

Shirley Loder

From: Brian Whitty <
Sent: 21 December 2021 23:03
To: Licensing
Subject: license application053726

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Sirs,

I wish to make representations regarding the application by Mike Symonds for an alcohol license on the Freshwell camping field on Moor Lane in Croyde.
The primary reason for my objection is that the grant of the license would cause a public nuisance. But there is much more underlying this application which is important to understand.

On 31st March this year the planning dept approved application 72865 for the provision of a temporary coffee/ refreshments facility together with a surf hire unit and store.
The facility comprised 3 units, 2 for surf board hire and 1 for the refreshments. The application stated:

"During the camping season the provision of onsite services for coffee/refreshments as well as a surf hire is highly sought after by guests on site. adding a single unit which contains the coffee shop and surf hire will provide a service for guests.."

The planners report also states there would be no increase in vehicle traffic (as the services are to be provided to guests).

It needs to be pointed out that the opening hours of the coffee shop quoted in the application were 9-5 Monday to Saturday and 10-4 Sunday.

In less than 9 months from approval to this temporary facility, in an area designated AONB, heritage coast and coastal preservation area, the site owner has applied for an alcohol license. The application shows the coffee shop is now a cafe of 2 units (rather than 1) with a bar area and an outside seating area for 100 people, partially covered.
The opening hours are 11-10pm 7 days a week, with an extension to 11pm on bank holidays. The application is also for on and off premises sales.

I have to say that this application does question the integrity of the applicant.

Not only would the license enable him to sell as an off license, exacerbating the problems we have had in the last 2 years of noise and litter on the beach and neighbouring properties. But also it would turn Freshwell Campsite into a local outdoor pub with seating for 100 and standing for who knows how many more.

Gone is the idea of providing services to the campers on site, it is now a licensed establishment for one and all.

The applicant also states that he intends to have "events" on the site which historically, on occasion, have proven to be noisy affairs.

There also been a history in recent times of occasions when drunken groups have been playing loud music at a time when other campers are looking for a night's sleep.

It is not surprising that the adjoining sites oppose the application and as the nearest residential property to the site I have a keen interest in ensuring this peaceful unspoilt area of coastline is protected.

I find it difficult to understand what compromise could be reached on this application and urge the licensing authorities to refuse the application.

Yours faithfully

Brian Whitty

This e-mail has been scanned for all viruses by Claranet. The service is powered by MessageLabs. For more information on a proactive anti-virus service working around the clock, around the globe, visit:
<http://www.claranet.co.uk>
