

19<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Sarah Mardon  
Licensing Officer  
Huntingdonshire District Council  
Licensing and Environmental Officers  
Pathfinder House  
St Marys Street  
Huntingdon  
Cambridgeshire  
PE29 3TN

Dear Ms Mardon

**Re: Seven Wives Public House, Ramsey Road, St Ives – Review of Premises Licence Ref  
HDC/PRE00133**

Further to receipt of the premises licence review for the above public house we would record our full support of the review with regards to the public nuisance that the premises is creating causing us distress and destroying the use of our home and outdoor spaces that we should be able to enjoy without the excessive noise and nuisance emanating from the Seven Wives when they are hosting outdoor music or sports events.

The frequency and duration of the events has increased significantly which over the summer period at a time when we should all be able to enjoy our outdoor spaces the Seven Wives was hosting events nearly every weekend and on some weekends on both days with bank holiday weekends on all 3 days. The events can start at 3.00pm and go on until 9.00pm/10.00pm on occasions. During these times it is impossible to be able to use our outdoor spaces due to the volume of noise and retreating indoors the noise levels are still unacceptable to be able to get away from the continuous booming of the bass sounds of the music and audience participation.

The impact on our lives is now extreme as we constantly need to review the pub's Facebook pages to see what events they have planned and must organise our lives to avoid them, however this has become more problematic with impromptu events being held that are not posted on their sites. We should not have to live our lives in this manner. We used to regularly have family and friends around to our house at weekends to enjoy BBQ's and get together however this past year we have not had these get togethers as they become dominated by the activities of the Seven Wives.

When the music is being played outdoors at the Seven Wives, we are subjected to noise levels that are in the Hazardous, Annoying, Irritating, Speech masking levels according to HSE guidance. We should not have to endure this level of nuisance and disruption to our private lives in our own homes and private gardens which is unacceptable on a continuous basis.

When the events are being hosted the direct impact on our lives are as follows.

- Unable to hold conversations outdoors in our gardens without the need to raise voices to excess levels.
- Moving indoors to get away from noise having to close windows but still need to raise volumes of TV and Audio equipment to hear broadcasts.
- Not acceptable to have windows closed denying fresh air circulation.
- Unable to have family or friends to visit as noise unbearable and an embarrassment to our residence.

- Unable to enjoy our outdoor spaces and relax in a calm environment, raised stress levels due to the nuisance.
- Unable to maintain concentration levels to carry out simple tasks such as reading a book or utilise a tablet computer etc

The impact on our mental health and wellbeing is now significant and we now dread the weekends and are continuously looking to seek sanctuary by having to vacate our homes at the weekends to alternative activities away from the home or organise our lives to avoid our homes during the course of the events,

We trust our concerns will be considered when conducting your review of the premises licence.

Yours Faithfully



Representation on behalf of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] for the Review of License HDC/PRE00133 (Seven Wives) by Jon Setchell  
(October 2021).

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I have lived [REDACTED] to the Seven Wives Pub at Green End House with my wife and children for 20 years. [REDACTED] is an historic Grade 2 listed building that has existed for hundreds of years prior to the building of the Seven Wives.

In the past 20 years we have had many landlords who's names I can't remember because we have had little to trouble us. In the main, the landlords prior to Mr Bent have held music events indoors, with the occasional outside event generally on spring and summer bank holidays.

Since Mr Bent's arrival as landlord the number of outdoor events and in particular music events has increased significantly. For the last two years during spring, summer and early autumn there is an event almost every weekend. During the summer the events are frequently Saturday and Sunday and some weekends that can include Friday night also. This summer has been horrific due to the relaxation of building regulations for temporary outside structures; This has enabled Mr Bent to create a comprehensive outside entertainment venue. This has resulted in music occurring almost every weekend and most Sunday afternoons (3pm-7pm). Our lives have become dominated by the Seven Wives music schedule; This means that we have to check the Facebook page every week to determine what we can do in our own lives that weekend.

The frequency and volume levels have meant that we now have to schedule our lives around when Mr Bent decides to have a music event. This means some weekends we decide to leave our home to stay with a relative or friend. Sometimes this isn't possible and we have to accept that our own plans will be impacted; Recently for example, my wife's birthday and my retirement party were both severely disrupted by loud music from the Seven Wives (11 & 19 September 2021). Guests at my [REDACTED] party could not understand how a venue could operate at such volume in a residential area.

The volumes mean that the use of our own property is limited, whereby the following activities are severely impacted during the Seven Wives outdoor music events;

- Use of the front garden for anything without being aurally distracted.
- Relax in the front or rear garden without requiring us to raise our voices to be heard.
- Go to bed at night without being kept awake
- Watch television in our lounge
- Read a book in any room at the front of the house
- Work in my office without interruption


This has become mentally exhausting and very stressful for all of us at a time where stress levels are already heightened by the COVID situation.

In addition to the noise levels, we now also have dangerous car parking and congestion on and around the exit to our house. Because of the additional outside building, the car park in

the Seven Wives is significantly reduced in capacity. This means that we regularly have parking on the road and pavement outside our house. On two occasions I have had to contact the Police as a car has parked half way across the entrance. This causes a danger to pedestrians, through reduced visibility, from cars and vans leaving and entering the driveway. It would also mean that any access to our property by emergency services could be compromised. I have included some pictures of recent events at the end of this document.

During Mr Bent's tenure as license holder he has never visited my house to discuss with me his plans for his business, the noise levels nor the car congestion. I am his closest neighbour as my property adjoins his property for most of the garden, including the outside entertainment area. Mr Bent should not operate in isolation from the community directly around the Seven Wives where the environmental impact of his actions are felt most. For two years he has completely ignored the impact of his business plans on my family's lives, even though he was formally served with a noise abatement notice in 2020. That we have had to come to this review of his license is evidence of his thoughtless behaviour and disregard for the legal conditions under which he is supposed to operate.

I suggest that it is time that HDC put very clear guidance and rules around his operation so that he can focus on running a community business within the boundaries set by HDC and his neighbours can live normal lives and enjoy their property without limitations.



26 October 2021

Examples of unsafe road congestion



31<sup>st</sup> October 2021

Sarah Mardon  
Licensing Officer  
Huntingdonshire District Council  
Pathfinder House  
St Marys Street  
Huntingdon  
Cambs  
PE29 3TN

Dear Sarah Mardon

**Ref HDC/PRE00133**

**Review of Premises Licence -Seven Wives Public House, Ramsey Road, St Ives, PE27 5RF**

In your review of the premises license at the Seven Wives public house we would like to record our support for this review in regard to the public nuisance created. We had assumed that the Noise Abatement order put in place last year would have resolved the situation. This however has not been the case and is having an enormous impact on our lives.

Over the last two years and in particular this year where they have hosted a vast amount of excessively loud outdoor music and sports events on their car park space clearly in breach of the noise abatement notice. This year they have hosted events almost every weekend, bank holidays and occasionally in the week.

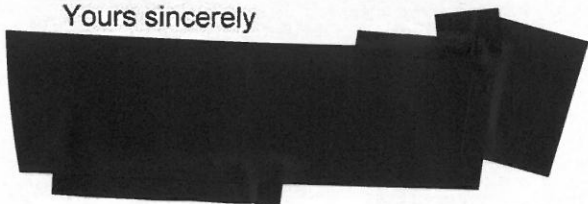
Having lived here for over 20 years we have never been subjected to these conditions which is now having a detrimental effect on our wellbeing. When events are on, we are unable to use our outdoor spaces with the peace that we would expect to enjoy and have done previously due to the excessive noise. In retreating to our indoor space, we are forced to keep all windows closed and increase the volume on our media equipment to enable us to hear over and above the noise produced at the public house.

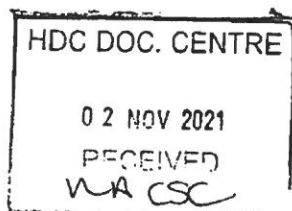
We no longer feel comfortable in inviting guests or family to our home as we are never sure what volume might emanate from the public house and interrupt our enjoyment of our own space.

In addition to the noise issues there is now a parking hazard in Ramsey Road due to the fact that the public house has built a substantial building on their car park space forcing customers & staff to park their vehicles in the street, blocking the paths and reducing visibility of oncoming vehicles and cyclists.

Please seriously consider our concerns during the Premises License review process.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and name of the sender.



Huntingdon District Council  
Licensing Section  
Pathfinder House  
St Mary's Street  
HUNTINGDON  
Cams.  
PE29 3TN

October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021

Dear Sirs

**Re: Review of Premises Licence for the Seven Wives Public House  
Hearing on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2021**

We note the review of the premises licence for the Seven Wives on the grounds of public nuisance, which has been instigated by the Environmental Health Officer.

We are writing to confirm our own concerns with the frequent and unacceptably loud noise coming from the Seven Wives during their 'events'. In the summer we should be able to sit in and enjoy our garden, but we are driven indoors by the noisy live bands playing at this pub. We should not be in the position of having to shut the windows to lower the noise level in our home. Visitors to us are astonished at how poorly the Seven Wives treat their neighbours. On several occasions we have been unable to entertain our visitors in our garden due to the incessant noise.

We cannot understand why the Seven Wives is allowed to so casually interfere with our enjoyment of our home. The list of events given by Environmental Health Officer in the review application shows the relentless nature of the amplified music events over the summer period. Perhaps looking at this list you may understand how depressing it is to hear the first notes of an event at the Seven Wives, knowing that this noise will continue for several hours.

This letter has been written by us in support of the conditions suggested by the Environmental Health Officer. We agree these conditions could go some way to control the nuisance caused by the Seven Wives to the neighbourhood.

Yours sincerely

