

APPENDIX D - Representations

Objection 1.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am contacting you to express my objections to the application by Ivybridge Rugby Club for live and recorded music (indoors) Saturday and Sunday from midday to midnight.

Also, the sale of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises Friday and Saturday from 10am to midnight.

I have no objections to the other proposals.

My reasons for objecting are as follows:

I have lived in the vicinity of the junction of Exeter Road and Cole Lane for 18 years.

We purchased this house on the understanding that it would not be affected by being close to any Licensed premises.

After moving in we realised that we were occasionally affected by noise coming from revellers leaving events at Ivybridge Rugby Club, where late night extensions had been granted. Some attendees would walk home down Exeter Road, towards the town centre, in a drunken state. This would lead to them shouting and talking loudly as they went.

I was working weekends and shifts at the time and found myself having to confront such revellers, asking them to quieten down.

On a couple of occasions I had to report the matters to Ivybridge Police, where it was passed onto the Licensing Dept. This was exacerbated in the summer when people generally sleep with their windows open.

The occasional noise problem coming from the Rugby Club has continued over the years.

I am however concerned that the proposed, regular extended drinking hours, will lead to increased noise and anti social behaviour.

I am more than happy to accept regular opening until 2300hrs but not midnight.

Surely this late night drinking should be reserved for special occasions, where extensions can be applied for in the traditional way.

In addition to my objections, you will know that there are a large number of new dwellings being built in the vicinity of the rugby club. The new owners of these houses will have young families and therefore be affected by late night drinking and music coming from a location that they won't be expecting it.

I am sure that the staff at the Rugby Club will do their best to ensure the conditions of the proposed licence are complied with at the club itself.

My concerns are intoxicated persons leaving the club late at night and slowly walking down Exeter Road, in groups and speaking loudly/shouting, through residential areas, as is commonplace with persons who are "under the influence".

I am far from a killjoy but I strongly feel that 2330hrs is sufficiently late for the club to close, other than special events such as the occasional party.

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Objection 2.

OBJECTION TO IVYBRIDGE RUGBY CLUB APPLICATION FOR LIVE AND RECORDED MUSIC AND SALE OF ALCOHOL

Dear Licensing Department,

I understand that Ivybridge Rugby Club have made an application:

1. to play live and recorded music on Saturdays and Sundays from Midday to midnight
2. for the sale of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises
Sunday to Thursday 10am-11pm and
Friday and Saturday from 10am to midnight

I am a near neighbour of Ivybridge Rugby Club at Filham Cottages. My purchase of my cottage at North Filham in 2014 was based on several criteria including the choice to live in a peaceful environment, out of town, away from noise and disturbance, on the edge of the moor. The proposed license puts much of this under threat.

I strongly object to the application made by Ivybridge Rugby Club on the following grounds:

1. The proposed license to play music from midday to midnight on Saturdays and Sundays would result in unacceptable noise pollution for potentially 24 out of 48 hours every weekend. This would significantly reduce the quality of life for residents of Filham Cottages. Weekends provide essential 'down-time' from busy working lives when residents expect to be able to enjoy peace in their indoor and outdoor home environment to maintain a healthy balance of mental and physical well-being. This would be severely impacted by the proposed license.
2. The proposed sale of alcohol is likely to bring increased (foot and vehicle) traffic to the Rugby Club site throughout the week and at weekends. Research demonstrates that common effects of alcohol include anti-social behaviour, increased noise levels and trespass. While town houses commonly feature secure boundaries 200 year old rural cottages do not. The proposed sale of alcohol for consumption on or off site therefore poses potential risk of trespass and, raises fears about personal safety and mental well-being of local residents.
3. Ivybridge rugby club boasts 'a family atmosphere'. The club is rightfully proud of it 'Colts 15', and Junior and Mini rugby claiming to be 'one of the strongest junior organisations within the South West'. Age groups include six to sixteen year olds. It's core purpose is to train and coach young people in a popular sport providing them with physical skill and dexterity and to role model positive behaviours to the youngsters in its charge. There is a legal requirement for Safeguarding to be at the heart of any organisation, charitable or otherwise, that works with children on a daily basis. The proposal to significantly increase the availability and sale of alcohol on this premises fundamentally changes the function of the site and the environment into which parents entrust their children. This needs to be properly addressed.
4. The rugby club is close to an un-staffed railway station. As the proposed license permits the sale of alcohol which may be consumed off site, it is likely that some of this alcohol may be taken to the railway carpark which has no CCTV. As the station is unstaffed there is increased risk of dangerous behaviour - with potentially fatal outcomes. Clearly no-one would wish for any such occurrences, but it is a risk factor that should be considered in relation to this application.

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I would be grateful if you could provide a written response to me via email and ensure that your response is also available to others who have objected to the application made by Ivybridge Rugby club.

Thanks for getting back to me with your response.

Please accept my objections above as a relevant representation from a nearby neighbour of the Rugby Club.

I am concerned that the license the Rugby Club has applied for would open the premises up to the public, rather than restricting alcohol sales and access to club members. This proposed change makes the points made in my objections above even more pertinent.

In terms of conditions I would suggest that may help mitigate the planned activities:

- amplified music must be kept below a certain volume/decibel range so that it cannot be heard by neighbours
- alcohol sales are limited to consumption on site
- regular police presence
- parking must be on site
- anti-social behaviour will be discouraged and acted upon by rugby club staff

Objection 3.

I strongly object to this application.

The rugby has a large outdoor area and terrace.

When they have previously had parties and weddings the noise of drunken people can be heard far away.

There are some very very loud people that attend these late night events.

If this were to be regular, which it will be, it will be intolerable for all of the local residents.

The club should be promoting healthy living, not beer and burgers!!

Strongly object to this

Objection 4.

OBJECTION TO IVYBRIDGE RUGBY CLUB APPLICATION FOR LIVE AND RECORDED MUSIC AND SALE OF ALCOHOL FOR CONSUMPTION ON AND OFF THE PREMISES

Our property will be affected by any changes to the licensing arrangements in respect of the Ivybridge Rugby Club and as such we wish to object to the application.

We fully endorse all the points raised in **Objection 2** on 17/3/2021 (see above) and as such do not intend to repeat them here. We note also your response to **Objection 2** but feel that it goes no way to alleviating our concerns.

We would like to add some further points in support of our objection.

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There are 4 pubs in Ivybridge, all of which are struggling to survive. There are a further 4 pubs within 2-3 miles of the rugby club (Bittaford, Ugborough, Turtley Mill) all of which, again, could be seriously affected by the rugby club bar being made available to non-members. The sale of what will inevitably be cheap alcohol for consumption on or off the premises will draw custom away from these pubs. They are already facing fierce competition from the 5 supermarkets in Ivybridge and Lee Mill.

We hope you will take these additional comments into consideration alongside the excellent case made by **Objection 2**.

Objection 5.

Dear sir/madam,

With reference to the application from Ivybridge Rugby Club for a licence for indoor and outdoor music at weekends and to sell alcohol for consumption on and off the premises seven days a week up to midnight:

We would like to express that we are rather concerned about this for several reasons as residents living close to the club.

The rugby club is very close to several housing estates eg Pykes Down, St. Peter's Way, Trematon Drive, Rue St. Pierre, so the likelihood of increased noise disturbance from the live and taped music as well as the revellers attending is very high. Another new estate is currently being started off Godwell Lane, the Barrett homes at Lucerne Fields and two more estates are being built at North Filham (Bloor Homes and Wain Homes) either side of the Bittaford-Ivybridge road. Even more people living nearby.

We have to ask if it is necessary for the club to be open every night bringing the increase in cars, people and noise to busy housing estates. The disturbance is already great enough. We feel there is a serious likelihood of drunken behaviour around the local estates if alcohol is sold for drinking off the site. We thought there were now bye-laws in Ivybridge banning the drinking of alcohol in the streets. This will not help. It will merely bring more disturbance to the people who live in the area, a number which will be considerably higher in the next twelve months. There is also the concern of the extra quantities of litter that could be deposited in the streets and hedgerows as cans, bottles and glasses are thrown away – unsightly and dangerous to animals and the public.

For these reasons we feel this application should not be granted in its present form.