



Mrs Rekha Masih  
Lead Licensing Officer  
Coventry City Council

**Environmental Protection**

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7<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Dear Rekha

**Re: Cottage hearing on 20<sup>th</sup> May**

Please find attached my notice of attendance and additional supporting documents that I wish to be considered.

The applicants have indicated they intend to use Warwick Street as the main entrance for the premises and I have objected to this application in the interests of preventing possible public nuisance in accordance with the licensing objective. I have set out the reasons for my objection in my email to you dated 17<sup>th</sup> April 2019 which I invite the Committee to refer to.

To briefly summarise, the previous owners volunteered a condition to the effect of:

*'The main entrance to the premises shall be from Earlsdon Street. There shall be no public access to the premises from Warwick Street, except to the lounge "snug" bar shown on the Plan, other than in the event of an emergency'.*

In addition, there is a planning condition on the Warwick St entrance on application R/2006/1386 that states:

*'That before the proposed first floor restaurant use hereby permitted commences, the existing door to Warwick Street shall be altered to provide an emergency exit only, in accordance with the approved drawings, and at all times thereafter shall only be used in the event of an emergency. For the avoidance of doubt, there shall be no public access to the first floor restaurant hereby permitted from Warwick Street'.*

As outlined in my objection, my primary concern is with noise from customers as they exit, depart and disperse from the premises late at night, with Warwick Street being a narrow, fairly quiet and predominantly residential street with additional new residential developments underway.

Whilst I recognise that Charles Wells are appealing to the food/family type market and would see an element of staggered departures during the evening, I would nevertheless expect to see a certain proportion of the customer base, particular the drinking element remaining on the

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premises until nearer closing time and leaving close together. I am mindful this is a large premises with a large capacity and in addition the proposed live music events would also create a situation where large numbers of customers may leave together. The premises ultimately have no control over how people travel to and from the premises and at what time they choose to leave.

In my view the most sensible way to control the noise would be an earlier closing time and as such I have made an offer of an earlier closing time - 23.00hrs which I feel is entirely in keeping with the nature of the area and indeed other premises operated by Charles Wells - but this has been rejected on the basis of such hours 'not being sustainable'.

I have undertaken some brief research into other premises run by Charles Wells under the 'Pizza, Pots and Pints' banner. My research shows that of the premises I could identify those premises in Oxford, Cambridge, Hitchin, Baldock and Peterborough typically finish serving food at around 21.00hrs and close at 23.00hrs (only Peterborough is open longer than this until 00.00hrs but that premises is located in the town centre). These premises are also located on busier roads than Warwick Street. I have submitted screenshots from the respective websites and have provided location plans to demonstrate this point which are appended.

In their application, and during lengthy discussions with the applicants they do not seem able to comprehend my concerns, and instead continually refer to the ethos of Charles Wells, but in reality have failed to provide any substantive measures on how they would control such noise,

I therefore have no option but to object to this application the interests of protecting the amenity of local residents on Warwick Street and respectfully request the application is granted by the Committee subject to a closing time of 23.00hrs being imposed seven days a week, and any other conditions that the Committee deem necessary to protect local residents.

Yours sincerely

Neil Chaplin

**Environmental Protection Manager**