MEMORANDUM TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND LICENSING – PLANNING CONSULTATION

Application No: DC/25/1203 Case Officer: Shazia Penne

Address: The Anchor Inn 46 High Street Storrington West Sussex RH20 4DU
Proposal: Erection of free-standing timber lighting posts to rear of premises. Erection of 5No new garden pod seating booths, new low picket fencing, conversion of existing garage into a small bar serving area. Installation of bi-fold doors in enlarged window opening to rear elevation.
Date comments required by: 30/09/2025

Details of the application can be viewed at
https://www.horsham.gov.uk/planning/planningapplications/view-and-comment-on-planning-applications

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PHLO Comments: 25/09/2025

Background

This department has commented on pervious applications for this premises

DC/23/0132 was permitted with Pre-Use Condition that use of the outside patio/garden area shall not be begun until a Noise Management Plan has been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The applicant submitted an acoustic assessment to discharge this Condition.

The application to discharge DISC/23/0168 was refused as the applicant had not demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority as information submitted in support of the application was insufficient.

I can confirm that this department have received previous complaints regarding noise from this premises and that there are 2 incidents still under investigation

The current Premises Licence has a Condition that states ***'The outside patio is not to be open to the public between 2300 hours and 0700 hours',*** and a further Condition stating that ***'Noise from music, singing and speech, whether amplified or non-amplified should be barely audible outside the nearest noise sensitive premises, such that it is inaudible inside the nearest noise sensitive premises between the hours of 2300 and 0700 hours'***

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EHL Comments

I have viewed plans on Public Access & visited the site. There are some residential dwellings in proximity to this property. To mitigate any adverse environmental impacts, the applicant will need to exercise suitable controls.

The use of the garden, external decking and pods offers no protection from noise which will be freely transmitted. During summer months, neighbouring residents are likely to use gardens and have windows open. This site is in a rural village location and during evening hours background noise levels in the area will reduce significantly. This will intensify the impact of any direct noise source from amplified music, etc.

This department make the following recommendations for consideration:

1. Events involving acoustic or amplified music and, any other form of entertainment should not be permitted at external areas.

2. Should background music be permitted in the pods it should always be barely audible outside the nearest noise sensitive premises and restricted to the hours of 12.00 until 22.30

3. The applicant has submitted a Noise Management Plan. This department would like to see the following additions to the Plan:
    - Details on how staff will monitor noise levels
    - What steps will be taken to reduce volume if music is clearly audible outside noise sensitive premises
    - The management to keep a written log to record any incidents of anti-social behaviour. The log will be made available to the Police and Environmental Health upon request.

4. If permitted, special events must be applied for under a Temporary Event Notice (TEN). All nearby residents must be informed 14 days before the event and provided with a dedicate telephone number to allow them to contact the Anchor in the event of any noise issues

5. The festoon lighting fixed on free-standing posts should not cause light trespass to any neighbouring residents.

Construction Stage:

1. Hours of construction activities (including deliveries and dispatch) should be limited to 08.00 – 18.00 Monday until Friday, 09.00 – 13.00 Saturdays and no activity on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

2. A licensed waste removal contractor should remove all clearance debris and construction waste from site.

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3. No burning of materials should take place on site.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact me



Paul Hobbs
Principal Environmental Health Officer