

Stephen Cracknell  
[REDACTED]

Duxford  
Cambridge  
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06/02/2022

Ref; The Lodge Duxford Application(s)

Dear Licensing committee,

I am writing to object to the application for extended licensing hours and the application for Live music that has been applied for by the Lodge Duxford,

Firstly, before I state my reasons for the objection, can I firstly say, I understand that through these difficult times with the hospitality industry suffering so badly that the Lodge like all businesses have had to try and gain their losses that they sustained through their period of closures, and I am very happy for them to increase their restaurant trade and number of patrons staying at the Hotel.

We also personally use the Lodge to have meals and lunches there, and we also recommend it to friends and colleagues to use the Hotel for stopping over, and they all say how lovely it is. The hotel has been decorated very nicely inside and out and has a very nice feel and vibe about it. However, what we do not want is for the Hotel to be turned into some kind of 'Nightclub' with late music, either live or with a DJ, or both, very late into the night.

If this application was to be granted, this will allow a congregation of people far more than was ever envisaged by the villagers when these current owners took over and it was advertised as a 'Small Boutique Hotel'.

The outside area started with a small patio area with several tables and chairs, it has now grown out of all proportion with various covered areas and Tepees in fact half the garden is now functioning as outside social use, and because of the type of construction they cannot contain the sound of music and voices, had the application been for use within a bricks and mortar with a roof building (and although that would still come with some issues) I feel it would be more acceptable.

We live almost opposite the entrance to the Lodge, and our main bedroom is at the front, so there is no avoiding the sounds at night, especially when they play something live and very loud music. In all honesty, we are not even happy with the current situation, but it's here and there's nothing we can do to change that, but what we don't want is to give them licence to keep us awake any longer than they do already. We have already had to make numerous phone calls to the Lodge complaining about the noise from the music or from rowdy guests, in some instances after midnight

We are fast approaching the spring and summer, and with so many functions cancelled over the last two years, with restrictions being lifted, I can really see the number of disturbed evenings in our garden, and lack of sleep looming....

This objection is not sent with malice, it is an objection based on fairness to all, because as close residents we have watched the Lodge grow and have begrudgingly accepted the previous applications for outside bars and late hours, and we are already having to put up with dangerous parking, noise levels, and disturbance. This application will only make things much, much worse!

Surely good common sense will prevail! We hope as residents to see a decision that is fair to us. We have lived in this village for nearly 32 years, we like it here and have never had any reason to complain about the Lodge until the new owners took over.

If the owners of the Lodge wanted it to an outside concert venue, then they've surely bought the wrong place and should have looked at other premises where they wouldn't have affected the local residents.

I sincerely hope your decision will be fair.

[REDACTED]

Stephen Cracknell