

APPENDIX F – Representations

In Objection:

1. a)



Fri 09/07/2021 22:08

[REDACTED]
Albert Inn, 32 Bridgetown, Totnes, TQ9 5AD from Mr Giles Hawkins

To SW-Licensing

Good evening

Re: Albert Inn, 32 Bridgetown, Totnes, TQ9 5AD from Mr Giles Hawkins

I have noted the following:

Include the small area previously private parking on the plan as an area for sale and consumption of alcohol. The sale of alcohol in this area will be limited to 4 times per annum.

To remove out of date and unenforceable conditions and add updated relevant conditions.

I object to the pub extending the area for sale and consumption of alcohol.

The pub already has a dubious grasp of what their licensing hours are with clientele in the garden way after dusk. The pub garden and outside smoking area continuously cause a significant noise disturbance for me to the extent I can't have my windows open. In fact the noise is so bad it can be heard even with windows closed and over my TV. This is not acceptable. The noise has got worse over the years especially since the garden usage has been extended above an out building to a meter from my window. Therefore anything that will add to this will not be acceptable.

I ask please for confirmation of what the out of date and unenforceable conditions are? I would not want further changes that will impact me.

1. b)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 July 2021 17:15
To: SW-Licensing <licensing@swdevon.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Albert Inn, 32 Bridgetown, Totnes, TQ9 5AD from Mr Giles Hawkins

11 on in the evening would become unbearable (is unbearable). Dusk is when it gets dark and not at that time. This is ridiculous.

You are going from something you say can't be upheld even though we all know when dusk is to a time that is way later and all year round. Utter madness

1. c)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 July 2021 21:03
To: SW-Licensing <licensing@swdevon.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Albert Inn, 32 Bridgetown, Totnes, TQ9 5AD from Mr Giles Hawkins

Evening

Thank you for sending me the additional information.

Firstly in terms of the additional licensing area of the parking bay. Have you actually looked at this in person?

My objection still stands having seen the plans as it was as envisaged. Not only will I continue to have noise from the garden meters from my upstairs living area windows this licensing extension will mean I'll also have noise from the lower sub level into my bedroom area. In addition, this lower level parking bay with separate entrance will likely mean it is harder to contain the drinkers into the small space and they will surely be milling around Chapel Lane unmanaged.

I secondly turn to the request to extend the licensing hours to a blanket 11pm.

We know that the pub has flouted their dusk licensing rules over the last couple of years (taking civil dusk) and have had on multiple occasions people drinking outside to way past dusk covid or no covid and you have not done your job to enforce this (the law) despite it being brought to your attention. This flouting of the rules has caused an extended period of unacceptable noise late into the evening.

For years the pub has had an outside dusk licence and regardless of which dusk calculation you take (most of us would take civil) having had a quick look this only reaches 11pm on two months of the year in terms of astrological dusk and is nowhere close to 11 under the other dusk calculations. You are therefore suggesting that you increase the licensing hours for 6 months of the year by circa 4 hours per day and for the other 6 months 1 to 2 hours per day. This is a ridiculous increase in licensing hours. Why does the pub need to have such a dramatic change to their licensing that have stood for years? Is this perhaps the respectful response from the council and the pub that if you raise a complaint you actually look to make it worse. This is appalling abuse of your powers and an indication of the lack of respect the pub has for its neighbours.

I do not support this change and would prefer to keep to dusk for all licensed areas including the smoking area. That way the pub still enjoys the garden during the better months but I have some reprieve during winter / autumn months and also later in the evening past dusk. With 11pm for 365 days of the year I will have no reprieve. I would therefore suggest you adopt civil dusk as part of the licensing rules and certainly not 11pm.

Sun Set	Nautical	Astronomical	Civil	11pm licencing
January	17.22 to 17.58	17.58 to 18.32	16.49 to 17.22	5.5 hours Longer
February	17.54 to 18.28	18.28 to 19.02	17.24 to 17.54	5 hours longer
March	18.39 to 19.12	19.12 to 19.45	18.10 to 18.38	4.5 hours longer
April	20.25 to 21.02	21.02 to 21.40	19.44 to 20.25	2.5 hours longer
May	21.00 to 21.41	21.41 to 22.28	20.57 to 21.00	2 hours longer
June	21.26 to 22.12	22.12 to 23.09	20.51 to 21.26	1.5 hours longer
July	21.32 to 22.18	22.18 to 23.15	20.56 to 21.32	1.5 hours longer
August	21.04 to 21.44	21.44 to 22.29	20.31 to 21.04	2 hours longer
September	19.39 to 20.12	20.12 to 20.47	19.10 to 19.39	3.5 hours longer
October	19.03 to 19.36	19.36 to 21.10	18.35 to 19.03	4 hours longer
November	17.22 to 17.56	17.56 to 18.30	16.51 to 17.22	5.5 hours Longer
December	17.10 to 17.46	17.46 to 18.21	16.37 to 17.10	6 hours longer

In addition, I point out that should you extend the pub licensing laws given the general noise disturbance I have already experienced post civil dusk I will of course report this on an ongoing basis. I will, if you maintain a dusk licence and it is followed to the letter accept the noise up until that time but I would still expect it to be reasonable.

It is clear that in earlier years the reason why the pub caused little problem was because there was a grasp of dusk but for the last couple of years we have been corresponding dusk has not been observed so the noise is over an extended time and therefore of an irritation. It is clear you have not done your job either and are certainly not doing it now.

Representations 1.a), 1.b) and 1.c) are from the same individual.

2.



Thu 15/07/2021 19:43

Re: Albert Inn, 32 Bridgetown, Totnes, TQ9 5AD from Mr Giles Hawkins

To SW-Licensing

Evening

I wanted to let you know that my elderly neighbour [redacted] is also not in support of the increased licensing hours and nor of the change to the licensed area in The Albert.

[redacted] was unable to email herself as she was not sure how to do this but she is in copy to the email and should be able to respond should you need to reach out to her.



Fri 16/07/2021 21:46

Albert inn

To Naomi Stacey

Confirmed

3.

From: [REDACTED]
Date: 15 July 2021 at 21:58:16 BST
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Albert Inn, 32 Bridgetown, Totnes, TQ9 5AD from Mr Giles Hawkins

[REDACTED]

We are in agreement with your assessment of the noise levels from the Albert Inn and that it has become worse over the years . No attempt has been made to control the levels and dusk closing time has been ignored . [REDACTED] all suffer from it. Because the outside area is raised the noise travels everywhere with very little baffling. Perhaps with some measure of control and a much earlier closing time there is room for compromise.



Fri 16/07/2021 18:47

[REDACTED]
Re: Albert Inn, 32 Bridgetown, Totnes, TQ9 5AD from Mr Giles Hawkins

To SW-Licensing

Yes we wish to make a representation.
Thank you

[REDACTED]

In support:


1.



Tue 13/07/2021 11:58

ALBERT INN BRIDGETOWN TOTNES

To  Naomi Stacey

 You replied to this message on 14/07/2021 14:51.

Hi Naomi

I am aware of an objection to Giles Hawkins' application to amend his license. I'm not sure if you accept supportive letters (I know you wish to receive any objections).

This is a supportive message!

I live at  Some of my walls are also walls of the pub. I could not be much closer!

I have lived in this house for some 12 years. When I bought it, my wife and I were fully expecting 'pub noises' and we have not been disappointed! However, the noises have been totally reasonable. There has been the occasional 'glitch' but these have been easily and harmoniously remedied. Giles Hawkins could not be a more co-operative and hard-working licensee and neighbour.

Following a complaint about the noise from the beer garden, he has just spent £1,500 to erect a 'sound reduction' fence around the beer garden. This illustrates his willingness to be co-operative and thoughtful with his neighbours.

My bedroom windows are close to and look directly on to the beer garden. At 11pm the beer garden is emptied and any noise ceases. This works well and is totally reasonable.

I totally support Giles' application. He is a great neighbour; the Albert Inn is the only pub in Bridgetown and it provides a friendly, convivial and local resource to the community of some 5,000 people.

I hope this helps with your deliberations!

Best wishes



2.



Tue 13/07/2021 12:47

Re: Fw: ALBERT INN BRIDGETOWN TOTNES

To [REDACTED] Naomi Stacey

Cc [REDACTED]

 You replied to this message on 14/07/2021 14:52.

Hi [REDACTED] - Many thanks for your thoughtful letter and support for Giles. Let's hope we can bring some positive influence to this issue.

Hi Naomi - Firstly, I agree with everything [REDACTED] has put in his message of support for Giles. My wife and I live directly beside the pub, on the other side from [REDACTED] and we moved here in full knowledge there was a thriving pub next door. We had anticipated some noise, but this has been minimal and very good-natured. What little we do hear from the pub and garden is invariably good-natured and enhances our enjoyment of living here. Giles has continued to invest in this thriving business during the various lockdowns and it's a shame that there should be any attempt to put barriers in the way of his business being successful. This is an important local amenity, so I do hope that his planning application is supported, as it is by all his neighbours who live here full time.

Thank you and best wishes.

3.




Tue 13/07/2021 13:17

Re: ALBERT INN BRIDGETOWN TOTNES

To  Naomi Stacey; [REDACTED]

Cc [REDACTED]

 You replied to this message on 14/07/2021 14:53.

Dear Naomi

Our family live at no [REDACTED] Our lounge window is on a level with the beer garden at the Albert and about 10 feet from its boundary fence.

I would like to echo everything both [REDACTED] have said.

Giles is an excellent and considerate landlord, the pub is an essential community resource and particularly in the context of the ongoing pandemic I feel he should be definitely supported in providing the opportunity for outdoor socialising.

We have lived here for nearly 7 years, the disruption from the beer garden has been much less than we anticipated when considering the purchase of the house (and subsequent siting of our lounge)- in fact we rarely notice it's presence.


As has already been said Giles is an extremely community minded host who bends over backwards to minimise any impact the pub has on its neighbours

4.



Thu 15/07/2021 09:58

Re: ALBERT INN BRIDGETOWN TOTNES

To  Naomi Stacey

 You replied to this message on 15/07/2021 09:59.

Dear Naomi,

I've lived next door to the Albert Inn for the last 12 years and have not been troubled by any noise from the beer garden, even in summer with all the windows open. The Albert Inn is a valuable community resource and therefore I therefore support Giles' application.