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Sent: 05 March 2024 21:34
To: Licensing
Subject: ref: 057749 Sandycove Hotel

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I am writing to express my SUPPORT of the license application request 057749 at;

Sandycove Hotel,
Old Coast Road,
Berryarbor,
Devon,
EX34 9SR.

I have been working part-time at Sandycove Hotel for 20 years, 2 of those years were full-time following the covid lockdown restrictions being lifted. In those 2 years I was employed as the wedding venue operations manager, overseeing every aspect of the day from start to finish. I have first hand experience of the way in which the hotel is managed. In my 20 years of working weddings, the staff, management and directors have been nothing other than professional. Everyone working was made aware of the hotel's location, and to be mindful and respectful of the neighbours surrounding the venue. For example, the main bi-fold doors were shut and then manned from 10pm every night of a wedding, ensuring sound from a band or DJ was minimised. If a band or DJ was deemed to be too loud, they were politely asked to lower the volume. Noise levels during the day and evening were always kept at a modest level. The hotel has a very strict policy on noise levels, doors closing and finishing times, not only for the neighbours, but for its own paying guests staying in the hotel.

I am also an electrician, having been involved in the build of the wedding venue. The sound insulation and acoustics built into the structure is second to none. Thinking of the neighbours was a priority from the very beginning. Previous to the venue was a marquee with zero sound dampening, which was actually much closer to his house than the venue is now... no one ever complained then!

We had zero negative comments from any neighbour that I am aware of, until the gentleman decided to build a new large house closer to the hotel! Maybe he should have thought about that before spending millions in doing so as I believe the hotel was there long before his house.

In my opinion, he has zero regard for his local community, the hard working staff of the hotel and the countless businesses supported by the hotel and its successful wedding operations. He only thinks about himself. He is now starting to harass and manipulate locals who are scared of him into jumping on his band wagon via social media.

The hotel DOES NOT want to host festivals, or raves. Why would they? Who would pay hotel rates to attend? It's ridiculous that he believes this will happen. He is making up fantasy scenarios to beef up his argument. They simply want to adjust the license to bring it in line with modern times to be able to sell alcohol from the terrace and patio, as one would expect from a hotel.

Tens, if not hundreds of people rely on the hotel for income, me being one of them. Without it, I wouldn't be able to support my family or make my mortgage payments. It's a shame that someone without those worries and who is completely out of touch with society and daily struggles feels like he can do whatever he wants. It's awful and so unfair. He could potentially destroy so much in the community, truly upsetting for all involved.

Chris Coles

