

Lara Clare

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 April 2022 12:55
To: Licensing
Cc: planning@broads-authority.gov.uk
Subject: Fwd: License extension at The New Inn. Lower Street Horning. License no 000000918.

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Principle objections to the licence application as detailed above.

- > Following the Horning Parish Council meeting on Monday 4th of April. I would like to register my concerns regarding this proposal.
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- > Two persons, the current manager of the premises and an area manager from the Stonegate Pub Group, who have, in the last six or so months taken ownership of the premises, kindly came to a Horning parish council committee meeting to explain their intentions and any material changes in their procedures at the premises going forward.
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- > It was explained by them both, that the intention was to work with the village and the residents in the surrounding area and to be good neighbours.
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- > All the councillors present at the meeting and the small group of local residents who also attended were assured that they could expect a minimal change of business practices from that previously seen in the past and that they should gauge the business policies of the new management team from the the first six months of their trading in the village since the late autumn.
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- > No longer business hours were envisaged and the requested adjustment of some of the timing periods, within their existing license which were already in place was just to 'tidy up' small anomalies and discrepancies between the late selling of drinks which strangely were different between alcoholic and non alcoholic varieties.
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- > Looking at their Facebook page it has been observed that only three days before the council meeting it was announced by the New Inn that new additional opening hours should be noted and that these had just been increased. This change with later opening hours was to take place immediately.
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- > This illustrates the ease with which any further alteration and lengthening of the opening hours can, at a whim, be extended by them within the current licence conditions.
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- > Another part of the proposed planning application was to add additional licensing to a wooden building in the waterside garden part of the premises away from the currently licensed public house brick building. This area of the premises is shown on the application plan and described as Patio.

Interestingly there was no seating or table plan shown on this otherwise very comprehensive document, just the positioning of some raise flower beds.

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- > The existing wooden shed type building was proposed to include a fish and chip frying unit both for customers of the New Inn and for off site consumption sales as well as an additional public bar facility for the sale of alcoholic and non alcoholic beverages

(I cannot recall seeing notice of any application to the Broads Authority for change of use for this structure. Perhaps such a change of use permission is not required within planning law / conditions.)

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> I understand that this licensing application would enable the current business to expand over the site to increase sales of both food and liquor when presently, due to restricted space within the currently licensed premises, it had been unable to satisfactorily do so.

This, in my opinion is a change of use to enable expansion of footfall and a far larger number of customers to be served within the footprint of the existing premises. There was no mention of this that I can recall at the council meeting.

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> It is noticeable how during this last few days the number of fine new tables and chairs in the outside patio area seem to have been increased from those old ones which have been replaced.

> This would indicate that they are expecting to substantially grow the number of covers in this waterside part of the premises which can only contribute to extra outside noise during the days but particularly during the long summer evenings. On a quick walk through last night I estimated outside seating on this patio area to contain about one hundred and twenty covers.

> A proper inspection by the necessary interested parties concerned with this application would confirm the exact number.

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> At the parish council meeting It was explained by a resident present that noise carries over water and functions previously carried out on the premises of the New Inn could clearly be heard by residents living on Crabbets Marsh some three or four hundred meters away across the marshes and down the river Bure.

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> Many of the residents living in Horning are in their twilight years with at least twenty residents living within less than two hundred meters of the New Inn who are over eighty years old.

> Any unwanted extra disturbance in their lives would be an unwelcome imposition and should not have to be tolerated.

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Anticipated traffic and road safety related problems.

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> Currently driving on Lower Street, which is historically very narrow, is very haphazard.

> Most of Lower Street, because of its narrow roadways with very few pavements and often busy pedestrian activity is restricted to a twenty mile per hour speed limit.

> This unfortunately is not very well observed and the traffic often exceeds this speed quite considerably.

> Walking in safety on the roadway from one end of Lower Street to the other, (approximately a distance of about a mile) particularly at busy times during the holiday season is already, without coming into conflict with motor vehicles, an impossibility.

> This established street has seen no improvements in width or access for at least seventy years and has got to pose more of a problem as visitors and traffic flow has increased year on year.

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> There are only two or three places where pedestrians are afforded the luxury of a single file pavement and holidaymakers mostly walk the length of Lower Street exploring the village on the public highway often in family groups along with children, push chairs and dogs both on and off the lead.

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> Parking in the village particularly in the summertime is already at a premium. Parking particularly at any point along Lower Street can be virtually impossible.

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> The New Inn itself will probably currently employ upward of ten to fifteen people, chefs, kitchen preparation staff and bar staff along with supervisors and cleaning staff.

The addition of a second bar area outside of that which is currently licensed, will require two or three more staff to man it, at a minimum. Additionally the proposed fish and chip shop will add, in my opinion, at least another two or three staff members to the quota.

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> I would suggest that a good number of these staff will arrive for work by car and will require somewhere to park.

> As there seem to be just twelve parking spaces within the grounds of the New Inn I would suggest that all the employees of the company will be encouraged to park outside the premises so as to leave space within the premises for paying customers to park when they visit by car.

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> The three parking spaces on the roadway directly adjacent the New Inn already service the Chinese take away and the two or three adjoining terraced cottages. These three or four spaces are from experience full for most of the day and in the evenings.

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> Parking spaces along the road in front of the New Inn premises are clearly marked to be left vacant for the many deliveries for both the food for the restaurant and of course for the almost daily liquid refreshment delivery requirements of a busy establishment.

> There is also parking restrictions in front of the adjoining boatyard premises where both their service vehicles and their customers park. Parking in these spaces at night when the business is closed is clearly forbidden by the owners due for the need to have space available for their staff who can be called back to the premises at night for customer emergency breakdown work and of course for emergency services as a large amount of inflammable materials including marine fuel is kept on site.

> The roadway for one hundred meters either side of the New Inn entrance is already often restricted to one way traffic due to parking and road width considerations.

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> In short Lower Street is often overcrowded and not really fit for purpose.

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> I am very concerned that the parking requirements of a dining and drinking establishment with what appears to be over one hundred and sixty covers, plus casual drinkers, (with just twelve parking bays on site) will cause chaos on the already overloaded and overcrowded roadway in the close vicinity to the premises and it will not be at all adequate to cope particularly in the busy summer months.

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> Add to this casual outside parking requirements, (just for five to ten minutes to collect fish and chips) and I start to envisage serious congestion problems particularly if there is any need for fire, ambulance and other emergency services.

> With so many boats moored in Horning village (well over five hundred) and with the many off river mooring plots with three or four major marinas and boatyards it is not unusual to hear the sirens of the emergency services.

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> Unhindered access and safe traffic flow is essential for the safety of all residents and visitors at such times.

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> Any vehicle parked on one side of the narrow street immediately restricts the roadway to single file and much of lower street, probably for this reason, is controlled by yellow line parking restrictions.

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> Might I suggest a visit to the vicinity by the emergency services and the Norfolk County Council traffic planners of the Norfolk County Council and Broads Authority to gauge the suitability of the public roadway to cope with any additional traffic, which is bound to increase should this extra licensed area and proposed fish and chip shop be granted planning permission.

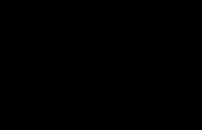
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> We already have two licensed public Houses, , one at each end of Lower Street, which are served with their own multi spaced car parking facilities adjacent to their premises.

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> Should the lack of a staff parking facility at the New Inn combined with the lack of any real adjacent safe roadway parking for more than twelve customers vehicles restrict any additional activities at these premises as requested, at this present time.?

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> Sent from my iPad