

Hard copy of email sent 21/5/19

## Appendix 4 (1)

21st May 2019

Hello Sue Lindsey,

I am writing to formally object to the licensing application by Lewes golf club for the sale of alcohol on and off the premises from 9am to 11pm Monday to Sunday to the general public in addition to the club members.

Chapel Hill, Lewes is a very narrow, steep, single track road which passes through a quiet residential area and is the only access route to the golf club before reaching the South Downs.

There is a 7ft width restriction and a 7T weight restriction with a 20mph speed limit.

It has a public footpath in the middle, (no13b), running up to the Downs and is therefore used not only by the residents of Chapel Hill and Cuilfail, some with young families, but dog walkers and ramblers alike.

In places the ancient pavement is narrow and unable to take a pram or pushchair and in others non-existent, necessitating walking on the road.

When planning consent was granted for the refurbishment and enlargement of the club one of the conditions was "the facilities hereby approved including the bars and dining area shall not be used for functions other than those associated with the golf club unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority." Reason - "in the interest of the amenities of the residents of Chapel Hill.

LW/95/0527F."

My apologies if you are fully aware of these facts.

My objections are based on:

### **Public Safety/ Protection of children from harm**

On the advice of Rupert Clubb, Director of Communication Environment and Transport, residents have been reporting anti-social driving, inconsiderate and careless driving on the footpath.

Over sixty vehicles, that were witnessed, have been reported within the first few months of this year alone, many of these times whilst pedestrians were present.

As explained many road users are families with pushchairs and young children plus school children.

We believe many drivers are speeding and because of the poor quality, aggressive and erratic driving could possibly be influenced by alcohol.

By granting this licence extension there will be an increase in traffic not only in those wishing to use the club's facilities but also of commercial vehicles, many oversized. (Please see attached pictures)

We have no means of monitoring either the speed or alcohol consumption. Despite a meeting with representatives of the golf club in January 2018 any steps to eliminate this by the club have proved ineffectual.

How will the speed of vehicles and drink driving with illegal mounting of the pavement be monitored please?

There is also a sheer drop from the cliff edge on the hill with poor fencing. How will the public safety be ensured here?

### **Public nuisance/Prevention of crime and disorder**

If the club is extending the hours they serve alcohol and make it available to "passers by", this will encourage associated unsavoury, raucous and anti-social behaviour.

If bottles, cans or plastic cups are removed from the premises this will lead to littering.

It is an AONB and broken glass, plastic and other litter will despoil this and will be detrimental and harmful to the wild life.

The residents already experience thousands on the hill on Bonfire Night with drink and even drug related behaviour. This behaviour on a very regular basis would be unacceptable.

How will the behaviour associated with what is virtually a "Public House" in the South Downs National Park be monitored please?

Driving on the pavement is a criminal offence as is the use of over large and heavy vehicles.

One property on the hill has been damaged on several occasions this year as has the lamppost and one resident has been threatened by a commercial vehicle driver with being run over, when she pointed out that he was on the pavement.

With reduced police presence how will the authority ensure the protection of residents, their property and their environment?

Finally I believe that by allowing this extension, condition 9 of the planning consent will be breached twice, as not only is the use of the golf club facilities being extended to the general public, it will also lead to more anti-social behaviour, more vehicles and increased nuisance to the amenities of the residents. Furthermore this appears to be a way of circumventing the refusal by SDNPA to allow the golf club to host weddings, wakes and parties which they were advertising earlier this year and would have contravened the planning consent.

I hope that your decision will reflect the aims of the Licensing Act of 2003 and ensure that the safety, environment of residents and other road users will be protected from disorder, public nuisance and crime.

With thanks

*B.D. Shepherd.*

Barbara Shepherd 23a, Chapel Hill, Lewes.





