

From: Joan Saddington <[REDACTED]@co.uk>
Sent: 31 March 2023 17:13
To: Licensing <licensing@northdevon.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: Woodpecker Bar and Kitchen License Review

Dear Sir

Woodpecker Bar and Kitchen License Review

I write this letter of support of Tina and Jamie Pearce of the Woodpecker Bar and Kitchen and wish for it to be included when the Licence Review is considered by the Council.

I, my family and a great many local people thoroughly enjoy the good food and atmosphere created by Tina and Jamie at the Woodpecker Bar and Kitchen so it has come as a shock to me that this much needed local amenity is under threat.

Crime and disorder. Not once have I seen any crime being committed or anyone misbehaving themselves when I have been a customer there. The events that Tina and Jamie have held there have been great fun, enjoyed by people of all ages including children. I have not seen, nor heard of one single person misbehaving themselves. It is not a crime for people to enjoy themselves in a safe and welcoming environment and the only crime that would be committed is if you take the licence away from Tina.

Public Nuisance. I can understand that the running of the successful Woodpecker could cause public nuisance if it was in the middle of a residential area. Cars parking, people laughing, enjoying music are all sounds that have to be expected to come from a public amenity of this kind. It is not the case here. The Woodpecker is country based and has but four neighbouring properties surrounding it and even then they are at a distance. It is a great pity that none but one of the neighbouring households is claiming public nuisance. Of course there will be noise when bottles are placed in the recycling, rubbish is placed in bins and the general tidying-up is undertaken. None of that is unreasonable and I know that the Pearces have worked extremely hard to build their business but also to try to appease the complainants. If there is a personal vendetta, then that is what this is and nothing to do with their licence.

I can not reiterate enough that this local amenity is very welcome in the area and well used by the community. The Pearces have seen what locals and visitors want to enjoy and they have provided that.

I absolutely support the Pearces and ask that you do not remove their licence simply because one couple does not enjoy the great success that they have made and offer to us locals.

Yours faithfully

Joan Saddington