about noise, parking and people being outside when it's late. These are all issues that can be easily rectified and everyone can have a good result.

Revoking the license of this pub will result in a large scale angry mob burning pitch forks outside the council offices. That's how much this building and what it stands for means to the people of Tewkesbury, so it must be that an agreement is made because closing this pub just isn't an option.

195. Louise Beadle

What are you doing considering removing this wonderful part of our heritage.

A building that has slept for so long deserves to be bought to life. Those who don't like the sound or sight of it shouldn't live is close to a pub.

It's a little like living on an estate with children if you don't like kids....

They should move to somewhere that suits them.

Please don't spoil the town for us. Because in my view. The Black Bear, The Roses Theatre and The Library are the heart of this town.

196. Stacey Vincent

Please save The Bear from closing this would be absolutely awful for not only the current landlords but for the people of Tewkesbury.

The work and the money that has gone into restoring the building has been astronomical. The

landlords have done such a fantastic job getting the oldest building in Gloucestershire back to its former glory.

If the Bear was to close AGAIN it would be a massive shame and loss to our town. I am actually in disbelief this is even being reviewed!

The Bear is a real gem in the heart of our town, next to the beautiful river. The Bear is family and dog friendly where friends and family can meet and socialise. Please please do not let this special place be closed down.

197. Emelia Vonstauffer

As a street food trader I was invited to do a pop up at Ye Olde Black Bear in Tewkesbury..

We were blown away at how this British cultural asset has been so beautifully and sensitively brought back to life.

I noticed how someone was constantly litter picking and emptying the bins and they even had bouncers on the doors in the evening to prevent trouble.

This is one of Britain's oldest pubs and a true jewel in Tewkesbury's crown.

I believe the council should be doing everything in their power to support the non closure of a building that not only supplies a popular meeting venue for the residents of Tewkesbury, but must surely attract tourists who will visit from all over the world to see 'Gloucestershire's Oldest Pub'.

To close this pub down would mean a huge loss of revenue for Tewkesbury and will ultimately mean this lovely old building will go to ruin with no money coming in to support it's many demands to keep it maintained.

198. Shamus Banaghan

I am writing as a resident of Tewkesbury confirming that myself, family and friends who often frequent this great pub do not want closure of this establishment.

It's been many years of significant effort to purchase and refurbish this pub and is now the social hub in Tewkesbury which is already limited on places to meet and have a good evening.

This pub is well known as the oldest Pub in Gloucestershire and closure of a Public House is simply not acceptable. An establishment which has been in existence long before all the residential properties existed in that area.

I trust the Local Council and Environmental Officer in Charge of this case will make a sensible assessment and confirm this establishment will be permitted to stay in business.

199. Jodie Woodley

We must save the black bear!!

What an absolute shame that the black bear is being punished for being a pub, a local supporting pub who supports local breweries and independent food vendors.

Not only does the black bear bring lots of people together in the local community, families and people of all age groups. It also brings a lot of people into the town centre which is what Tewkesbury needs!

It has been a breath of fresh to get a decent pub in the town centre!!.

Save the black bear!

200. Mark Nye

I am writing in reference to the premises license review for The Olde Black Bear, Tewkesbury.

This venue is a credit to the vision of the investors who have transformed this site of historic significance for the benefit of the town of Tewkesbury. The building is unrecognisable having been sympathetically preserved to its current stunning form.

It a location that provides

- i) employment for many local people
- ii) a leisure and entertainment facility for the wider community
- iii) a fairly priced food and drink outlet for thousands of people in an immaculately clean setting.

The revocation of licence will accordingly have a catastrophic impact on employees and guests alike.

It is a musician, however, that I wish to make my most impassioned representation.

The Black Bear offers regular opportunity for musicians to play in a safe and friendly environment. In a world where live music is constantly under threat, The Black Bear is an important facility.

I am personally aware of the licensee's desire to mitigate for the public nuisance concern that has been raised. He has invested in sound-proofing devices to limit sound outside of the venue. At my last performance, he was monitoring sound pressure inside and outside the venue, to comply with guidelines. These guidelines were being met. In thirty five years of playing live, this approach is a very rare attitude.

Community concern about noise around leisure facilities is likely to be a concern raised to Environmental Health before. I would ask you to consider that this facility has stood for over 700 years in differing formats; long before the housing that has been planned and built in close proximity. Residents have a right to a peaceful environment, but with that 'right' comes the responsibility of being part of the community they choose to live in. It is, and always will be, imperative to consider the wishes of all stakeholders.

I cannot assume to speak on behalf of the licensee of The Black Bear. I would say, however, that there is clear evidence of his commitment to the local community. In regard to the issue at hand, there is clear evidence in the steps already taken, that there is a will to work towards a mutually appropriate solution that does not crush this vital community facility at the behest of limited local objection.

201. Debbie Parry

The Black Bear is a very welcoming pub. The staff are so very friendly and the owner has gone above and beyond to make this happen.

Tewkesbury is a fantastic town, and the Black Bear has is a welcome sight as you drive into Tewkesbury.

During the summer the pub was a hive of fantastic music from far and wide that was attended and enjoyed by many.

As a musician myself and having played there several times, it is one of my favourite venues.

The owner and staff keep the pub in excellent order, with the best toilets around.

Loosing this place would be a tragedy!

SAVE THE BLACK BEAR

202. Louise Quemby

As a life long Tewkesbury resident I feel it's highly important that people like myself have a say and for that opportunity I am truly grateful !

I was a barmaid at the bear back in the 90's and like most locals feel passionate about the pub, a little like it's partly mine, which is how a good pub should be! With the sad decline in good local pubs and all the pressures of being a licensee, especially after recent years, I am shocked and a heart broken by the proposed list of unachievable rules that may be put in place and the actual possibility that the licence may not even be renewed! I appeal to you ... please don't take away the best thing that has happened to this town in a long time! It has brought friends and family's back together (literally) my dad wouldn't leave his house and now makes the trip from Evesham regularly to visit as he used to 30 years ago!

In hand to that live music is also very important! And the opportunity for bands to play, get a following and entertain is also highly important! And would so sadly be missed (there are too many Witherspoon's in this world!)

I appreciate some locals may be shocked after several quiet years while the building rotted then we lovingly restored.. but please don't let all that hard work, love , commitment and vision go to waste! If you want to revoke a licence look at the other end of town at the locations where there are regular fights , not the well managed one, with warm polite service and safe and effective security!

Please please please consider the many who depend and need this pub to remain open and entertaining, not be closed or become a shell of what it can be !

I have always found the management warm and welcoming and they're a massive asset to our little town . Please don't drive people with that sort of drive away!! We need them to keep this town going

I hope you consider all the town when you make your decision

203. Sammi Brooks

I am in full support of the Black Bear, Tewkesbury. The time, money, effort and commitment by Luke and his team in creating a warm, welcoming pub that has once again become the soul of the town is exactly what has been needed, the pub has a brilliant atmosphere and caters to all walks of life, families, young adults, older adults ect.

The music events that have been held at the Bear have been hugely successful, you only need to look at Tewkesbury live and how many people the pub drew in to see this! I myself travel from Evesham to regularly visit and enjoy a catch up with family in the pub!

The bear is a large part of Tewkesbury's history being the oldest pub in Gloucestershire why would you as the town council want to take this landmark pub away!?! Particularly as it is adding to the community of the town!

The pub has been renovated in a beautiful way bringing the old into the new more modern world whilst protecting all of its character, the residents of Tewkesbury were eagerly awaiting its re opening and to see what was happening behind the scenes often the talk of town. Taking away licences will massively impact the pub in so many negative ways, financially being the biggest, potentially forcing the doors closed, the community will loose out on a beautiful piece of history once again, a large social aspect of the town will be lost and lastly I believe a large majority of Tewkesbury town would be so disappointed in its own council for doing so!

Please take note of the support and allow the Bear to keep trading and hold onto their licences! Look at the amount of positives coming from your community and feedback.

204. Tim Favell

Awesome pub, well fitting in the high street, catering for all with enough space to be friendly yet personal. Having visited on a number of occasions, I and my family enjoy the waterfront location selection of drinks and friendly atmosphere. The pub is well located and enhances the town with people having a great experience in the pub and recommending others do like wise.

I will visit again for sure!

205. Andy Joe

It has been brought to my attention that certain restrictions will be placed on the Landlord of the Black Bear Public House Tewkesbury regarding the conditions of the licence.

I often work at this establishment on an ad hoc but frequent basis as a door supervisor on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Usually, there are two door supervisors on duty on these evenings. This is a very friendly establishment that's both the staff and the customers there is little or no incidents.

Under the direction of Luke, the Landlord, we ensure a presence that seeks to assist all of the clientele politely. So that they all can enjoy a drink and a social evening out safely. My colleagues and I successfully carry out these duties, including noise management. All patrons from the smoking patio area are politely ushered inside the premises by 11 pm. After 11 pm, only customers wishing to smoke are allowed onto the patio without drinks. The door staff police this.

We also provide a duty of care for any patrons directly inside and outside the vicinity of the premises. We know that two busy roads flank the premises and the bridge over the river. My concern is that if patrons are ushered outside onto the pavement prematurely, there would be an increase in the risk of both potential road traffic collisions and increased noise levels.

I know that the Landlord and staff regularly monitor the noise levels with a noise meter.

Please also note that when there is live music, the exterior doors and windows remain closed to ensure the noise levels remain acceptable.

I would also like to add that I have often visited the Black Bear on a social basis with my wife, and I always find it to be a pleasant, friendly, welcoming peaceful establishment.

206. Martin Steptoe

In support of the Black Bear current premises licence.

I dare say the amount of time, effort, and no small sum of money, that have been put into this business was on the premis of abiding by plans and guidance set out by the council and licensing authority. You can't just change the goal posts because someone is offended by something, this is for the majority of Tewkesbury people not the few.

The Black Bear is far from a public nuisance, in fact a gem of the Tewkesbury community, catering for young and old alike, and has done so for hundreds of years.

A good selection of beers, freshly cooked food to order, great entertainment, music/ quiz nights, and a warm friendly atmosphere.

There is no argument for this change.

The joy this pub brings to friends, family and the community as a whole. The Tewkesbury live music festival was unbelievable. To see that many people out in Tewkesbury, in the black bear beer garden having fun together was so good to see. It is the best venue in town. Since opening the events they have put on have encouraged people back out. Myself and my wife tend to prefer to stay in as do many of our groups of friends however the black bear has brought us together in the pub having fun creating memories. Long may it continue.

207. Jo Danter

In my opinion since the Bear reopened its breathed new life into the town. Other pubs seem busier its refreshing to see pubs busling again and a buzz about the town.

The events they put on have been fantastic and I've never seen any trouble.

I agree there needs to be conditions in place to protect local residents I.e. no live music after a certain time, no movement / delivery of goods between certain times.

Please work together to make this work. Tewkesbury has a treasure we need to keep for the people of Tewkesbury to use and be proud of.

208. Justine Atkin

I feel very strongly that the black bear pub has become critical to our towns economy and society.

After walking in for the first time, I felt the time and commitment that had be made to the place to bring it back to life. The owner was seen talking to customers from the off and talking g about all the work they have put in. There is plenty of TLC shown in the pub around. Things like the glass floor that shows the old cellar, lovingly restored beams and a nod to the outside space that beckons you to the river. Beautifully updated in a modern way.

The effort of the black bear to encourage street food venders that allow customers to experience a variety of cuisine and also give back to those businesses is also

Admirable.

I am not someone who would normally venture into the town as there was not a friendly and welcoming pub that made me feel safe. But the black bear had created that friendly and safe atmosphere that makes me want to go out.

I totally appreciate some of the parking issues that have been raised but those issues should be turned into a positive. The black bear is bringing the life and soul back to our high street. Giving people a place they really want go to and making that end of town much more beautiful. Quite clearly people who live next to a pub are going to hear people enjoying themselves, see cars parked outside and experience a little more noise. But that must beat a high street with no soul. Please keep the black bear open and let them help to keep the life and soul in our town. Other entrepreneurs could follow suite and develop the town further.

More people like the owners of the black bear would really benefit our town.

209. Charlotte Moreland

I am sending this email in support of the Black Bear for their license review.

It has been a pub for hundreds of years, and now to consider the revoke of this is astonishing.

The black bear is now a destination in the town, creating jobs and supported the much need tourist activity and has also been sim pathetically renovated in a way that upholds its significant history and attracts people from outside our town.

I wanted to provide the full support of both myself and extended family (30 plus people who live here) on this matter who feel quite passionately that this pub remain open, for the town!

210. Steve Haines

I am writing to express my full support for the Black Bear.

A group of us are, ironically, planning to visit the pubs of Tewkesbury within the next few days, mainly to visit this amazing building once again.

Tewkesbury needs these wonderful buildings and popular venues to bring life into the Town.

You don't move to a Town for tranquility - that's what villages and Countryside are for and are (rightly) so well protected for such living standards.

There are eight of us (so far) planning to visit from Gloucester this coming week, and we will sign any petition you have in support of the business

Let's hope common sense prevails!!

211. Lorraine Watts

This pub has bought Tewkesbury alive!!! They cater for all ages and families. Good food good music and an awesome pub. Not only have we been waiting for years for it to reopen, it's the oldest inn in Gloucestershire. They have worked so hard and spent so much money to bring it back to life. To close this pub because of music is an absolute outrage. It's a high street and all the pubs have regular music. It has bought so many people to our town as it is so recommended to our friends and family who don't live in the area, who in turn support all the other local shops and businesses. To target and single out one pub will have massive implications if it's shut. Residents know a pub brings together people and shouldn't move into the middle of a town if they want peace and quiet. If this pub is shut say goodbye to the respect of the Tewkesbury people!!!!

212. Chris Hughes

I am writing as a former resident of Tewkesbury and also a singer of a band who are based in Tewkesbury.

We feel the reopening of the Black Bear after years of dereliction has had a real positive impact on the town. We visited during Tewkesbury live and we have played there in September and both times the pub has been busy with a great atmosphere. The pub is known to be the oldest in the town and was definitely there before the residents moved in to their houses.

Personally I live in Fairford and the noise of the air base there, particularly during Royal International Air Tattoo means there is some disruption but then I knew that when I moved there! The point of that is, the residents also knew there would be a nightlife when they moved next to the town centre.

As a musician, it is really difficult to find good venues to play music and to have a venue like the Black Bear is invaluable to try and make a living. To close it or to change the licence would have a huge impact on the town, particularly in the evening/night time.

I feel you need a serious reconsideration of your decision to review the licence for the sake of the people of Tewkesbury. It's already a town that's struggling during the day!

213. Christina Mundie

I'm writing to you in support of the licence to the Black Bear in Tewkesbury.

Since the Black Bear has opened, I have been utilising it in many different ways, firstly I'm a proud Mother to a 9 year old girl and a little pug, we utilise the bear to drop in for a hot drink and a cake after a walk around Tewkesbury with family and friends. I'm very proud to show the Bear off as it is steeped in history and it ties into the other historical sites around the town. I've also pointed tourists to the Black Bear when they are walking around! It really is such a lovely space for both families, tourists, walkers, music lovers and those who just like to catch up for a drink either daily, at the weekends and for special events.

To have the Black Bear close would be detrimental to the town, it brings a lot of positive things to the town and outweighs any negatives by far.

Please keep this amazing, family orientated and quirky pub in our town :)

214. Cllr Sue Mitchell (ARPC)

The beautifully restored Black Bear public House in the high street Tewkesbury is now a real asset to the town

It is a meeting place where people can meet and enjoy being together and entertained in a cozy environment that is both the old and the new extremely aesthetically brought back to life after a long time of being a real blot on the landscape

These places should be encouraged and not thwarted by locals that don't agree with the goings on in the town.

Please think extremely carefully when deliberating your decision.

215. Leon Mills

Please do not close the black bear the pub has given so much joy and a lot for charity this be a shame to see it closed. Maybe guide them about noise maybe the best option.

216. Ania Bachorz

Tewkesbury is a very small town. Which lacks places like Black Bear Bar. This place allows us to spend nice time with larger groups of friends. The bar is very clean and large. You can see that the owner of the bar put a lot of heart into it. The service is very nice, the whole family is happy to come to the bar. We have been to the bar several times and noticed that the owner and the bar staff do everything they can to reduce the noise, e.g. by closing doors, windows and acoustic curtains. Living in a city, we always have to take into account more noise because there is always more traffic on the

road or in pubs or bars. I don't think that the noise caused by the Bar is very bothersome for the residents. I hope the Bar won't close!

217. Jason Game

It is really disappointing to hear that a review of a premises license of the black bear in Tewkesbury has been issued.

I have visited the Black Bear a few times since reopening and it is fantastic. Everyone is talking about it, it has created a buzz around the town and it must be helped to succeed.

The now owners of this amazing and historic building (who I do not know), have done a better job than anyone could of imagined to get the pub renovated and reopened and it is a feature Tewkesbury can be so proud to have in its town.

If this business is forced to close, then I think this sets a really frightening future for Tewkesbury. Who would want to invest in a town that doesn't support any new business, especially one that has looked after one of our famous buildings so well.

Hopefully the correct decision will be made.

218. Peter Hobbs

I am writing to you in support of the Black Bear and how disappointed I was to learn that their license is under review. The Black Bear has bought a new lease of life to Tewkesbury town centre and brought much needed money into the town.

It attracts many people from outside of Tewkesbury and provides a high level of quality and service.

The owners have spent years turning a shell of a building into something all Tewkesbury residents can be proud of and enjoy. In the short time they have been open they have provided first class entertainment and I for one hope it will continue for many more years to come.

It also provides much needed employment for great number of local people.

219. Matthew Scott

Hi, the black bear needs to keep its full license and the access to the outdoor area. This pub has been here as a public house longer than any resident of Tewkesbury has been alive. It would be sad for a minority to cause the loss of an iconic Tewkesbury venue that is loved by the masses.

220. Alfie Jobbins

I would like to share my support for our wonderful black bear. Ever since it has opened the community has thrived.

The amount of time, money and work that has gone into opening this pub again is incredible. They really have created a space for the community to enjoy a drink and lots of fantastic local talents have been able to play Infront of Tewkesbury.

Please don't forget that this building is Gloucestershire's oldest inn. This building was one of the first buildings in Tewkesbury and is a massive part of Tewkesbury heritage. It is massively important to keep this alive. This building was here long before any houses.

I am all to support this amazing venue. The staff have all worked so hard to create such a warm and welcoming pub.

Please let this continue.

221. Marc Richards

I have recently seen that the Black Bear in Tewkesbury is at risk of closure and is subject to a review.

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the Black Bear pub in Tewkesbury. As a member of the community who has had the pleasure of experiencing the warm atmosphere and community spirit that the Black Bear offers, I believe it plays an invaluable role in the local area.

The recent renovation and subsequent reopening of the Black Bear earlier this year have brought about a newfound sense of vibrancy and positivity to our neighbourhood. The efforts put into rejuvenating this establishment have not only enhanced its aesthetic appeal but have also contributed significantly to the local economy and social fabric.

The Black Bear is more than just a pub; it's a cornerstone of our community. It provides a welcoming space for residents and visitors alike, fostering a sense of camaraderie and connection that is increasingly rare in today's society. The pub's existence is pivotal in maintaining the fabric of our community and creating a sense of belonging for many.

While I acknowledge the concerns about noise levels and operating hours, it's important to balance these concerns with the immense value the Black Bear brings to our community. With proper dialogue and potential adjustments, I believe a compromise can be reached that addresses the concerns of nearby residents while still allowing the Black Bear to continue operating with its current license.

I urge the council to consider the overwhelmingly positive impact the Black Bear has on our community and to support its continued operation under its current licensing. It's crucial to preserve this establishment and the social hub it represents for all of us.

222. Graham Wright

I am horrified to learn that the Black Bear's license is being reviewed. After massive investment, and with outstanding entrepreneurial flair, the owners of the Black Bear have created a real community hub, and entertainment centre for all of us in Tewkesbury. It has been such a success that attracts people from miles around, and thus brings precious resources to the town. The Black Bear is what a modern pub should be – inclusive, engaging, and creative in its offerings. It supports local artists and caterers, as well as playing a thoughtful and sensitive role in the community – as evidenced by its room for old people to meet on a Tuesday, and its offering veterans free drinks on Remembrance Sunday. Furthermore, the owners have shown great consideration to the people across the river by clearing the garden at 10:30pm each night, and not allowing people on the open balcony after this time either.

To change the pub's licensing arrangements now would be massive retrograde step just as the town is recovering from the impact of COVID and the economic down turn – and would discourage investment and enterprise in Tewkesbury. I urge you to encourage not repress business in general, and the Black Bear in particular.

223. Shahnaz Ahmed

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the potential changes in the licensing of the Black Bear. This establishment has been a cornerstone in our Tewkesbury community, exemplifying exceptional entrepreneurial spirit through substantial investment and innovation. The Black Bear has evolved into more than just a pub; it's a vibrant community hub and an entertainment center that draws visitors from afar, contributing significantly to our local economy.

Additionally, the owners have demonstrated acute awareness and respect for our community, notably by managing the garden area and balcony usage to minimize disturbance to residents across the river.

Revising the licensing terms for the Black Bear at this juncture, would be a regressive move. It would not only impact this esteemed establishment but also potentially deter future investment and enterprise in Tewkesbury. I strongly advocate for the support and encouragement of businesses like the Black Bear, which play a crucial role in the fabric of our community.

224. Gregory Wigg, Tewkesbury Direct

Reference, to the review of the premises licence for The Olde Black Bear public house, Tewkesbury.

It is clear, the restoration and reopening of this endangered public house has, more than, significantly helped, to change, the financial fortunes of Tewkesbury.

The reopening has regenerated the northern, formerly, not very busy, part of the high street, bringing with it, new, passing custom to businesses in that area, testimonial evidence, I have available, if needed.

The town is thriving, albeit, against a background of the cost of living crisis, the investment spent by the owners of The Olde Black Bear has added significantly, not only to the prosperity, but to the health of the community it serves.

The events, put on by the business have drawn custom to the town, the owners have pledged to work through the issues to be addressed, this should lead to a harmonious future with those that reside nearby.

With that intent in mind, I ask you to give your support.

225. Simon Bicknell

Following a fabulous and no expense spared refurbishment it would be an absolute tragedy if this iconic premises were to be lost to the Town and indeed the County and surrounding Counties.

The building itself must surely be of great historical value to the area and must be allowed to provide a service to the community and not finish up as an ignored museum piece.

PLEASE DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN.

226. Teresa and Glenn Parker

I'm writing to support the retention of the above license. I am not a local as live in Moreton Glos ,but have been to the Bear on many occasions since it opened to meet my sister who is local. We are an older couple and feel comfortable and happy there. This is because it's a fantastically important , well managed and great venue with live music and great pop up eateries.

Before the arrival of the Bear my sister used to come across to my town or we would go elsewhere out of the area. So the Bear has provided us with a really nice destination in the town and added to the overall atmosphere and sense of history of the town. It is independently owned, a historic building and the staff team incredibly well trained and professional.

I hope that Tewkesbury Council and JPs will support the continuation of this great Tewkesbury destination for us. It would be sad for the town if they cannot find a way to keep it open. With thanks.

227. Lisa White

I am writing today regarding the Olde Black Bear Tewkesbury and the Notice of application for a review of a premises licence.

I would like to add my support for the Olde Black Bear Public House and for the continuation of their licence. I was born and bred in Tewkesbury (having lived 43 of my 57 years here) and for the whole of my lifetime the "Black Bear" has been a feature, a landmark, a place of memories and part of the very fabric of Tewkesbury life and history.

This establishment is providing a high quality venue for live music in Tewkesbury and without such premises as this, the opportunity for people to play and perform and for local people to have opportunities to listen and enjoy music for free will be hugely impacted. It is important to ensure that the community is protected from nuisance however I feel that there must be a compromise available in this situation.

I have returned to visit and play at the Olde Black Bear since it reopened after its extensive renovation. I have been impressed by the property, the environment and the measures they have taken to manage sound within the building. The loss of this premises for live music will be a great loss for current and future local musicians.

Tewkesbury has lost several pubs, cafes, shops and businesses over the years and the thought that the "Black Bear" could be added to this sad list of despair is pretty much unthinkable.

I hope you look kindly upon this situation and a positive outcome can be achieved for all those involved.

228. David Price

Please add my name in objecting strongly to the potential removal of licence for the Black Bear Tewkesbury.

This is one of Gloucestershire's oldest Inns which was in danger of closure and redundancy until responsibility was taken by the current owner who has spent huge amounts of time and money creating what will become a major benefit to Tewkesbury's tourist trade.

I assume that complaints have been made regarding excess noise from events held at the Black Bear

but these can surely be addressed in a sensible way without a beauracatic heavy hand.

I urge the council to reconsider this drastic action.

229. Paul Lincoln

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the establishment of "The Black Bear" Pub in our community. Pubs play a vital role in fostering a sense of community and providing a space for social interaction.

"The Black Bear" not only promises to be a welcoming place for residents but also has the potential to contribute positively to the local economy. It can become a hub for social gatherings, fostering a sense of unity among Tewksbury residents.

I believe that responsible businesses like "The Black Bear" enhance the character of our town and provide a venue for diverse community events. The presence of such establishments contributes to the overall well-being of our community.

I urge the council to consider the positive impact that "The Black Bear" Pub can have on Tewksbury and to support its establishment in our vibrant town.

230. Penny Farmer

I am writing to you in support of NOT revoking the licence of Ye Olde Black Bear in Tewkesbury. It is an historic pub, the oldest one in Glos and the owner has spent a fortune on restoring it.

It is a tourist attraction and heritage site.

PLEASE DO NOT REVOKE THEIR LICENCE.

231. Jack Taylor

I attended the black bear as part of the tewkesbury music festival. I couldn't believe how nice it was inside after the renovation. Additionally, I couldn't believe how busy and vibrant it was. The stage in the garden had some amazing bands perform (at moderate volume). I was able to easily talk to people standing next to me. Which is rare to say when compared to The Anchor and The Albion!!! A venue of this quality with the popularity that it now has is rare in this day and should be wholeheartedly encouraged!!

232. Catherine Wheeler

The black bear needs to stay open. It's not the pubs fault that a minority of people struggle to be quiet when drunk. I have waited years for this renovation to be completed so I can frequent the pub again. It's the best place in Tewkesbury to have a drink and enjoy the atmosphere. The pub has been there long before the people living in the houses/flat surrounding it.

Dont live next to a pub if the kickout noise or the sound of people enjoying themselves bothers you.

More people cause a nausense during the mop fair and that still happens every year.

233. Zoe Lockey

I am writing to you to express my concerns that The Olde Black Bear's licence is currently under review.

I have lived in Tewksbury and seeing the pub brought back to life in the way it has been is absolutely amazing.

The workmanship put into the building is incredible and the pub will now stand for hundreds of years to come thanks to this. It is a very important building and without being saved it would have crumbled to the ground. This is why I implore you to not let petty neighbours risk this pub closing its doors.

I have family that live in a house very close to The Bear and to begin with they were very happy and impressed with what had been done. But unfortunately one person begins complaining and they all jump on the band wagon.

What should be happening is these neighbours thanking the owners for taking the pub from an eyesore to a beautiful building that they can look on to everyday. If they put their homes on the market, when a buyer comes along to look they won't be put off by a tatty looking building in front of them. Instead they can see a great future local.

Instead they have seemingly taken it upon themselves to try and tear apart the hard work of others because they had six years of the pub being closed and quiet. Clearly they got used to that and instead of embracing the pub they chose to buy a house next to and enjoying it, they prefer to moan until the pub is closed.

I know this first hand as I have had many a battled conversation with my family members over this. I can assure you it's all very jealous, petty, bitter reasons why they want this to happen, not a genuine concern that affects their mental wellbeing in any sense of the word.

When my one family member is in bed by 9 every evening I can't really see how their lives are being effected to such an extent they feel the need to resort to complaining to the council.

Please consider your decision on this matter very carefully, you could be closing a business, taking jobs from hard working people, and taking a big part of the town away once again.

Many thanks for taking the time to read.

234. John Dixon

I am saddened to learn that you have complaints about the wonderfully restored Black Bear. The owner Luke has done it with such skill, determination and consideration that he deserves to be allowed to make this historic building earns its keep for the long term.

I would like to see all the complaints so as a citizen - who does not inhabit pubs except on occasions - I can come to a conclusion. As far as I can gather, the main complaint is about inconsiderate parking. That would be the fault of customers and the authorities who do not enforce laws about public safety. The Inn had been there since 1348 and is hardly at fault. There is ample free parking a short walk away in the Oldbury and customers should be directed thus.

I ask the licensing authorities, therefore, to work with Luke and ensure that his pub can operate for the long term without complaint.

235. Tom Marlow

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my support for the Black Bear Pub on the riverside in Tewkesbury, particularly in light of recent public nuisance complaints that may jeopardise its licensing status.

The Black Bear Pub stands as one of the oldest and most iconic establishments in the UK, holding a special place in the hearts of locals and visitors alike. It has not only witnessed the passage of time but has been an integral part of Tewkesbury's rich cultural heritage. The recent restoration of the

pub, after falling into disrepair, stands as a testament to the commitment of its owners to preserve this historical landmark at considerable expense.

I am aware of the public nuisance complaints that have been raised, and I want to emphasise the positive aspects of the Black Bear Pub that contribute significantly to the community and its character. The restoration of the pub has not only revitalized a historic site but has also enhanced the visual appeal of the riverside area. This meticulous restoration demonstrates a commitment to maintaining the cultural and architectural integrity of Tewkesbury.

Furthermore, the Black Bear Pub has been a source of economic stimulus for the area. Its presence attracts both locals and tourists, fostering a vibrant atmosphere that benefits neighbouring businesses. The economic impact should not be understated, as the pub plays a crucial role in supporting local employment and contributing to the overall prosperity of the community.

I understand that concerns have been raised about public nuisance issues associated with the pub. Instead of revoking the license, I would like to propose a collaborative approach to addressing these concerns. Working closely with the pub owners and relevant authorities to implement measures such as increased monitoring, staff training, and enhanced community engagement could help strike a balance between addressing public nuisance concerns and preserving this valuable asset to the community.

In conclusion, I urge the Tewkesbury Borough Council to consider the broader positive contributions of the Black Bear Pub to the community, both culturally and economically, before making any decisions regarding its licensing status. I believe that a collaborative effort to address concerns can ensure the continued success and positive impact of this historic establishment and Tewkesbury town at large.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

236. Patricia Martin

Surely The license being taken away from the Lovely old Black Bear cant be true. It is a fantastic venue for Tewkesbury and best pub in Tewkesbury. The owners have worked so hard to bring it back to glory and now this. If people dont like noise then why did they buy a property near a pub??? Its been there for hundreds of years so obviously been there first!

237. Neil Allies

I understand that the Black Bear licence is currently under review. Pubs, especially traditional pubs with such heritage as the Black Bear, are a fundamental part of British culture. At a time when pubs are struggling it is disappointing that a succesful pub, a business that benefits the majority of the local community, is being put at risk of closure. The pub is within the town centre where any reasonable person would expect there to be some noise associated with that. As the licence has only now come under particular scrutiny it is assumed it is based on recent objections. It would be a shame if the NIMBY attitudes of the complainants hold enough sway that it leads to the ultimate closure of such a fantastic establishment. As a local music fan I would be disappointed to lose not only a lovely, historic pub, but also a fantastic music venue that supports local acts at a time when many venues are becoming unavailable. The programme of music they put on at the Tewkesbury festival alone is testament to their invaluable support in this area. I trust that the voices of the many hold more sway than the voices of the (permanently offended) few. It never fails to amaze me that

people move near to pubs and then complain about the noise. I trust common sense will prevail in this matter and the Black Bear licence is retained. #savethebear.

238. Julia Rawlings

I am writing to give my support to keeping the Black Bear Licence. The new owners have gone above and beyond in bringing a pub that was derelict and beautiful building back into operation and it has brought the community of Tewkesbury and surrounding area together. It would be the envy of any town.

239. Amanda Barton

The Black Bear has brought such wonderful interest to Tewksbury. The entire restoration is absolutely stunning . My family and I live in Gloucester , we come over to socialise regularly . When we come we shop in town and visit the Roses theatre. Occasionally we stay overnight so we can access live music. Our money isn't just being spent at the Bear but across the whole town. To those who have made complaints , when you choose to live near a town centre you cannot expect a quiet life. There will always be noise from traffic and businesses.

I hope common sense will prevail.

240. Alan Lewis

Admiral Benbow, Barrel Inn, Chequers, Coach & Horses, Duke of Wellington Inn, Duke of York, Farriers Arms, Fleece Inn, George, King's Head Inn, Mason Arms, Nelson Inn, Oddfellows Arms, Quart Pot Inn, Railway Inn, Shakespeare Inn, Star & Garter, Star Inn, Swan Hotel, Tracy Arms, Wheatsheaf, White Bear, White Lion. What do all of these names have in common?
They are a list of Tewkesbury's lost pubs.

But one such establishment has stood the test of time. Since 1308 the Black Bear has served the town's residents and many travellers that have passed through. This establishment has survived everything including fire, plague, wars and more.
It is an institution of our town and its history.

The suggestion that a complaint that the pub is a "public nuisance" should be the thing that ends its long life as a pub is vandalism of a kind that is on par with the recent felling of the Sycamore Gap Tree. Our town's history is a tremendous asset, not just for our community but for the country and the world at large. Much of that history is already at risk.

As one of Tewkesbury resident's that grew up in the town and has long loved studying, learning, and writing about the town's history I honestly cannot believe that I am having to write this letter at all but I must implore you to rule against the review into the establishment's licence.

The Black Bear's recent restoration work has been a true triumph for the town and is one of a number of true steps forward for our town. It would be a genuine tragedy to see worthwhile and meaningful investments in our town that benefit our community punished - and thus deterring other such investments in the future.

Please do the right thing and safeguard the future of our town's history.

241. Tom Sallis

I am saddened by the news of the black bear having their license reviewed and think it's extremely unfair and unjust.

Since the black bear re opened in June it has been the talking point of the town and has even brought many people into the town, luke and his team have worked extremely hard and spend a great sum of money to restore and re open the oldest pub In Gloucestershire and it brings a great community atmosphere with it.

I work in a nearby barbershop and not a single person has a bad word to say about the pub and that makes me think that this opinion must be of such a small amount of miserable people who seemingly hate any kind of fun.

I'm 23, and much like most people my around my age, before now there hasn't been anywhere sufficient to see friends in town and have a social drink.

Go back a couple of years during lockdown we were worried pubs and restaurants would have to close which is why the eat out to help out was introduced.. now you're trying to shut this facility down? Support local businesses was the term used.

I personally don't understand the review ESPECIALLY stating that they have failed to prevent public nuisance? As far as I'm aware there has been little to no trouble come from the pub, unlike certain other pubs nearby.

I hope you have the towns best interests at heart in regards to keeping the bear open.

242. James Archer

This is such an historic building and pub that plays a vital role in the local community and economy. Yes it can be noisy and disruptive, but that is because it is such a success. It is the responsibility of the local council to remove bad parking and police to deal with in responsible drinking not the black bear. Please save this pub. Too many hours have been lost.

243. David Millington

I am writing regarding the pending review of the licence of The Black Bear Tewksbury. Although I do not live in the area the threat of closure of a pub that has been trading since 1308 is unpalatable.

I live directly opposite a pub. We get cars parked across our drive, noise, and occasional Anti-social behaviour but the pub was here when I moved 25 years ago and I would not dream of complaining. We have a very good relationship with the pub and if there is additional noise anticipated from functions etc they tell us.

Please consider the history and heritage of this venue and don't spoil it by refusing a licence because some people, who likely never use the venue and are just passing through as we all are, have complained.

244. Suzanne Allen

I am writing in support of the Black Bear in Tewkesbury and the retention of its licence, with licence conditions that allow it to continue as public house, eating establishment and viable business

The Black Bear is incredibly special to me and to many other in the town. Not only is the building rich in history, it's current impact and social importance is vital to the town.

A social hub for Tewkesbury, the Black Bear has been a port of call for the residents of Tewkesbury, and those who visit, a rite of passage for those leaving school, a point of reunion for those of us (of any age) who come back to visit at Christmas or new year's or in the summer, many relationships have started with a drink at the bar, and many Tewkesbury families have grown as a result of those unions. And, those families come back to the black bear to celebrate birthdays of young and old, to sit and drink and eat by the river, to listen to the music of the town, and participate with its events. The Black Bear welcomes all and the town welcomes it. It is the beating heart of the town and has been as long as it has stood. It is full of the memories of the people of Tewkesbury.

The new(ish) owner and the changes that have been made have been incredibly positive, and it's been amazing to see it open again. Especially its support of local talent (music and food).

So beloved is this public house that I still travel from my new home in Exeter to visit the pub. I was proud to show my now husband the Black Bear when I first met him. And, tell lots of people about the leather ceiling. It is a meeting point for my family and friends still. And, for many others.

So, to renew this licence is to renew the people of Tewkesbury.

245. Jane Harris

The black bear is a shining example of restoration sensitively done in order to maintain the beautiful building and history as an icon of the town.

To close the bear as it begins its new and vibrant life as a key venue in tewkesbury would be criminal.

The pub is the best of tewkesbury.. historical. Beautiful and full of friendly social locals.

Even considering closure seems ludicrous when the town is dwindling and getting people to come for leisure and wellbeing is desirable.

Please don't let this happen to our town!

246. Cathy Instone

I was horrified to hear that the black bear might be closed. We have waited so long for it to open and it is such a friendly well kept place. I do not believe there is any danger of nuisance from the Black Bear premises and would certainly support the continuation of their licence.

247. Spencer Instone

I do not believe there is any danger of nuisance from the Black Bear premises and would certainly support their licence application.

248. Amy Everitt

I am writing to express my support of the Black Bear and its current license.

I do not see this establishment in any form as a public nuisance, quite to the contrary, it is a place of unity for many locals and visitors to experience Tewkesbury's history and enjoy entertainment.

The Black Bear is a landmark of the town for many people and since opening has provided a hub of vibrant activity for locals and visitors alike. It brings money into the town and it also provides a place where locals can go and socialise and also enjoy the picturesque surroundings the town has to offer.

I do not believe it to be a public nuisance, but an essential service in the community to provide food, drink, entertainment and a place to socialise. In my opinion, to change the licensing would be detrimental to all the Black Bear stands for.

249. Mary Bateman

I fully support the Bear. It's an amazing addition to Tewkesbury and I know for a fact people travel in from outside to listen to the bands.

I live in Priors Norton, GL2 9LS.

Please help this pub.

250. Sarah Callaby

The Black Bear has had a very tasteful refurbishment and the place looks stunning. It caters for all ages and is also dog friendly.

The food stands and music have been a very welcome addition to Tewkesbury and well overdue.

The staff are all very friendly and we have thoroughly enjoyed visiting the place over the last few months.

I support them in keeping their current licence and would be a huge loss to the town if they do not.

251. Aura Frost

I am writing in support of the black bear in Tewksbury

We travel from Coventry every weekend to Tewksbury to see the amazing people around the town and especially in the black bear

Such a welcoming place with great music drinks and atmosphere

The black bear is an amazing asset to Tewksbury and a credit to the community

252. Robert Ellis

The Bear had been closed for years. The present owners have put a great deal of time and money into bringing the establishment back into order and almost certainly saving its complete loss to the town. It is a compliment to the present owners that it has become an overnight success since it's reopening. I've travelled from Worcester several times this year to enjoy its riverside location and enjoy the good food and beer on offer. I've also started shopping in the town while I've been there where I normally wouldn't travel to Tewkesbury from Worcester to do any kind of shopping.

I think the Bear has become a victim of its own success and I have witnessed the congestion caused by the reopening of the pub largely caused by inconsiderate people parking on the bridge.

I think revoking the pubs licence would be a great loss to the town and a tragedy for the owners who have ploughed a great deal of time and money into saving the place from almost certain death.

The council could introduce parking restrictions on the bridge (it's a daft place for anyone to park anyway) and that would help ease the congestion.

This ancient pub must be left to serve the community as it has done for hundreds of years. To force its closure because of a few inconsiderate people and a handful of NIMBY's would be a great loss for the town and its people.

Let's hope those who are responsible for these make or break decisions are persuaded to help these businesses in difficult times rather than destroy them.

253. Sarah Woods

I write to strongly support The Black Bear freehouse in Tewkesbury to remain open.

This business and its owners have brought much needed life and revenue to a stunningly restored historic building following many years of painful, slow, costly and caring restoration.

They've worked alongside council officers and have massively succeeded in bringing back to our historical high street a thriving freehouse offering locals and visitors a wide range of foods, beverages and entertainment whilst supporting group meetings and social interaction.

Tewkesbury is ancient town much in need of a up turn on trade, visitors and Atmosphere. Quite frankly, compared to the dismal efforts of our Borough and Town councils to re-brand the town, the Black Bear has accomplished more to this end, in the few months it's been open than the many ineffectual ideas over the years.

As a town we've lost regular annual events e. g the river festival, which have now allowed private enterprise such as Tewkesbury Big Weekend (yes, they may be TBC supported but it's the people who make it happen) to develop and become successful regular events.

The Black Bear is an example of this enterprise. The Oktoberfest was terrific.

Compromise might be key here.

These extremely hard working owners and their team of staff must be allowed and encouraged to continue with their energy, enthusiasm and focus in running our beautiful Black Bear as a historic, community, music, meeting, eating, greeting, hosting, tourist attraction freehouse

254. Nick Matthews

The Refurbishment and reopening of the Black Bear is by far the best thing to happen in Tewkesbury for years.

Please consider this when reviewing the licence.

By withdrawing the licence you will make people unemployed, remove a tourist attraction and deprive many local residents of a pub they love.

255. Lisa Elwes

I have lived in Tewkesbury my whole 44 years of life, along with my family.

The Black Bear has always been the heart and soul of Tewkesbury. Many of us have spent memorable times over the years in that pub and was very saddened when it closed. The community could not wait for it to open and remained patient knowing what a great job was being done.

The owners have brought the life and soul back in to Tewkesbury since it has opened and have done an acceptional job at renovating it. They've done themselves and the town proud!

They have security which keeps us all safe and sound. It has also created lots of jobs and wonderful staff, plus a wonderful range of dishes to offer from local businesses!!!

The Black Bear has been the heart longer than any of its residents. It has always been a pub.

The wonders of CHOOSING to live in town is to be a great part of what Historical Tewkesbury offers and to enjoy.

We are surrounded by beautiful countryside for those who prefer the quiet life!

If this pub ever closes then it will leave a great black cloud over the town and ruin what many people take pleasure in visiting.

It was ever so popular during Tewkesbury live along with all the other pubs taking part.

It will be a huge mistake if ever this pub closes as it did with many of the others that once stood here.

SAVE THE BLACK BEAR!!!! THIS TOWN NEEDS AND WANTS THIS PUB TO REMAIN OPEN!!!! IT BRINGS HIGH SPIRITS TO THIS TOWN!!

256. Stephanie Bunt

As a family growing up in Tewkesbury we have lived through our teens into adult life with the Black bear being an enjoyable pub we've visited for many years but since it's reopening we have never had as much fun with Tewkesbury live, October fest and live bands it has a great atmosphere, great management and seasonal events that's have brought so much joy and happiness.

I'm afraid to say it but the pub is the oldest in Tewkesbury, it's a piece of history was built and ran way before the houses nearby and if residents buy a home near to town and pubs they surely understand the noise will be greater than living in a quiet neighbourhood and the bear shouldn't be at risk because of this.

Entertainment is always moved in doors at later hours so respectful to residents nearby I don't think they have done anything wrong but try to bring good vibes to our town and that we have had!

Please think of the management and the staff who have worked so hard to create a beautiful pub again please don't take their licence away please think of the town otherwise we will be at risk of becoming a ghost town!

Please save the bear!!

257. Richard Woolley

I will support the Bear in resisting these pathetic complaints. As one chap says - if you buy a place close to a big pub, it is inevitable and wholly foreseeable that there will be a certain amount of noise in excess of what might be expected if the pub was not there.

I'll bet the cottagers were complaining 500 years ago when the lutist was a bit too heavy on the strings and the wailing of the sackbuts and thumping of the drums a bit penetrating during renditions of the latest hit, Sumer is a' cumin in.

All best

Richard Woolley

(I live in Cheltenham but visit Gravel Walk at the back of the Roses weekly. We hear nothing down there. Turn it up a bit so that we can all join in!)

258. David Grange

The Black Bear is without a doubt the best thing that has happened to Tewkesbury is a very long time
It's by far the best quality public space in the town.

It's a welcome, safe place for all ages and backgrounds and serves as a hub for cultural Tewkesbury

Personally I use it for private and business meetings, as well as evening entertainment.

It brings me into Tewkesbury possibly twice as much as I did before it opened

I will chose to visit the town over another simply because of this pub

The risk of closure due to this licence review is such a shame

The town needs the Black Bear!

259. Edward Holford

This public house provides a valuable public service to the infrastructure of Tewkesbury both locally
and a wider area and supports the Tewkesbury borough and national governments warm spaces
policy.

Local residents must have been aware of the presence of this public amenity when they moved
there.

An amount of noise is not unreasonable.

260. Sharon Smail

Please, please look on this licence review favourably. The black bear is a long awaited amazing
community hub. We are very proud to have this venue in Tewkesbury, having moved here two years
ago from London. We live just behind the Albion which also stages live events and actually love
sitting in our garden and listening to the happy sounds drifting over the evening summer breeze.

Live events are not staged every night but at weekends. It has given much needed employment and
showcased many aspiring artists. I am proud to take visiting friends and relatives there and show off
the jewel in the crown of this wonderful town. It attracts clientele who would not normally frequent
the local pub and we have now made it the venue of a regular night out with our new neighbours,
thus cementing community ties.

Surely there must be a compromise for the aggrieved complainants residing in the vicinity?

261. Clare Danter

I sent an email earlier, but there were a couple of things I felt I missed. (email received from Luke –
cannot find any earlier correspondence)

The extra visitors that will come into the town, from either daytrippers, campers or boaters. Surely a
plus for the town!!

And finally I think we should all applaud Luke and Beth for taking on such a mammoth project, now
enabling the Black Bear to still be in existence for many years to come.

262. Mike Burke

I have been using the pub since opening and it is certainly very good place to go to meet people. They have had many great evenings going on. It is the only place that we go locally for a drink and to socialise and meet new people. The owner has done a absolute amazing job of the restoration of the building. For it to have it licence taken away would not be fair on the amount of money that has been pit back in to this fanatic place that is bringing the community spirit back out in people.

Forgot to add

The local people that come in and supply the food are amazing we really enjoy the food and supporting the local chefs. Think it is a massive help to the local economy having more people visit the town. To visit the oldest pub in the county . Only noticed Monday about 315 a couple of people taking pictures of the old buildings.

263. James People

I am submitting representations to you in response to your notice to review the licensing premises - Ye Olde Black Bear in Tewkesbury. Your notice by the way spelt Tewkesbury as 'TEWEKSBUY' in the email address so I question its validity and hope that wasn't a carefully crafted ploy!

The Black Bear in Tewkesbury is something we have longed to open since we moved to Tewkesbury in February 2017. It recently reopened and has been a source of community spirit since it did so, organising a range of events and it contributes greatly to the community, not to mention attracting much needed visitors to the Town.

The pub has been sensitively refurbished in keeping with its character and history which has to be commended and the garden is a major attraction.

I don't understand why Environmental Health need to be involved and feel this is a complete waste of everyone's time. I strongly object to this public house being inspected and being put in danger of losing its licence.

I want to register my objections in the strongest terms! Tbe County Council should be supporting local businesses not making life difficult for them.

264. Marcus Attwood

I would like to add my voice of support to the Black Bear and hope that it is apparent from the incredible amount of support from others that the Bear is a much loved and needed establishment that has been brought back to life at considerable cost to Luke, Beth and their families.

I've lived in Tewkesbury all my life and the Bear has always been a central focal point, socially and culturally. The closure was a sad loss to the town and the care and vision Luke has brought to not only bringing it back to life, but transforming it into a stunning tribute to its history and its future is remarkable.

Venues always get complaints.

People move house next to churches and complain when they ring their 500 year old bells on a Sunday morning.

I am sure that Luke and staff will do everything in their power to limit disturbance to the immediate neighbours, and I hope that reason and sense will prevail and prevent an over-reaction to the situation and avoid restrictive conditions which will severely limit the Bear's ability to flourish.

In the short time they have been open, they have brought enormous joy to many - especially during the Tewkesbury Live weekend where they were the focal point to the entire festival - a crown jewel in the town's cultural calendar.

I hope this goes some way to add weight to the plea to maintain their licence as is and not to introduce stifling restrictions.

265. Nigel Letherbarrow

I am writing to express my strong support for The Black Bear, a local pub in Tewkesbury, and to convey my concern regarding the potential revocation of its license. I understand that noise complaints from certain residents have prompted this review, and I would like to share my perspective on the matter.

The Black Bear, under the ownership of Luke and his wife, has become an integral part of our community since its reopening in 2023. Their remarkable efforts in restoring the building to its original glory have not only added historical significance but have also transformed the pub into the go-to destination in the Tewkesbury area.

Having lived in Tewkesbury for all my 67 years, I can confidently say that the reopening of The Black Bear was one of the best things to have happened to this town.

It has breathed new life into our community, providing a refreshing and vibrant venue that has been sorely needed. Luke and his wife's forward-thinking approach has created a welcoming space that resonates with most Tewkesbury residents and those in the surrounding areas.

The live music scene at The Black Bear is unrivaled, making it the number one venue for enthusiasts like me. This aspect of the pub has not only enhanced the local cultural scene but also attracted visitors and tourists, contributing positively to the town's economy. The Black Bear has become a source of pride for the community, and its potential closure would undoubtedly be a loss for the town.

I understand the importance of addressing residents' concerns, and I would like to emphasize that The Black Bear has made considerable efforts to mitigate noise related issues. The owners have been responsive to the community's needs, and I believe that, with constructive dialogue, a suitable compromise can be reached.

I kindly request that the Licensing Committee considers the broader positive impact The Black Bear has had on Tewkesbury when evaluating the noise complaints. I believe that with the right measures in place, we can preserve this vital and cherished establishment without compromising the peace of the neighborhood. However, this should not include removing its license for live music, which is so vital to the pub's existence.

266. Sue Nottingham

I am writing in support of the Black Bear in relation to their Licence Review.

Although I no longer live in the town I am a regular visitor and I believe the Black Bear to be the best public house in the town, suitable for all ages, whether you just want to enjoy a quiet drink admiring the beautiful riverside view; or sampling the wonderful music at the Tewkesbury Live Weekend, or just enjoy a few drinks and great food with friends and family. In all my visits I have never witnessed any sign of trouble or late night disturbance.

This fabulous ancient building has been beautifully and sympathetically restored to an amazing standard and deserves to be enjoyed for centuries more, however this will not be possible if the venue is not allowed to create sufficient revenue to sustain it.

Please do not allow a few complaints regarding noise to spoil the enjoyment of many.

Tewkesbury historically had over 47 public houses that I am aware of (one I which I was brought up in!), please do not let one of the oldest public houses in the country fail and ensure this magnificent building does not fall into decline.

267. Wendy Ryder

I am writing in support of The Black Bear public house in respect of the licence review.

The Black Bear has been a public house since the early 1300's and is considered to be Gloucestershire's oldest public house.

The current owners have spent a considerable amount of money to bring the building up to its amazing current standard. The restoration of such an important historical building has been undertaken to an extremely high standard, making the building an asset to the town.

To now deny a licence for this venue would be tragic after all of their hard work and a massive loss to the town.

The pub has hosted various musical events, including the amazing Tewkesbury Live Weekend in the summer and an Oktoberfest weekend last month. These events were an overwhelming success and were attended by all ages, including myself (nearly 60 so not a rowdy 'youngster'!) and at no time did I witness any sign of trouble or unruly behaviour.

I am not certain what restrictions may apply to The Black Bear's licence and I am unable to view this online on the Tewkesbury Borough website as it is currently offline (why?) but understand the review relates to 'Public Nuisance'. I appreciate that the large music events may generate noise but these do not happen every weekend and do not run into the early hours.

If the complaints relate to general noise, surely noise in a town's main High Street is to be expected and if you dislike noise maybe the main High Street of a town is not the best place to choose to live!. Please do not allow the complaints of a very few individuals to ruin the enjoyment of the many, and in the process ruin a small independent trader.

The provision of live music I am sure ensures a significant amount of trade which is essential during the current economical climate which allows businesses to survive in these tough times.

I'm sure that some minor amendments could be agreed, ensuring the live music does not go on beyond say 10.30 or 11.00 pm to reduce noise nuisance.

I would also mention that your Notice relating to the review shows an incorrect email address for people to respond to the notice (rather embarrassing that the towns local authority cannot spell Tewkesbury on a legal notice!)

Please do not deny this outstanding venue it's licence as it is a fabulous place and a great asset to the town, proving employment opportunities and also providing a venue for community support groups like Age UK and hobby meet-up groups, as well as being a good old fashioned riverside pub!