

APPENDIX C - Representations

Things Happen Here – Premises Licence Variation Application Representations

1.

12.10.23

Dartington Parish council objects to this extension of the licensing hours and live and recorded music hours from 11pm to 1am on the days mentioned.

This is because extending the opening hours would create a significant disturbance to those who live in the vicinity.

Best wishes

Dartington Parish Council Clerk and RFO

17.10.23

Dear Naomi,

Thanks for your email and the redacted document which I will forward to councillors.

The main concerns raised at the meeting were:

That people would continue to linger outside the venue after the bar had closed and potentially cause a nuisance - antisocial behaviour, being loud and drunk - for longer if the licensing hours were increased.

Outdoor drinking should be discouraged.

The building is not soundproofed so sound can travel long distances.

The area is rural and it's not appropriate.

Councillors may modify their opinions when they see the redacted document, but they did seem to feel quite strongly about it - some live very close.

Best wishes,

Dartington Parish Council Clerk and RFO

19.10.23

Dear Naomi

Councillors have made the following additional responses to this application.

- There is a children's respite centre nearby to which these extended hours might cause concern.
- Occasional license hours could be extended such as on New Years Eve & perhaps other special occasions but not as a regular weekly occurrence.
- The noise already travelling up from the venue & across the field is enough. Many people here work from early morning so to have this finishing regularly at 1am would inconvenience more local people.
- Transport; how are these people travelling home?
- The likely activity in the surrounding neighbourhood will be outside the control of the venue operators. Clients will be leaving before and after 1am and will inevitably make

noise and disruption in the local area as they either wait for transport or walk towards, for example, the train station in Totnes.

- In addition to the above it is almost inevitable that damage will be done to private property and public facilities in the immediate neighbourhood due to the increased presence of non-residents influenced by alcohol consumption and their peers.
- This is inappropriate and unnecessary in a rural village setting. The peaceful enjoyment of the area by residents is already sufficiently compromised with the licence as it is, including the options for occasional later events.

Best wishes,

Dartington Parish Council Clerk and RFO

2.

23.10.23

To Whom It May Concern,

It has come to my attention that Thing Happen Here is seeking to extend their opening hours from 11pm til 1am.

I strongly object to this request for the following reasons:

THH is in a residential area close to care provision for children and young people with special needs. Complaints have already been made about the noise levels coming from Meadowbrook during THH events at the current opening hours. Extending them would only bring more distress to a vulnerable group of children and their carers and would fracture community relations.

Dartington is a quiet village. Extending the alcohol licence beyond normal opening hours will attract people from all over the area, as it will become an after hours hotspot. This will increase noise pollution into the surrounding area from customers on the street and driving their cars after closing time. Requests from pub staff to keep the noise down are ineffective. This will cause distress and aggravation to the larger community, who live here because of the peace and quiet.

Dartington has undergone rapid development over the last few years. THH and the lovely pizza place and pool have made the Meadowbrook area a lovely hub, but this request to extend opening hours will change the nature of what has so far been a mostly positive change. I hope you can see that our quiet village is not the right location for a venue with late opening hours serving alcohol.

Yours faithfully,

3.

23.10.23

In response to this application to extend the licensing hours on the times and dates specified in the application.

Given the physical proximity of the Robins Respite Centre and the potential for disturbance of the residents of the centre I object to the extending of the hours for provision of live and recorded music and for the supply of Alcohol for consumption **off** the premises where consumption could occur in the areas provided by Things Happen Here immediately outside the Meadowbrook Centre.

I would not have an objection to an extension of the hours on the times and dates specified for the supply of alcohol for consumption **inside** the premises.

Yours Sincerely

4.

9.10.23

Dear sir madam

We live in a rural area and there is really no need for extended hours of what can be quite loud music. I love the venue but am very much against extending its licensing hours both for performance or for drinking.

23.10.23

To highlight our concerns. We live within a few minutes of Meadowbrook and we can hear Things Happen Here events from our home. We are particularly concerned about the months in the year when our windows are open. This is a small village and hamlet. We are busy working in the work and we think it likely this will inevitably disturb our sleep. 11pm seems quite sufficient. We are fine with a New years event lasting until 1am.

5.

23.10.23

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Application for variation to premises licence from Things Happen Here Ltd

Things Happen Here, Meadowbrook Community Centre, Shinnars Bridge, Dartington, Totnes, TQ9 6JD

I strongly object to the request to extend the hours on these premises on a Friday and Saturday due to its close proximity to a residential care provision for children and young people, that also offers respite care to parents in the wider area.

With respite care, it is important that the children and young people are able to rest while at their residential care provision, so that both them and their parents can benefit from this essential aspect of their care - the parents need a break in order to continue and don't need or expect their children to come back tired or distressed. Respite care often takes place during the weekends for children and young people who attend school elsewhere in the area.

To extend the hours on a site that is in close proximity, and has walls as thin as the Meadowbrook Community Centre building, where "Things Happen Here" is situated, would be irresponsible and none of us would be meeting our duty of care to these vulnerable young people if it is permitted. I am appalled that the request to extend hours has been made, when the respite centre has already complained about the volume of the live music events and the noise created when people leave the premises, and meetings about this have taken place between the Respite Centre and Dartington Recreation Association, who manage the Meadowbrook Community Centre.

I also object to the extension of the hours for which alcohol will be supplied, as the drunker someone is the less regard they have for the neighbours and how much noise they are making, despite reminders from the pub staff.

I speak as a concerned local and a professional who used to teach at a residential school for children and young people with complex needs, similar to those who receive care at Robins Child Residential and Short Break Centre, run by Lifeworks. I know the value of offering the right conditions for these children to flourish, and how transformative and life-changing these care services are for families.

A once a year extension of hours, at New Year's, may be able to be planned for. However, some residents are full-time and, in particular, any disruption to an autistic child or young person's routine may be distressing for them and potentially increases the risk of harm to their carers. I feel that granting an extension of hours for this one event would only be able to be done with the full support of Robins management and it may need to be granted on an annual basis as the needs of the residents (and associated risks) will continue to change.

Robins is a purpose built centre offering a vital service to the most vulnerable members of our society. If the pub wishes to offer extended hours perhaps can find a more suitably situated venue elsewhere in the Dartington area.

I hope you can see how the detriment to the community is greater than the gain in this situation, and I urge you to decline the proposed variation to the premises licence.

Please confirm receipt of this objection.

Yours faithfully,

6.

24.10.23

I am writing to express my objection to the application for extended hours(1am) by Things happen here Ltd.I am a great supporter of THH Ltd and really appreciate what they have created for families.The adults can enjoy a drink while the children can play safely within the sight of their parents.Wonderful! But 11 pm strikes me as being the appropriate time for the licencing hours to stop because ,apart from any other relevant issues,there is a respite and care centre(zRobins) very close by.How can you provide respite when there is drinking and loud music on your doorstep not only until 11pm,but now 1am is being applied for.I would like to register my strong objection to this application..Thank. you.

7.

24.10.23

To whom it may concern

I strongly object to extending the hours of live music and the supply of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises on Friday and Saturday nights until 1am at Things Happen Here Ltd Dartington I live at Broom Park just behind the premises and am already disturbed by music and shouting on Friday and Saturday nights when I have to be up extremely early to go to work the next morning

Also the proximity of Robins Respite centre and how incongruous it is to have the proposed extension so close to children carers and families who need all the rest and care possible for their well being

I strongly object to this proposal

Very best wishes