

**From:** Pat Owen

**Sent:** Friday, November 10, 2023 3:53 PM

**To:** Licensing <[licensing@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@westberks.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Application LA22873 - Awberry Barn, Awberry Farm, Beenham

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Good afternoon

### **Objection to Licence Application number 22873**

I live in Beenham and object to this alcohol licence being granted.

I am objecting on the basis of:

1. Prevention of public nuisance
2. Protection of children from harm

### **Prevention of Public Nuisance**

#### **Noise:**

Noise restrictions have been placed on the venue by WBC. It is my strong belief that these restrictions will not be enforceable by the applicant and a named guest and will therefore contravene clause 2.21 section 182 of the Revised Guidance of the Licensing Act 2003.

My reasons are based on the following:

It is my strong belief that while the noise requirements could be implemented in the barn, in my experience on warm Summer's evening, guests will gather outside in the barn in the courtyard and, as the evening wears on, their voices are likely to increase in volume as alcohol is consumed. It is not possible to prevent this noise carrying to the homes and gardens of residents who live not more than 150metres from the venue.

Also, as most of the 28 events permitted are likely to be held in the Spring and Summer, this will impact greatly on the peace and quiet presently experienced by residents in our beautiful and peaceful village. Also, windows may be well be open and so the noise will prevent children and adults sleeping. This could potentially occur EVERY weekend for the entire Spring and Summer and would be most unwelcome.

Secondly as guests leave, a concentrated peak of noise from 11.30pm to at least 12am, is unavoidable as cars, people, caterers and others leave the event. The engine noise through the village on the single winding road will disrupt sleep for animals and residents alike. Again this could potentially occur every weekend.

Finally, the catering will be provided from another area and carried to the barn. Once the doors are opened, loud music associated with the evening entertainment at a wedding, will be heard by the whole village.

#### **Light:**

Clause 2.15 of the Revised guidance states that car parking areas must have security lighting in place as a public safety measure. The applicant will be required to place lighting around the barn. Beenham is very fortunate to be part of AONB's

environmentally friendly “dark sky” initiative. The required lighting would be a public nuisance affecting this highly valued and rare status.

### **Protection of children from harm**

The entrance to the venue is very restricted with a narrow road, blind bends and no pavements in either direction. To the left, the road is further narrowed as residents need to park their cars at the side of the road (especially at weekends). The same occurs in the other direction with walkers having no option but to walk in the road up to the Six Bells. 60 – 70 cars arriving at the venue at the same time would be a danger to the many children who go (often unaccompanied) to play on the Rec either walking or cycling. Many children are riding horses at the weekend and again there is a real possibility of an accident between cars, unfamiliar with our narrow road system, and riders.

I also have a concern that the close proximity of the Rec could lead to the gym equipment and play park on the Rec, being abused by party goers, as they consume more alcohol and inhibitions are lost. This could potentially leave the site damaged and unsuitable for the children to use and any glass bottles a potential safety hazard.

I would urge the Licensing authorities to reject this application for the reasons stated above.

Yours faithfully  
Pat Owen  
(Redacted),  
Beenham