

**From:** [Licensing](#)  
**Sent:** 07 July 2022 09:15  
**To:** [Shirley Loder](#); [Noel Bourke](#); [Phil Fitzsimons](#)  
**Subject:** FW: APPLICATION NO 054716 for Premises Licence

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**From:** joesurf [REDACTED] com>  
**Sent:** 06 July 2022 16:15  
**To:** Licensing <licensing@northdevon.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** PAUL WATKINS [REDACTED] com>  
**Subject:** APPLICATION NO 054716 for Premises Licence

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Dear Sir/Madam,

The above application 054716 has come to the attention of the Croyde Village Hall Management Committee. This letter represents the opinions of the whole committee, including our Chair Paul Watkins, and (as Secretary) I am writing on their behalf.

Croyde Village Hall Management Committee strongly object to the Application 054716 for the following reasons:

1) The application is not in keeping with the historic, rural village centre of Croyde, and its Village Green - which is of particular concern to the Village Hall Management Committee who are trustees of the hall, the village green and the skatepark. The existing licensed premises which surround the Village Green, support Croyde's unique ambience as a rural, olde-world traditional Devon village where amplified music outdoors is prohibited. These Licence holders have permanent buildings, seating, toilets and hygiene facilities. This application is for a mobile outdoor pub in a carpark, with off-licence sales and amplified music outside all year round, and no toilet facilities.

2) The description of the address for the site of the premises is totally misleading. The carpark in which the Vintage 21 Horse Box is sited is NOT accessed from Sandy Lane (which is much further up Croyde Road): it is directly accessed off a narrow public footpath no 19 Grid Ref 244401-139183. The Croyde Village Hall is just a few metres away on the other side of the Crydda stream, therefore this application impacts on hall activities, especially as we are one of the closest premises.

N.B. To avoid confusion and mis-association (given our own premises licence, and issues we are currently experiencing detailed in Point 5 regarding the carpark) please note we object to the use of the Village Hall in the description of the new proposed premises. Please confirm that the address will be corrected so that it is accurate, with no reference to Croyde Village Hall. The car park is behind Hobbs Hill and accessed from Public Footpath 19.

3) The landowner Mr Henry Hare cleared up the area recently, then applied for a car parking licence. Therefore it is a carpark. It is surrounded by buildings which already have premises licences, ie Billy Budd's Public House, Hobbs Restaurant, The Hub restaurant/bar, Blue Groove restaurant/bar, and a small bar at the Village Hall. All these alcohol licences, with permission for music, are in fixed, solid buildings, not in a mobile unit. There is no permanent building in which to drink in the carpark, therefore customers will take their bottles and cans all over the village where no-one will monitor their safety, their nuisance to the general public or their litter. Broken bottles and half-consumed cans left on the Village Hall Green, the Skate Park, the Childrens' play park, and the Volley ball courts (which are all in the immediate vicinity) are a danger to the general public, especially the younger ones who use these amenities frequently.

4) Who will monitor the volume of the music every day from midday to 9 or 10pm at night? Nine or ten hours of music 365 days a year constitutes noise pollution in a small village. The levels of sound will impinge on village hall events such as plays, examinations, meditation classes etc. Local residents and visitors staying in the area will also be disturbed on a daily basis.

5) The Village Hall Skatepark, which is well used by children (locals and visitors), is directly opposite the carpark to which this application applies. The Village Hall Management Committee have serious concerns regarding the safety of these children, as older friends could buy alcohol and pass it to underage children, especially as drinks can be taken away from the carpark to anywhere in the village. How can the licensing team or the police monitor these activities especially as vehicular access is very difficult along the public footpath?

In the last few months Mr Hare has erected wooden railings either side of an old defunct footbridge over the Crydda stream, which borders Village Hall land and his land. In addition the Village Hall's fencing was trampled down and a very heavy grit box (which was placed there to stop access across the stream) was moved and its lid damaged. This access has been blocked since a notice was served in 1972, 50 years ago. Young people using the Skatepark quickly took advantage of this by walking across to buy food at the 3 commercial food vans which are now often operating there. So these youngsters will inevitably buy alcohol if it is so easily available. The committee quickly reinstated the fencing and grit box, and a sign shows that no official footpath or access is permitted across this old footbridge. Damage has been caused to Village Hall property as a direct result of the new commercialisation of the car park with these food vans this year. The committee can only see an increase in further damage if this licence is granted. There is threat from damage caused by badly-behaved drinkers to our community amenities and equipment, such as the new benches, flower planters and young trees on the Village Green, as well as the new rope adventure course in the play park and the volley ball nets.

6) The centre of Croyde village is a family communal area with related amenities. It is NOT an appropriate place to site an outlet where alcohol can be purchased by the public walking along a public footpath into the village, where they can then use the community area to drink and loiter causing anti-social behaviour, noise, litter and potential damage to expensive community-funded equipment. Who will be responsible for checking all these areas for glass, tins and litter every day?

Who will follow people taking drink out of the carpark, around the village, to ensure they do not litter, cause noise and nuisance to residents and people staying in Croyde?

7) In summary, this application is inappropriate, and does NOT meet all 4 Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder and public nuisance, protection of public safety or protection of children from harm.

Jenny Windsor Sec Paul Watkins Chair  
on behalf of Croyde Village Hall Management Committee