



# Holybrook Parish Council

*Serving the Communities of Beansheaf Farm and Fords Farm*



**Re: Premises Licence: 17/01790/LQN**

Holybrook Parish Council **OBJECT** to the following application.

Marston's state that this pub/restaurant will, predominately, be for the use and enjoyment of families. However, their application is not reflective of this.

Based on the four licensing objectives the Council make the following comment:

**The prevention of crime and disorder:**

The Police are aware of existing drug usage/dealing in the area and, as such, the Parish Council would expect mitigation measures in relation to the pub/restaurant to be cited in the Premises Licence.

The licence application does not satisfactorily address any emergency closure or evacuation procedures in the event of violence, power failure of similar occurrences.

The Parish Council acknowledge that Marston's are presenting this application as being for, predominately, families. However, this is not reflected in the late night/early morning opening hours, the provision of late music, food and drink inside and outside, and that pub games, namely a pool table and darts could be made available, and the mention of an application to come for Amusements with Prizes.

As far as can be determined, there is no designated outside smoking area. Smoking areas are known to cause disorder in terms of noise pollution. Depending on where the smoking area is to be located, existing and new residents could be detrimentally effected by this.

The Parish Council ask, how will Marston's encourage the safe drinking of alcohol? The proposed location of the pub/restaurant is in very close proximity to the M4, junction 12 and so safe drinking is especially important.

Of note, people visiting the pub/restaurant cannot exit onto the A4 Bath Road towards Reading; this will push increased traffic onto the residential area of Dorking Way/Charrington Road at unsociable hours.

**Public safety:**

Holybrook Parish Council wish to make the licencing authority aware that the proposed pub is in a residential area comprised, mainly of family homes. Within close proximity of the pub is a community centre and pre-school.

The application states that alcoholic drinks may not be removed from the premises in open containers and that no customers carrying opened bottles of alcoholic drink upon entry shall be admitted. However, Marston's do not intend on employing doormen so how will these issues be appropriately dealt with?

This application does not address the issue of external lighting to assist in public safety or in the prevention of public nuisance.

**The prevention of public nuisance:**

It is noted from the application that the doors and windows to the premises are to be double glazed. However, how does this help with noise reduction from the two outside dining areas? Or when the windows and doors are opened during the summer months? The proposed 'traditional pub area' (although as stated in the premises licence application as undefined) is in the planning application shown as opposite the proposed three bed houses which are, of course, intended for families. There is no doubt that these homes (should they be built) and the existing homes, which face directly onto this site, will be affected by late night noise from the diners/drinkers and recorded music.

After 11.00pm background noise levels will be reduced i.e. traffic flows and many people, especially children will be in bed. Noise from the pub/restaurant, particularly the outside areas, will cause local residents sleep disturbance.

**The protection of children from harm:**

Although the application does address this issue for children attending the pub, it does not consider the children who live in very close proximity. With the late/early morning licencing, particularly in the outside area, children will be caused sleep deprivation.

Based on the information provided above and in support of our residents Holybrook Parish Council strongly object to this application and argue that, in particular, the late licencing hours do not support the family culture and will, in fact, be detrimental to the family lives of the local, existing and new residents of Holybrook.

Finally, the licencing hearing is scheduled before the planning decision has been made for this building and the Parish Council strongly believe this to be prejudicial to the whole process.