



Premises Licence Variation Objection Hearing

British Flag

**56 West Street
Harwich
CO12 CDD**

Premises Licence Holder: Admiral Taverns

Supplementary documentary information

1.0 Background

1.1 On the 24th of June 2021, Essex Police received notice of a full variation for the British Flag pub in Harwich. This application was made to increase the hours of the Sale of Alcohol by one hour.

1.2 On assessment of the application, Essex Police decided that the application posed a risk to the residents of Harwich and formally objected to the variation on the 14th of July 2021. Essex Police made this objection under the Crime and Disorder and Public Nuisance licensing objectives.

1.3 Essex Police's objection letter can be found in Appendix A.

2.0 Facts of the Case

2.1 On the 15th of July, William Moody from Essex Police's Licensing Team contacted Darren Kelly, licensing team leader at Admiral Taverns to discuss terms that may be negotiated to ensure the licensing objectives are upheld and potentially negating the need for a licensing hearing.

2.2 Essex Police suggested that the increase in hours be reduced to a half an hour increase on Fridays and Saturdays, and that the following condition be added to the licence:

“last entry to the premises must end no later than one hour before the end of the licensed hours for that day’

The new times for the Sale of Alcohol have been agreed as the following with all other timings unchanged:

Sale of Alcohol on and off the premises - Fridays and Saturdays 10:00 - 01:30

2.3 Essex Police believe this will strike a balance between allowing the premises to expand its operation, while also safeguarding local residents against increases in crime, disorder or nuisance by removing the risk of the premises become a ‘choke-point’ and receive a high influx of patrons towards the end of the night.

2.4 On the 16th of July, Admiral Taverns confirmed that they agreed to this new amendment to the application.

2.5 Essex Police will suggest that the hearing be dispensed with under Section 9 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005 in the eventuality that no other representations are made to the licensing authority. However, should other representations be made, Essex Police will keep their objection ‘live’ to enable them to attend the hearing and present this agreement to the subcommittee.

2.6 Should representations be made by other parties, Essex Police will agree to dispense with the hearing should these representations be withdrawn.

2.7 Essex Police will attend any hearing held in relation to this matter to present this information and answer any questions the sub-committee may have.



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14/07/2021

Full Variation – The British Flag, 56 West Street, Harwich, CO12 3DD

Dear Sirs

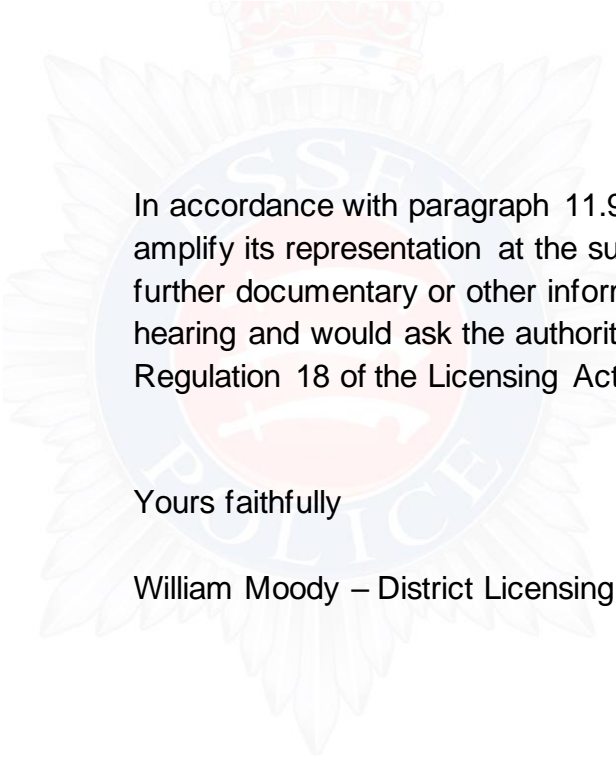
On behalf of the chief officer of Essex Police, I wish to object to this variation to increase the hours of the sale of alcohol on the basis of Crime and Disorder and Public Nuisance. Should this variation be granted, the premises will be able to sell alcohol until midnight Monday to Thursday, 2AM Friday to Saturday and 11:30PM on Sunday.

At current, almost all licensed premises in the Harwich area can sell alcohol no later than 1AM. The British Flag is surrounded on all four sides by residential properties and Essex Police believe that an increased footfall, particularly past 1AM may have a significant impact on those living nearby.

It is also likely that the pub will become a 'destination venue' whereby patrons from other parts of Harwich move to the location before the pub stops allowing new customers in. This is likely to create a pinch point in West Street and add further risk of public nuisance and disorder.

The granting of this variation will signal to other venues that they will also be able to apply for extensions to their licence, perhaps even later than 2AM. Essex Police believe that this poses an unacceptable risk of nuisance and disorder to the residents of Old Harwich, which is densely populated with both licensed premises and residential properties.

For the reasons above, Essex Police will ask that this variation is rejected.



In accordance with paragraph 11.9 of the Statutory Guidance Essex Police may amplify its representation at the subsequent hearing. Essex Police may also produce further documentary or other information in support of this application ahead of the hearing and would ask the authority to take this into account as it may do under Regulation 18 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

Yours faithfully

William Moody – District Licensing Officer