

-----Original Message-----

From: Cllr L. McWilliams

Sent: 20 September 2019 15:17

To: Karen Townshend

Subject: Re 19/00523/PREMVA | Premises Licence Variation | Pending Decision | Plough Road Great Bentley Colchester Essex CO7 8LA

Dear Karen

Please could you put forward my email to relevant officers regarding the concerns I have relating to the above Premises Licence Variation application for The Plough Public House Great Bentley. The Plough has recently undergone a much needed refurbishment which has improved its appearance, which can be only to the good. But since the completion of the works I have received several complaints. (the emails I have forwarded on to TDC Licensing) The intolerable amount of general noise nuisance that is now being generated from the premises, especially from the small extension to the rear of the Plough, with the music and general noise of talking shouting etc., which is now heard very clearly, and windows and doors have been left open and not closed at the required times by law. This matter is not only a nuisance to the nearby households but to others living much further away in Station Road, Birch Avenue, the Southside of the Village Green and the unacceptable noise has also penetrated towards the well established properties all around the 42.3 acre Village Green.

My concerns, and residents are that the variation requested will cause what can only be describes as a terrific impact on the Conservation area, to the properties in the close proximity to The Plough and to what is a rural village, it is not a Metro Town, and is in no way an urban area, yet!

When considering this application could officers please take into account the Public Nuisance this application will generate to this idyllic area of Tendring.

Many thanks

--

Lynda

Cllr Lynda McWilliams

Tendring District Council Cabinet Member for Partnerships and Ward Councillor for the Parishes of Great Bentley Little Bentley and Frating

Confidentiality

This email may contain Copyright Material and/or sensitive or protectively marked material up to 'Restricted' classification. This e-mail is confidential and privileged.

From: Planning Services
Sent: 26 September 2019 13:53
To: Licensing Section
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 19/00523/PREMVA

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 1:53 PM on 26 Sep 2019 from Mrs Parish Clerk.

Application Summary

Address: Plough Road Great Bentley Colchester
Essex CO7 8LA

Proposal: Premises Licence Variation

Case Officer: Mr Michael Cook

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name: Mrs Parish Clerk

Email: clerk@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk

Address: Great Bentley Parish Council, Community
Resource Centre, Village Hall, Plough Road,,
Great Bentley CO7 8LG

Comments Details

**Commenter
Type:** Parish or Town Council

Stance: Customer objects to the Licensing
Application

**Reasons for
comment:**

- General no evidence
- Noise Disturbance
- Opening Hours
- Public Nuisance

Comments: 1:53 PM on 26 Sep 2019 Great Bentley
Parish Council objects to this application.

The Plough is located in a residential area.
Prior to this application there were
complaints from the residents of Great
Bentley regarding the noise level radiating
from the premises.

The outside areas create a lot of noise and
residents have also complained that the
windows of the pub are regularly open.
This increases the noise level heard
outside to the front and to the rear of the
premises where homes are located.

From:
Sent: 19 September 2019 23:27
To: Licensing Section
Cc: licencingsection@tendringdc.gov.uk
Subject: Fwd: Fw: Fw: The Plough Inn - noise complaint and objection to the licence
Attachments: The Plough TDC and comments re licencing.docx

F.A.O. Karen Townsend

Dear Ms Townsend,

Please see below a copy of my Wife's email sent to our local parish counsellor, Mrs Lynda McWilliams, concerning the incessant noise and anti social behaviour we are being forced to endure on a regular basis.

We have enjoyed living in Great Bentley for 31 years and in all that time we have never had reason or cause to complain despite living directly behind the village Pub. However that has now all changed with the new owners having built an extension close to our boundary.

It would appear most weekends live music is played from early afternoon until late at night and with large bi-folding doors left open the entire time which then acts as an echo chamber magnifying the deafening noise.

We are left with no alternative but to remain locked up in our home with all windows and doors closed.

The language being used in the beer garden is both loud and offensive, it has to be loud to make themselves heard over the "music" being played but there is no excuse for the foul language.

Children are often in the garden at all hours and sometimes seem completely unsupervised.

This anti social noise and behaviour is intolerable and we as law abiding citizens should not be subjected to it at all let alone on a regular basis.

Our Son is aged 15 and is currently studying for his GCSE's, he has to get up early each day to travel into Colchester for school and surely has the right to get enough sleep which is not possible when this loud music has been taking place. This is leaving him over tired and unable to fully function.

It is well know that drugs are regularly used by customers and available in fact we understand that the disabled toilet recently was unavailable because it was being used for drug dealing and also other residents have witnessed drug taking.

We now understand that the Plough wishes to extend their licencing hours which is totally unacceptable for the reasons stated above and in my Wife's email below.

You are most welcome to visit our home and experience this persistent noise for yourself as we are at our wits end.

May we look forward to a reply or your acknowledgement at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely

Mr R I Fowler

----- Original Message -----

From: "Mandy Fowler"

To: "Rod Fowler"

Sent: Thursday, 12 Sep, 2019 At 13:19

Subject: Fw: Fw: The Plough Inn - noise complaint

Sent from my Huawei phone

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Fw: The Plough Inn - noise complaint

From: Lynda McWilliams

To: Mandy Fowler
CC:

Dear Mandy

Thank you for the information.

If you could respond to the application regarding the Variation License they have applied for, it would be very helpful.

I have attached a few notes on the procedure.

The link to TDC is

<https://idox.tendringdc.gov.uk/online-applications/licencingApplicationDetails.do?activeTab=lixtras&keyVal=PXD355QB03E00>

Many thanks

Lynda

Cllr Lynda McWilliams
Tendring District Council Cabinet Member for Partnerships and
Ward Councillor for the Parishes of
Great Bentley Little Bentley and Frating

Home Tel No. 01206250732

Mobile No. 07564613603

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If you are not the intended recipient please accept my apologies; please do not disclose, copy or distribute information in this e-mail or take any action in reliance on its contents: to do so is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.

Please inform me that this message has gone astray before deleting it. Thank you for your co-operation.

On 10/09/2019 17:11, Mandy Fowler wrote:

Sent from my Huawei phone

----- Original Message -----

Subject: FW: The Plough Inn - noise complaint

From: Mandy Fowler

To: rod

CC:

From: Mandy Fowler

Sent: 08 September 2019 10:36

To: Lynda@boblyn.co.uk <Lynda@boblyn.co.uk>

Subject: The Plough Inn - noise complaint

Dear Lynda

I am writing to express the concern of myself and my family at the regular very loud and late music from The Plough Inn for the last few months, often until after 12.30am. The extension to the Pub was supposed to be for a restaurant, however seems to be more like a nightclub. It is in the middle of a conservation and residential area and is completely spoiling the area and the peace and quiet of our home. The extension has been built very close to the boundary of our garden, beside an area that we had liked to sit in the evening and also have relaxing days beside our swimming pool which is also built here. The map on the planning application is incorrect as there is not an area of land between the boundary of the pub and the boundary of our property. This disruption has been even worse since the weather became warmer because the bi-fold doors are open at the back of the pub. The music is so loud that it is completely disrupting our lives, preventing us from being able to sit outside in our garden, enjoy the area around our swimming pool, have our windows open in the house, is frightening our dog and is preventing us from being able to get to sleep. The customers of the pub are extremely noisy when out side, even during the early hours of the morning and are shouting and screaming. During the day at weekends there are children outside also shouting and screaming and kicking a ball against the fences around the pub, which makes extremely loud bangs, these children seem to be very often unsupervised. Also the area behind the pub has had extremely bright lights installed which are shining directly into our house at night and into my son's bedroom. This area has been paved and the noise seems to echo from here. I have made a note of a few of the occasions which have been very unpleasant .

21/06/19 - very loud, live music until 12.30am

23/06/19 - party in garden of pub during afternoon and evening. Very loud music, shouting and frequent loud bangs like balloons bursting. I phoned the pub at 8.45pm asking if this could be moved inside as my son and other children in surrounding houses needed to get up for school the next day but this was ignored, this went on until after 10.30pm when we eventually managed to get to sleep. The loud bangs were distressing for my dog.

06/07/19 - children playing football in garden all afternoon, banging against the fence. The ball frequently was kicked into our garden, it was a large, heavy leather ball and we had friends round with a toddler. we had been trying to have an afternoon in the swimming pool but it was too noisy and also dangerous for the little one. We came into the house and my husband happened to look out of the window and saw a young child in our garden around the area of our swimming pool, presumably passed over to collect a ball. The swimming pool is over 5 feet deep and was covered, if the child had stepped onto the cover without realising what was beneath it could have been fatal.

27/07/19 - very loud , live music until after 1am on 28/07/19. an extremely loud base, thumping all evening. So loud that our dog was too frightened to go into the garden. In addition the customers were extremely noisy outside, shouting, screaming and laughing both during the music but also continuing afterwards.

25/08/19 - very loud , live music during afternoon and evening. So loud that we were not able to sit in the garden at all as we could not even hold a conversation.

30/08/19 - very loud music. My husband eventually managed to speak to the manager of the pub at 11.30 pm, she complained that she could not hear him talking because of the

noise! They did close the doors shortly after this but people were going into the garden and talking and laughing very loudly and also each time the doors were opened the music blared out again.

01/01/09 - loud music all afternoon. So loud that we were again unable to sit in the garden because we could not even hear each other speak. We had relatives here for a bbq for my son's birthday. We had planned a pleasant out door afternoon and swim and this was completely ruined by the level of the music.

As you can see this has gone on for some time. there is obviously no consideration for local families. We have tried to speak to the owners of the pub but they have not shown any interest in our concerns.

I really hope that something can be done about this soon because it has become very stressful and is impacting on other areas of our lives due to lack of sleep.

Kind regards

Mandy Fowler



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: Bev Adams
Sent: 26 September 2019 10:18
To: Licensing Section
Subject: The Plough Inn, Great Bentley. ref: 19/00523/PREMVA Premises Licence Variation - OBJECTION

Importance: High

To Whom it may concern

Further to the application to extend and vary the premises licence for The Plough, Plough Road, Great Bentley.

We would like to record our **objections** to any further variation and extension on the basis of nuisance. To extend the operational hours, especially on a Friday and Saturday, to those proposed, is unacceptable. We understand that even now the premises should not have open doors and windows over a certain time in the evening. This does not happen and frequently doors are left open and during the hot weather, so are the windows.

This is exacerbated by the use of the front of the pub being used as a patio area with tables/canopies etc., for the use of drinking, eating and smoking. This means that the front doors are usually left open as this area is merely an extension of the premises.

The latest example of this was on Saturday 14th September where The Plough hosted a live band that were still playing up to midnight with the front doors open followed by recorded music. This was extremely loud and could be heard by us from our property – 500 yards away. All of this noise nuisance is accompanied by shouting, yelling and bad language until the pub finally closed.

To extend the playing of music, be it live or recorded, and extend the hours of operation to those on the application will cause even further nuisance. The pub is in the middle of a residential area.

This is a **Village** not Colchester High Street.

Roger and Beverley Adams

From: Carole Allington
Sent: 25 September 2019 08:18
To: Licensing Section
Subject: The Plough, Great Bentley.

Re Variation of Licence 19/00523/PREMVA/Premises Licence Variation.

We are emailing to lodge a strong objection to the Variation of Licence for more live music.

We live at the back of the Plough Inn and I have already complained to Lynda McWilliams our District Councillor about the noise coming from The Plough. We are not actually backing right onto the Plough and we can hear it through double glazing and it goes on until well after midnight and on the weekend of the 31st August we had music well after midnight and Sunday afternoon it was really loud from 4pm. If you wanted to sit out in the garden it was impossible. I think that half the village must have heard it.

I know we are not the only ones who are concerned about the noise and according to Lynda they have applied for a variation of Licence which will make the situation worse.

According to a letter I received they should be showing a BLUE NOTICE in a visual place. I have seen nothing on display around the Plough so there is no indication to the local residents that this licence has been applied for so even though there have been many complaints residents will not be aware that this application has been applied for even more loud music. Lately we have heard no music coming from the Pub so we think they are actually laying low until the Variation of Licence is approved. This to us unacceptable.

We think it is unacceptable to have performed music until 1am in the morning on Fridays and Saturdays. We think that midnight is too late and if they have music they should turn the sound down after 11pm.

We, and I know many of our neighbours, strongly object to this Variation of Live Music Licence being approved.

Peter & Carole Allington
Station Road, Great Bentley

 Virus-free. www.avg.com

From: Julie Mackenzie
Sent: 26 September 2019 20:02
To: Licensing Section
Subject: Plough Inn Great Bentley 19/00523/PREMVA/Premises Licence Variation

For the attention of Mr Michael Cook

Dear Sir

We have just been made aware that the above numbered licensing application has been made by the Plough Inn Great Bentley.

We live virtually opposite the pub and have had no notification of this application and have been told that the Notice was only on an obscure window virtually hidden behind a flower basket so not displayed in a prominent position for anyone to see.

We object in the strongest possible manner to any longer opening hours for the pub and the extended playing of recorded or live music. The pub is in the middle of a village surrounded by properties where many families of all ages live and it seems unfair and unnecessary to extend the long hours they are already allowed.

Music from the pub is extremely loud and the doors are constantly left open with people coming and going throughout the evening. It may be a provision of the licence that doors should remain shut but this is impossible to enforce as we have experienced in the past. People leaving later will also incur more noise as they slam/shut car doors and drive away after 1am in the morning. This should be a quiet village pub and not have the same opening hours as a pub in the middle of a town.

Longer hours will be a noise nuisance to all neighbouring properties so please take account of this before you issue your decision.

Julie and Ray Mackenzie

From: Karen Townshend on behalf of Licensing Section
Sent: 23 September 2019 08:40
To: Karen Townshend
Subject: FW: Objection to an extended music licence for The Plough Great Bentley

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: David Flinn
Sent: 20 September 2019 17:21
To: Licensing Section
Subject: Objection to an extended music licence for The Plough Great Bentley

To whom it may concern

While I fully embrace the good work which has gone into the building improvements at The Plough Inn, Great Bentley, I must object to the extension of a music entertainment licence until the early hours of the morning.

The current noise is 'just' acceptable and often ends before midnight. It can be heard from Station Road.

Any future extension beyond 11pm is not acceptable as it can be heard some distance away. Anyone living between the junction of Birch Avenue/Station Road and the Plough Inn with children do experience unacceptable levels.

The threat of drunkenness and loud voices from people leaving the Plough after 11pm will increase above it's already unacceptable levels.

I support the Plough and do visit there but not until the early hours.

Ulrike Flinn

From: Helen Boughey
Sent: 27 September 2019 16:08
To: Licensing Section
Subject: Re: Plough Inn. Plough Road. Great Bentley

Received your answer regarding the Extending of hours at the Plough .Great Bentley and am completely baffled at your reply. I am therefore making the following amendment.

I would like to record my objections to any further variation and extension on the basis of NUISANCE. To extend the operational hours especially on aFriday and Saturday to those proposed is unacceptable . The noise already on a Friday and Saturday is unacceptable and to extend it to 1.30 in the morning when their are number of private houses (as well as my own) in very close proximity. It is not only the music but the late night revellers swearing and shouting as they leave the premises.

Sent from my iPad

> On 26 Sep 2019, at 16:24, Helen Boughey <h.boughey@btinternet.com> wrote:

>

>

> It has just come to my notice (as the Planning Application has not predominantly been displayed) that a planning application has been submitted to extend the licensing hours for The Plough Inn in Great Bentley.

> I live very close to The Plough and object strongly to the licensing hours being extended. Great Bentley is a beautiful and picturesque village and the local Pub should be for the local villagers and not turned into a disco/bistro bar.

> 1.30 is far too late for locals to have to put up with late night revellers leaving and having their sleep disturbed.

> I strongly recommend that this application be refused.

>

> Mrs H Boughey

> Sent from my iPad

Debbie Bunce

From: Karen Townshend on behalf of Licensing Section
Sent: 16 September 2019 08:16
To: Karen Townshend
Subject: FW: Comments for Licensing Application 19/00523/PREMVA

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Planning Services
Sent: 15 September 2019 18:26
To: Licensing Section
Subject: Comments for Licensing Application 19/00523/PREMVA

Licensing Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 6:25 PM on 15 Sep 2019 from Mrs Annie Johnston.

Application Summary

Address: Plough Road Great Bentley Colchester Essex CO7 8LA

Proposal: Premises Licence Variation

Case Officer: Mr Michael Cook

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name: Mrs Annie Johnston

Email:

Address: -

Comments Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public

Stance: Customer objects to the Licensing Application

Reasons for comment:

- Noise Disturbance
- Opening Hours
- Public Nuisance

Comments: 6:25 PM on 15 Sep 2019 I am a resident opposite The Plough and have just heard that the pub is wishing to extend their hours for music on all days of the week and extend their licensing hours until the early hours of the morning especially over the weekends.

I object on the following grounds:

1. That the new application for extended hours will increase the already excessive noise levels for all local

residents living nearby, of which there are many. The noise can be heard across the green, and is particularly bad when live music is playing.

2. The pub already breaches its existing licensing rules by having its windows and doors open whilst clients are drinking and smoking, both during and outside the normal licensing hours.

3. The village is a small village and this noise late into the night will be a public nuisance to those residents living next door and opposite.

4. I regularly have waste from pub customers thrown in hedges and bushes at the front of the house, extending the hours, will only exacerbate this issue.

5. The statutory blue notice has not been displayed as of 15/9/19.

The pub is already a noise nuisance/at complaint level - extending the hours would be hugely disruptive for the residents of Great Bentley.

From: sally pollard <
Sent: 18 September 2019 18:54
To: Licensing Section
Subject: Care of Karen Townsend
Attachments: IMG_0209.MOV

Ref Objection to the license of The Plough Pub, Great Bentley.

Incident number

I am writing to you regarding the anti social behavior from the customers and staff of the Plough pub from noise pollution.

I have already complained to my local mp and to the council as my family and myself cannot deal with the noise and behavior from them anymore, its now to the point that we dread fridays as we know we will be going through hell.

The music coming from the pub is either from a disco or from live bands, they play from 11am until past 1am in the morning on friday, saturday and sundays and the sound is getting worse and worse!

On the last Bank Holiday , on the Saturday, they did live music since 11am, then at 8pm they started playing another band in the garden which was so loud we couldn't watch tv or even hear each other speak! It was really hot that day and was forced to shut the windows even though by that time it made no difference at all, I have never heard anything like it at all!

Our windows end up shaking and my daughter, who has autism and sensory processing disorder, couldnt even calm down with her sound proofing headphones as the sound went straight through so she ended up having a meltdown, it really ruined all of our weekend when we are trying to spend quality family time together as my husband works long hours we dont get to see each other much.

We have endlessly tried calling them to turn it down and they just put the phone down and take no notice at all!

They have small children running around there all day and night while the parents get drunk which is badly negligent and feel terrible for those poor kids.

The worst thing for us is that my daughter is so anxious by friday she cannot handle big booming noises so as you can imagine its a nightmare every weekend. On Sundays my son is tired for school as they play music and the people they shout Till 1am on Sunday evenings which is terrible as it has reduced my son to tears especially when he had exams the next day.

I really hope you can help as its getting too much to bear now and I am sure all the families living around this area feel the same.

We need to sleep and never can when there is loud music and people shouting all the time.

My neighbour told me that she actually wants to move away.

When we first moved here, it was lovely and could tolerate hearing people outside but these people just dont care at all, they put the phone down if we try to call and if we do complain, they turn it up even more!

Its really affecting my health as i feel down and isolated as i cannot go anywhere to drown out the noise and have not been able to enjoy a weekend for over a year now so when i heard about them wanting to be open later i want to cry!

Although they say they want a licence till 1am, i can guarantee it will be a lot later as they are now open till 3am sometimes so god knows how long they intend to stay open if they get this licence.

Everyone around the area is sick to the back teeth of it and a lot of us have young kids aswell, i am currently doing a diary of everything thats happeniing and have attached a small video of an evening after 11pm, the music on there is loud but not even half as loud as it normally is. my kids were trying to sleep at this time!

If you need anything else, dont hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Sally Pollard

From: Cllr L. McWilliams
To: Licensing Section
Subject: Fwd: 20190926_The Plough - Variation of Licence for More Live Music_Licensing objection
Date: 27 September 2019 20:21:35

Forwarded as requested.

Lynda
Cllr. Lynda McWilliams
Tending District Council
Ward Councillor to the Parishes of
Great Bentley, Little Bentley and Frating and the
Cabinet Member with the portfolio for Partnerships.

Sent from my iPad

Confidentiality

This e mail is confidential and privileged. If you are not the intended recipient please accept my apologies; please do not disclose, copy or distribute information in this e mail or take any action in reliance on it's contents: to do so is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.

Please inform me that this message has gone astray before deleting it.

Thank you for your co operation.

Begin forwarded message:

From:
Date: 27 September 2019 at 20:10:05 BST
To: Lynda <lynda@boblyn.co.uk>
Subject: Fwd: 20190926_The Plough - Variation of Licence for More Live Music_Licensing objection

Lynda,

Please can you forward this for me.

I wrote last night & it has just come through as having been unable to be sent through.

I have checked the address and cannot see why it will not go through.

Kind Regards,

From

Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 8:04:34 PM

To: licensingsection@tenderingdc.gov.uk <licensingsection@tenderingdc.gov.uk>

Cc: Lynda <lynda@boblyn.co.uk> **Subject:** 20190926_The Plough - Variation of Licence for More Live Music_Licensing objection

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to object to the application by The Plough, Great Bentley, to extend their licensing hours for live music. I want to be put on record as **whole heartedly objecting to any extension application** and would like to go one step further in asking that the **current licensing agreement should be reviewed and reconsidered.**

Firstly I am concerned that many villagers will not be aware of the application. I only found out when over hearing a conversation in a local shop and then making enquiries. I have seen **no evidence on the boundary of The Plough of a Blue notice.** There may be a something in the window between 2 flowering baskets but you would need to be within touching distance (and on their property) to read it. Please see attached photo taken from across the road, cropped and zoomed in, where there is some piece of paper behind the basket. Very few people, certainly of my generation, read a local paper and **as yet the Parish Magazine has not published anything with regards to this.** My understanding from the editor is that it will be in the coming magazine, however this will be too late. To that end I feel the deadline should be pushed back.

Secondly I am concerned regarding **Public Nuisance** that music thus far has created for those living anywhere near The Plough. There has been regular, excessive noise of music late at night (and into the early hours), as well as noise from the pub garden. We have had several weekends where we have felt unable to sit out and entertain in our own garden, due to the excessive noise coming from the pub. With the new extension, which my understanding was to provide a restaurant area, having the doors open in the warm weather, the noise levels at times have meant we are unable to enjoy our own garden or house. This was particularly notable on 1st September, when we went to chat to our neighbours who were trying to have a BBQ but were having to shout at each other to make themselves heard.

Dates and times of excessive noise

I have kept a rough record of dates and times when it has been particularly bad. I cannot tell you on many occasions what time the music stopped, as we took our youngest into our room shutting all windows and doors in the house to try and limit the impact of the music. On several occasions we have not even been able to be indoors with windows shut and hear our own t.v. in our front room, at a normal volume. Please note that the majority of our property is triple glazed and despite us shutting all the windows (even when the temperature has meant we wanted to keep them open) we have still suffered from the excessive noise.

Fri 21/6/2019 -loud music that was still going on after 0000

Sun 23/6/2019 -loud music and what sounded like a party going on in the pub garden, was still noisy well after 2200, when we eventually managed to get to sleep, with children needing to get up for school the next day. (I know a neighbour complained with no effect)

I was informed by neighbours that the day we left to go away 6/7/2019 was another noisy afternoon from the pub garden with balls being kicked against fencing etc.

Sat 27/7/2019 -We were still awake at 0030, with music going on until at least 0100, when I eventually (with daughter in bed) managed to get to sleep. On this occasion I had noted on Facebook that their event was due to finish at 0000, which it quite clearly did not. Also, my daughter is 11, almost 12, so is not a small child to be being kept awake.

Sun 25/8/2019 -very loud music during the afternoon and evening. We were trying to have a family BBQ for my mother, with relatives down from Scotland, and ended up spending most of the time inside so we could talk at a normal level to each other.

Fri 30/8/2019 -very loud music again, that did seem to reduce after 2330, however with the noise of those in the pub garden and the constant opening and shutting of door (letting the noise from the music out at regular intervals) we eventually got to sleep sometime after 0030.

Sun 1/1/2019 -loud music all afternoon, we tried to catch up with neighbours as it was both our children's birthdays the following day but the noise at theirs was unbearable, with normal conversation in their garden out of the question. We returned home and shut all doors and windows just to have some quiet family time, before the children started school the next day.

Notably since I have been made aware of the application there has been no specific night that we have noted excessive noise.

Protection of Children from Harm

I would like to draw to your attention to the fact that there are several of us living in the area that have children of school age, who according to the NHS Guidance should be getting 9 hours of sleep a night. With mine required to get up before 0630, so they can catch the school bus, this means that they need to be asleep by around 2100. With music on several occasions going on well after 0000 and on one occasion stopping after 0100 they are by no means getting enough sleep. My children also have school on Saturday, and whilst it is my choice to put them to that school, previously this was not an issue as there was no excessive noise. With my eldest starting GCSEs and youngest just having started secondary school sleep is precious and so is the ability to be outside in their own garden, without excessive noise, when the weather is warm of an afternoon or evening.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/sleep-and-tiredness/how-much-sleep-do-kids-need/>

I am also concerned regarding the time of night that I am hearing children in the pub garden, where there is often excessive rowdy noise and inappropriate language.

Current License and Planning Application (are The Plough adhering to these?)

Previously, my understanding was, that the planning application was for an

extension to the pub for restaurant purposes, not a live / late night music venue. I do not recall anything in the restaurant extension plans that took into consideration, according to the Government's own policy regarding 'noise relevant to planning' for such music events. I would also like to point out that the extension is accommodating, as far as I can tell, a bar area and thus the noise is substantially more when the doors are open than it would have been if it was just a restaurant area.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/noise--2>

I have found information regarding access and entry after certain times to the pub (on TDC website), with regards to keeping doors etc shut, as well as drinking alcohol outside. If recent events are anything to go by then these are not being adhered to / policed, so any additional extensions should not be considered at all. Those attending the pub have certainly not just been consuming soft drinks after the designated times, when outside until gone 0000, and noise is thrown out of the pub every time the door is opened serving to wake local residents (that may have managed to get to sleep) up again. The design of the extension, from what I have seen, does not lend itself to containing the noise when music events (live or recorded) are occurring. In fact it seems to amplify the noise out of the building every time the doors are opened.

Having read the TDC website regarding contacting the pub to inform them we have felt that there is little point, as others have tried on several occasions and failed. We also do not want them knowing who we are, as we have heard some things regarding the new owner that have made us feel that we do not want to draw attention to ourselves. As you can clearly see though this has been going throughout the Summer and has ruin many weekends when we had hoped to enjoy our previously quiet garden, located in a residential conservation area, not to mention the sleep deprivation. I really do not feel that the frequency that this has been occurring is acceptable and that no extensions should be allowed, in fact there appears to be current legislation that needs enforcing with regards to what is occurring. We are not in a build up town and we as residents surely have a right to peace and quiet, not to mention a good nights sleep in our own homes.

I am extremely disappointed, that having moved into this residential conservation area almost 15 years ago, that this is considered at all appropriate for the area. In the past there has been the odd night where music has been excessive but they were one offs.

I really hope that the council can do something sooner rather than later to address this, as it appears the pub owner is not at all interested. The lack of sleep, inability to enjoy our previously quiet garden on a warm weekend afternoon / evening and the not knowing when the next event is going to take place is all taking its toll, and effecting our quality of life. I know we are not the only ones effected and having bumped into some older local residents, who may not feel they can complain, I feel that the council should visit all houses within a 500m radius of the pub to establish exactly how many are being affected by the noise. The council then need to look at what they can currently enforce, with regards to breaches in noise levels, the building that was extended and it's purpose / the Government's policy on 'noise relevant to

planning' and whether this was taken into consideration in view of what the extension is actually being utilised for, and the drinking that appears to be going on in the garden after certain times. Further to that in considering the application for any extension the NHS guidance on sleep for children must be considered, as any music past 2100 on a week night will be detrimental to several children trying to sleep in the area, not to mention my husband who gets up for work at 0500. Finally please consider that many may not be aware of the application for an extension, due to the lack of visible blue sign and it having not yet been published in the Parish magazine, which is more likely to be seen than a small advert in any paper, if there has been one.

Public Safety

On a side issue I have concerns regarding an incident that we were made aware of on returning from holiday just before Christmas 2018. We were informed by neighbours (and my mother who had seen the workers and been told by them they had permission) that 2 men, with a company gas van were digging on the private road we live on. On questioning by neighbours they informed them that they were trying to tap into the gas main, at the request of The Plough pub, as a favour. They left when questioned further and my understanding is that the gas board came out to ensure that nothing had been disturbed, as they were concerned regarding public safety. This is a domestic main and they did not have permission to be doing what they were. My understanding is that this was reported but nothing has come of it and we were left, as residents, to fill in the holes ourselves. Whilst I am sure there is unlikely any proof / evidence that The Plough owner / staff were aware of this it is obviously a concern to us.

If you would like any further information then please contact me as soon as possible. I am happy for Lynda McWilliams to represent my opinions going forward. Under no circumstances do I want my name, or details from this email that could track it back to me or my property, passing on to anyone associated with or with a vested interest in The Plough.

Kind regards,

From: Karen Townshend on behalf of Licensing Section
Sent: 18 September 2019 11:26
To: Michael Cook
Subject: FW: The Plough, Plough Road, Great Bentley

Importance: High

From: Katie Wesley-Smith
Sent: 18 September 2019 10:28
To: Licensing Section
Subject: The Plough, Plough Road, Great Bentley
Importance: High

Good Afternoon,

I am emailing to raise some concerns about the application to vary the premises licence at The Plough, Plough Road, Great Bentley.

Information has not been supplied in relation to how they are going to manage the noise of the music they are proposing for the outside area. We will need to establish how they are going to manage the noise to ensure that the neighbouring properties are not going to be effected by noise. This will require a comprehensive noise management plan.

I have looked at a map of the location of the outside proposed for music and can see that The Plough is surrounded by residential properties.

Unfortunately if the applicant is unable to satisfy that they are able to manage the noise from music then the Environmental Protection Team will have no option but to formally object to this application based on the likelihood that the proposed activity will cause a nuisance to surrounding residential properties under part P(d) and the licensing objective of The Prevention of Public Nuisance.

I would also like to inform you that we have been in receipt of calls from members of the public wishing to object to this application to vary the premises licence; they have been advised to come to this team to voice their objections. However, this is not a function that we perform, so we have advised them to follow the correct procedure and contact your team for further advice.

Kind Regards

Katie W Smith BSc (Hons) MCIEH
Environmental Protection Officer
Environmental Protection Team
Council Offices, Thorpe Road, Weeley CO16 9AJ

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