
From: Lesley Anne Cornish
Sent: 06 May 2021 15:10
To: Licensing
Subject: The Big Sheep Application for Entertainment Licence - Acknowledged 06.05.2021

Sirs,
Re The Big Sheep Application for Entertainment Licence

I strongly oppose the granting of this license.

As a resident of College Park on Abbotsham Road, the noise from this venue is intrusive and very annoying as it stands at the moment, so with permission for noisy events 7 days a week, up to 10 p.m on 6 of them, the resulting intrusion would be totally unacceptable.

There are many people with small children, and many elderly residents who are distressed and kept awake by the racket as it is. Then there is the added disturbance of heavy traffic, leaving late at night all at the same time, down the narrow lane at their location, and down Abbotsham Road towards the town.

Residents cannot sit in their garden on a sunny afternoon at weekends without the clamour coming from the Big Sheep when they are holding an event, exacerbated by the breeze coming from that direction making the noise even louder.

On a previous occasion the residents have been given assurances by the Big Sheep management, all of which have been subsequently ignored or forgotten.

While I appreciate the need for businesses to survive in this current financial situation, once again the local business people give no thought to the local residents.

Regards
Lesley Cornish

From: Emily Harris
Sent: 05 May 2021 09:59
To: Licensing
Subject: The Big Sheep Licence Application - Acknowledged 05.05.21

Dear Sir/Madam,

I writing to raise a formal objection to the current open application made by The Big Sheep for the following licensing:
The Prevention of Public Nuisance.

I am a resident of the near-by College Park and during the summer of 2020 several events were held. The noise generated by these events unacceptable, so-much-so a letter of apology was posted through the doors of the local residents by the event holders, i.e. they themselves know that it is indeed unacceptable level of disturbance, and that it IS in fact a 'Public Nuisance'.

It's acknowledged that many businesses have been put under financial strain during the past year due the COVID-19 pandemic, however requesting permission for a permanent license to operate these events each and every weekend is very inconsiderate and inappropriate for nearby residents to endure. The noise can be heard from inside of our homes, with both the windows and doors closed - The Big Sheep prides themselves on being family friendly, but I cannot in my opinion fathom how can such regular noise disruption be deemed family friendly?

It is also worth noting the disruption to traffic, when larger events are held at the venue, you will find that often there is not enough parking onsite at the venue and so the roads both between Bideford & The Big Sheep and Abbotsham & The Big Sheep that cars are quite literally ditched on either side of the road making it very difficult to pass through, this I feel is a potential risk to public safety should emergency vehicles need to get by.

Yours Sincerely,

Emily Harris

From: adrian cook
Sent: 04 May 2021 19:49
To: Licensing
Subject: The Big Sheep Licensing Application - Acknowledged 05.05.2021

Dear Sirs

I wish to lodge a formal objection to the application submitted by The Big Sheep due to it causing public nuisance with respect to the noise levels experienced by nearby residents.

I am a resident of College Park, and was disturbed on a number of occasions last summer during live music events.

Despite the request from residents and promise to reduce the sound levels, the organiser failed to do so and noise disturbance continued.

I know that it has been a difficult year and I gave The Big Sheep some grace last year, however the application to continue these loud events and extend these to be able to run on Fridays, Saturdays and Bank Holidays until late is in my opinion not acceptable for local residents.

Above and beyond this, I can see that several events are already being listed on The Big Sheep site, which are music events, which are occurring on weekdays. I can only assume that this is being slipped under the net using the 'plays' option given that they are in conjunction with The Plough Arts Centre. Again this is unacceptable and in disregard for the local residents.

I am also concerned regarding the potential impact on house values should noise disturbance become a constant issue.

Yours faithfully

Adrian Cook

From: Mark Boon
Sent: 04 May 2021 15:02
To: Licensing
Subject: Current Application to vary Premises Licence - The Big Sheep, Abbotsham. Submitted 21/4/21 - Acknowledged 4.5.21

Good afternoon,

Regarding the above application by Richard Turner and Simon Lacey from the Big Sheep I would like to make the representations on two areas.

Public Safety

This company has held several large scale events in the past two years or so, on a number of occasions there have been private vehicles parked either side of Abbotsham Rd on the grass verge and the footpath around the area of the Big Sheep. This causes a danger to other road users because the road effectively becomes narrowed along a significant length between the Big Sheep and Lower Winsford bed and breakfast. Cars parking on the pavement also means that pedestrians are forced to walk in the roadway to get through to, or from Abbotsham.

Increased traffic travelling to and from these proposed 7 night a week events will also cause danger to pedestrians walking along Abbotsham Road either those attending the events or those passing the events. Lockdown has seen a dramatic increase in the number of pedestrians walking along Abbotsham Rd in this area as it is, if these events are allowed to take place without proper regulation and traffic control there will be accidents.

The prevention of public Nuisance

At previous events it has been noted by myself and other residents of College Park that the music level was high enough to be able to hear it both outside and inside my home which is around 1/3 mile away from the proposed siting of the stage. Some people said they could actually hear it in East-The -Water. My understanding is that the volume from future events, if allowed under licence, is going to be louder than at previous events and this is to be mitigated by better acoustics. Any sound will carry over a distance, atmospherics play a large part in that, it would be very difficult to minimise the cry of noise, particularly if it is louder than previous events, by acoustic management.

Let me add at this stage that I am a great fan of live music and outdoor events and do not wish to be seen as being negative towards the Big Sheep, however, loud music at any time from any location amounts to anti social behaviour which is an offence in law, licenced or not.

Measures must be put in place if this application is granted to minimise the disruption that these events will inevitably cause particularly if they are 7 days/nights a week up to 10pm at night. There are lots a families with small children living on the College Park developement, most will be in bed long before the proposed 10pm finish time.

From conversation I have had with various residents Mr Turner was approached (by Facebook and phone) at the time of previous events and though full of promises no effort was made to keep the volume to an acceptable level and to an acceptable time.

In conclusion, if this application is to be granted, it must be done so under strict conditions which should include strong traffic management around the site before, during and after the events.

Levels of noise/music to be stopped at a reasonable hour particulalry in the week, to 8pm. 9pm at weekends and Council Officers should be on hand to spot check these events and uphold/enforce any licensing conditions imposed.

From: Victoria Cook ·
Sent: 03 May 2021 15:25
To: Licensing
Subject: Big Sheep Licence Application - Acknowledged 4.5.21

Dear Sirs

I wish to raise formal objection to the open application by The Big Sheep in relation to the following licensing objection:

The Prevention of Public Nuisance

As a resident of nearby College Park, the noise generated by several events last year was unacceptable and disturbed us in our homes. Our child was unable to sleep due to the noise coming from the Big Sheep, which could be heard over the television with all doors and windows shut.

Whilst I recognise the difficult times in which businesses find themselves in currently, having a permanent license to operate these events every weekend would in my opinion to be wholly inappropriate for those living nearby.

Whilst some patience was given to the organisers last year due to the pandemic, ongoing events, with free license to operate these every weekend (and plays/ films etc everyday) is over and above what local residents should have to endure.

It is also important to note any negative impacts on selling properties going forward if this license is approved and noise levels escalate.

Yours faithfully

Victoria Cook



From: Ramin Shamsolahi
Sent: 03 May 2021 18:09
To: Licensing
Subject: Licensing - big sheep - Acknowledged 4.5.21

hi,

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed extension of licensing for the big sheep for music events.

As a resident of the college Park Estate the noise from this was clearly and loudly heard last time from our house and was quite intrusive. Absolutely no issue with it being now and again but a license for live music until late into the evening all weekend every weekend is in my view excessive and unfair to local residents.

Sincerely

Ramin Shamsolahi

From: Alan Harding
Sent: 03 May 2021 11:55
To: Licensing
Subject: Big Sheep - Acknowledged 4.5.21

Hi,

Yesterday 2/5/21 The Big Sheep was doing sound testing for future planned events. Although it was quieter than last year you could still here the music and the vocals. It was like listening to somebody playing their radio loud in the back garden. I think this needs to be looked into as this will be a noise issue over the weekends ?

From: Richard Kirton
Sent: 29 April 2021 21:57
To: Licensing
Subject: The Big Sheep licence application - Acknowledged 30.4.21

I am writing to oppose the application from The Big Sheep. I live in College Park, near to The Big Sheep and I believe that I will have to move house should their application be granted!

We have 2 children, one 3 and the other not even 1 yet. Can you imagine trying to get both children to sleep with their entertainment going from 10am to 10pm! The application covers every single day! Surely this is excessive?

On the previous occasions when they have put on outdoor events the noise was so loud that we complained (a first for me)

The following day, to their credit they did apologise and promised to reduce the volume, but this did not happen. We ended up giving up trying to get them to sleep at our own home and drove them to my parents house. I feel that I should not have had to do this. It was stressful and upsetting for them. Now they want a licence to do this 7 days a week?

We chose this area because it's a quiet area with other families. We like living here (currently) but, should this be allowed we would have no other choice but to move. Would anyone else want to buy the property with the noise from The Big Sheep being heard 10am to 10pm? This would affect to value of the property and those of the families around us.

I feel it is completely unreasonable to even apply for this licence. The Big Sheep is a fantastic **family** attraction, it should be kept as a **family** attraction. 10pm on weekdays is completely wrong for a family attraction close to residential areas. I am not against anyone having fun, but surely 1 day a week would fit their requirements and maintain respect for those around them?

Please do not allow this application.

Kindest regards

Richard Kirton

From:
Sent: 29 April 2021 20:10
To: Licensing
Subject: Application for events The Big Sheep - Acknowledged 30.4.21
Attachments: FB_IMG_1619722708575.jpg

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to lodge my objection to the application for events to take place at The Big Sheep, Abbotsham.

Allowing events that will produce disruptive noise from ten in the morning to ten at night every day is unacceptable.

Residents of College Park Bideford are in direct exposure to the noise, that from past experience, has an adverse effect on the enjoyment of our properties.

It will also bring with it unsocial behaviour of many groups, many drunk, making their way along Abbotsham Rd to Bideford being rowdy and loud in the process, again experienced in the past.

I appreciate this business is trying to diversify and survive post covid-19, but this should not be at the expense of residents that have no choice but to endure the noise!

Thanking you

Paul Hogan

From: Carlene Piercy
Sent: 28 April 2021 16:32
To: Licensing
Subject: Application to Vary Premises Licence at the Big Sheep - Acknowledged 28.4.2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to object to the application to vary the premises licence at the Big Sheep under the Prevention of Public Nuisance and the Prevention of Crime and Disorder licensing objectives

Living on the College Park estate, we, like many other families here, have young children and the events last summer impacted on our right to sleep as well as our right to enjoy our own home without being subjected to excessive noise. Our sleep was disturbed regularly and we do not find it acceptable to be disturbed by such loud music, which can be heard over a television or white noise in a child's bedroom. We approached Mr Turner on several occasions throughout 2020, however it was to no avail as he did not introduce any control measures even when he admitted it was too loud on our street

We would also be concerned about levels of anti social behaviour from the increasing number of visitors it will bring to the area late at night, especially where alcohol is being consumed in large quantities, as well as the impact on local wildlife

We feel there is no need to have an open air venue within this area and this should be avoided at all costs

In summary we object to this for the following reasons:

- Right to sleep
- Right to enjoy our own home without being subjected to nuisance noise levels
- Time of day the events will take place (up to 10pm at night)
- Frequency of the events
- How near the open air venue is to housing and local communities
- The risk of increased anti social behaviour
- Impact on local wildlife due to noise levels and increase in anti social behaviour

Kind regards

Mr & Mrs Slade

From: KEITH FUNNELL
Sent: 27 April 2021 16:03
To: Licensing
Subject: Re: Public Registers - The Big Sheep, Abbotsham, Bideford, EX39 5AP - Acknowledged 27.4.21
Attachments: The BIG SHEEP 1st Aug 2020 FB Complaints to live Music [2].pdf; The BIG SHEEP 1st Aug 2020 FB Complaints to live Music [1].pdf

Hi Sarah,

Many thanks for your response.

While I remember it, I have gone onto The Big Sheep Facebook page for one of the first live music events there on 1st August 2020. I have attached a couple of screenshots that confirm my objection base on the references that I have mentioned as proof how others were effected and how far the noise was traveling.

Kind regards

Keith Funnell

On 27/04/2021 11:55, Licensing wrote:

Dear Keith

Thank you for your representation in respect of the application to vary the premises licence for the Big Sheep.

Your representation will be considered by a sub-Committee of the Council's Licensing Committee at a licensing hearing.

You will be invited to attend the hearing to give evidence in support of your representation.

The hearing will be arranged after the closing date for representations which is 19th May 2021.

We will contact you again when a date for the hearing has been arranged.

Kind regards

-----Original Message-----

From: KEITH FUNNELL

Sent: 26 April 2021 19:53

To: Licensing <licensing@torridge.gov.uk>

Subject: Public Registers - The Big Sheep, Abbotsham, Bideford, EX39 5AP

Objection;

I have just been informed that The Big Sheep organisers have made an application to vary their Premises License to include various activities including Plays & Films, Boxing & Wrestling plus Live Music & Recorded Music.

It is with much regret that I have to raise objection based on the noise levels experience at my property within the College Park development after similar outdoor events last year. Last year The Big Sheep held similar music events throughout Friday, Saturday and Sunday that at times were intolerable as a local resident. Typically you had to shut all windows in my house and even with modern double glazing could barely hear the television when trying to relax each evening. This was especially noticeable in certain wind directions and one event persons reported on Facebook stating they could hear it quite clearly on the other side of Bideford at East the Water.

It was appreciated that the event organiser Mr Richard Turner acknowledged this and monitored within the locality, but unfortunately on most occasions it was far too intrusive levels of noise that ruin weekend after weekend for homes close-by.

I fully understand the difficulty establishments such as The Big Sheep have been facing over the last year or more, but this shouldn't not be at the expense of local residents that otherwise support them as best we can.

Therefore, please acknowledge receipt of this objection and confirm your decision in writing.

Regards

Keith Funnell

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From: Alexander Rushton
Sent: 27 April 2021 06:52
To: Licensing
Subject: The big sheep and baa-ladium licensing - Acknowledged 27.4.21

Hello,

I hope this message reaches you well.

I am writing to you today to bring to your attention the potential nuisance noise issues and complaints raised by the residents of the college park estate on abbotsham road.

When the "baa-ladium" or palladium/big sheep events were happening last year, many residents of the estate contacted the gentleman to make requests for the volume to be regulated as it was becoming a nuisance back then. However, got very limited or unhelpful replies basically saying "oh well, could have been the wind." Etc.

As residents of the estate we are worried that the same if not worse nuisance will come to fruition once more. Part of the reason my wife and I were drawn to the estate was for its quiet, peaceful nature. This was somewhat ruined for many of us previously when the baa-ladium began.

I'd like to raise a small number of concerns:

1. The volume of music played at any time last year and since the baa-ladium has been running events, was too loud. It got to a point where people were not able to watch television in their own home without being disturbed, young children were being kept awake in the evenings and night times and it was just generally irritating to constantly hear noise.
2. The proposed licensing for live music, outdoor and indoor entertainment is requested for 10pm every night of the week. Is this really acceptable? I worry that entertainment happening every night of the week would add to the upset. 10pm can be considered late to those who are elderly, have young children, or work early in the mornings. When we moved to the estate it was surrounded by quiet areas and fields. Now we are in danger of having that peace jeopardised.
3. I also worry that the increased traffic to and from the big sheep will bring with it, more drunken and anti social behaviour to the area. And also increase footfall, litter and damage to the surrounding areas as local and tourists alike descend on the big sheep.
4. The idea of hosting camping as advertised on facebook, while at live music events will increase the level of noise that will go on late into the night once again disturbing those living close by.
5. A small number of events spread across the year would have been acceptable as is the case with any other venue. However, licenses for every night of the week, when it is so close to a quiet residential area, seems unfair, unreasonable and unacceptable.

I hope that the license request is seen as unreasonable or at least that there are some restrictions or caveats put in place to ensure the happiness, safety and well-being of the local residents. This has been a stressful year for most and I feel this is an unnecessary added stress.

I understand that businesses need to try to survive, but this should not be at the detriment of other unaffiliated parties, including the residents nearby.

Thankyou for taking the time to read this email, among the other correspondence that you have received.

I hope to hear from you soon,

Yours sincerely

Alex & Angela Rushton

22/05/2024

1/1/2024

From: PAUL DAVIS
Sent: 04 May 2021 10:34
To: Licensing
Subject: Premises licence objection - The Big Sheep - Acknowledged 4.5.21
Importance: High

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are concerned, as are many residents of properties near The Big Sheep, to discover they have applied for a Premises Licence (see below) regarding what will be a significant increase in indoor and outdoor entertainment noise across the whole of their site.

These have been extremely challenging times for us all and whilst we understand their need to increase turnover to recoup losses, this must not be at the expense of local residents and holiday makers who live in and visit this beautiful peaceful part of the country.

The Big Sheep is a super family attraction but their plans for entertainment from 10am to 10pm 7 days a week is of great concern and, if allowed to go ahead, this decision 'will' significantly affect the surrounding residential areas including, in particular, the many young families plus elderly and infirm residents that live close by. Not forgetting pets.

Therefore we ask that this licence is not granted and that a more suitable application for events is made by The Big Sheep and this time they consider their location, given that this attraction is in such close proximity to housing developments.

Kind Regards

Elizabeth & Paul Davis

Mr Richard Turner & Mr
Simon Lacey

Application to vary Premises Licence to include provision of regulated entertainment on whole site (indoors and outdoors):

The Big Sheep,
Abbotsham, Bideford,

- Plays & Films on Monday to Sunday from 10:00 to 22:00
- Boxing & Wrestling on Friday to Sunday from 10:00 to 22:00
- Live Music, Recorded Music & Performance of Dance on Friday, Saturday & Bank Holidays from 10:00 to 22:00 and Sunday from 10:00 to 18:00

EX39 5AP

From:
Sent: 26 April 2021 20:48
To: Licensing
Subject: Licence application The Big Sheep - Acknowledged 27.4.21

I am emailing in reference to the licensing application made by Mr R Turner and Mr S Lacey for The Big Sheep. I wish to register my objection as a resident of the nearby College Park estate.

The events held at The Big Sheep in the summer of 2020 were exceptionally loud. From inside my house with the windows closed, I could hear every song played. From the garden I was able to hear all the words sung by those performing, as well as all the talk on stage between songs, even including loud amplified swearing during some of the afternoon, which as a parent of a young child, is not something I wish to hear in my garden at any time of day.

In addition, the roads around the estate seemed to become an unofficial overflow car park, and attracted people walking through the estate late into the evening, some very loud and drunk, with no concern for residents.

Many of the residents raised concerns to Mr Turner via the Big Sheep's social media pages, and we were promised that the issues raised would be addressed before the next event. However, the events seemed if anything to get louder. Mr Turner even stated on his Facebook page that he had tested the sound for residents of Abbotsham village but had not thought about the other direction.

I feel that allowing a permanent music licence seven days a week until 10pm at night will adversely affect the lives of all residents in this area, but particularly those with young families due to the noise, late finishes and antisocial behaviour of those using the estate for parking.

Thank you,

Tania Horrocks

[Sent from the all-new AOL app for Android](#)

Sarah Purser

From: Glen Parry
Sent: 26 April 2021 19:00
To: Licensing
Subject: License application for the Big Sheep for Music events - Acknowledged 27.4.21

To whom it may concern,

Last year's events held at the Big Sheep created disturbances on College Park and Londonderry Farm estates and further a field towards Bideford College.

The current location of the stage and hence PA system are pointing directly along Abbotsham Road towards people's homes. Prevailing Westerly winds do not help, by carrying the noise further.

Before a license is considered, could an experiment be made by relocating the stage to back onto the Abbotsham Road and hence pointing the speakers away from homes towards the A39, an already busy and hence noisy road.

Regards

Glen Parry

From:
Sent: 26 April 2021 18:02
To: Licensing
Subject: Big Sheep Licence Application - Objection - Acknowledged 27.4.21

Dear Sir

I would like to object to the following application made by the Big Sheep:

Mr Richard Turner & Mr Simon Lacey, The Big Sheep, Abbotsham, Bideford, EX39 5AP

Application to vary Premises Licence to include provision of regulated entertainment on whole site (indoors and outdoors):

- Plays & Films on Monday to Sunday from 10:00 to 22:00
- Boxing & Wrestling on Friday to Sunday from 10:00 to 22:00
- Live Music, Recorded Music & Performance of Dance on Friday, Saturday & Bank Holidays from 10:00 to 22:00 and Sunday from 10:00 to 18:00

I am a local resident living on the College Park Estate (post code EX39 3TB) and the noise from events last year was intolerable. My family goes to bed early (around 9am) because we have early starts and there are a lot of young children on the Estate.

It is therefore not acceptable to have regular entertainment on 7 nights a week which is scheduled to end at 22:00, particularly if some of these events will be held outdoors. It disturbs the peace and the right of local residents to sleep at reasonable hours. It will also increase the likelihood of alcohol related crime in the local area.

I therefore request that the Council does not grant the licence as requested.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email and also a summary of responses that are received as part of this consultation including the total number of objections versus support.

Thank you

Vanessa Lane

From:
Sent: 26 April 2021 15:26
To: Licensing
Subject: Proposed live music extension The Big Sheep - Acknowledged 27.4.21

Hi team,

I read with considerable concern the application The Big Sheep has made to extend its indoor and outdoor entertainment license. Events that have been held back in 2020 outdoors were already far too loud with the noise drifting right across the College Park and Londonderry Farm estates to which I've had to complain directly to Rick on numerous occasions without anything actually being actioned. Whilst I have no objection to indoor events or an occasional Saturday outdoor event, I do object most strongly to the potential for 7 days a week noise till 10pm outdoors, with the subsequent bun fight of vehicles escaping the site, particularly in summer when windows are likely open. I certainly would feel for parents of young children trying to get them to sleep!

Personally I would like to see an adjustment to the application, such that open air events are restricted to 2 Saturdays a month.

I would be grateful if you'd keep me abreast on the decision for this application.

Rgds
Mark

Sarah Purser

From: Kelly Standen
Sent: 26 April 2021 14:23
To: Licensing
Subject: Re licensing application for the big sheep - Acknowledged 27.4.21

To whom it may concern.

We are a family with 3 young children who live on College Park estate in Bideford (

It's come to my attention that the Big Sheep have applied for a licence to hold more outside events. I strenuously ask that you consider declining this request.

During lockdown, we listened to the events happening at the weekend on a regular basis and it was heard, very clearly both in the garden and in our home. On more than a number of occasions it disrupted our children's sleep (8,6,2) with them unable to sleep during the performances, I am absolutely distraught at the thought that this might happen on a nightly basis throughout the year.

I would be happy to discuss this if anyone wants to contact me,

Many thanks,

Kelly Standen

18 May 2021

The Licensing Team
Torridge District Council
Riverbank House
Bideford. EX39 2QG

Reference: Licensing representation concerning application to vary a premises licence to include provision of regulated entertainment at The Big Sheep, Abbotsham, Bideford EX39 5AP

Dear Licensing Team,

I write with respect to the above mentioned premises licence amendment application, submitted by Mr Richard Turner and Mr Simon Lacey on 21 April 2021. We are concerned that their proposal to allow music and events from an outdoor arena space will lead to a significant and regular noise nuisance.

My family and I are near neighbours of the address, as seen in the attached map. Our property, ' ' lies 800m from the arena stage, in the direction of sound travel. During the pandemic lockdowns last summer, music and entertainment events at The Big Sheep, including live and recorded music, soundchecks and voices over the PA system, were clearly audible inside our house, sometimes from mid-morning through until after the bedtimes of our own and our guests' children.

As a hospitality business ourselves, we are very tolerant of occasional or annual festival style events that bring tourists to the area and benefit the local community and businesses. We are also very understanding of the efforts made by The Big Sheep in collaboration with the Palladium club to continue operating their businesses, and providing a source of entertainment to the local community, during an incredibly difficult year, with their series of lockdown gigs and events.

However, we are extremely concerned about the ongoing regular programme of weekend outdoor entertainment proposed, and about the proposed licence amendment that would allow such activity for up to 12 hours per day, seven days a week, with live music performances over any weekend. The regular and extended hours of the noise disturbance of the proposed outdoor arena is a subject of considerable distress and worry about the impact on our family home life and business.

' ' is a residential and commercial property, registered with Torridge District Council for both residential council tax and business rates. It has a mixed use including a private family dwelling, holiday lettings units and residential

training, and we are currently developing our business to include small private functions, dinners and events, including weddings – development that has required significant restoration and refurbishment work undertaken over the past 6 years in discussion with the council, specifically the heritage officer/planning department.

We understand that the applicants have made some changes to their arena since last year's concerts, with the aim of mitigating the complaints of sound disturbance. In their social media posts, the owners described a solid back being placed on the stage to attenuate monitor sound travelling backwards towards Abbotsham village, which now means that the sound is now largely projected eastwards. Clearly some landscaping has been undertaken to alter the banks around the edges of the site. But also the stage level appears to have been raised on a concrete foundation. A VIP marquee has been constructed at the edge of the site with its back towards the A39 junction. The marquee can be seen through the hedge, thus there appears to be presently very little sound attenuation in this direction-which also happens to be the direction in which our own property lies.

The legal average sound pressure level permitted for a live music audience is 107 decibels. If we assume the guests in the VIP tent were to experience a lesser 100 decibels, by 800 m away at Moreton the sound pressure level could still be 80 decibels without attenuation. Even at 80 decibels in the VIP tent, the level at Moreton could be as much as 60 decibels.

By contrast, in an area such as ours, with no significant background noise, it appears that the permitted noise level beyond which we can request intervention by the council is 34 decibels.

To keep to this limit, the volume in the VIP tent would have to be 54 decibels – unless significant attenuation measures were to be in place (a sound-absorbent back wall behind the marquee, for example).

A recent small event at the site last month, including an outdoor church service with music performances, was audible in our garden. The sound was muffled so as to be difficult to hear the words, but it was still disturbing to hear this for a period of several hours on an otherwise quiet Sunday.

We are frankly quite surprised that developing an outdoor arena performance space has been possible without any public planning consultation process. And to approve the licence amendment without wider public debate, before the first of this year's concerts make the impact evident to the broader community, would also seem hasty. Our Abbotsham and College Park neighbours have become aware of the posted notices at the site, but these are seen only by people who regularly travel past the venue (during times with covid restrictions), while the effects will be felt far more widely by the nature of sound travel.

While we don't wish to hinder the applicant from seeking additional business streams, and are highly supportive of both regular events of a less disturbing

volume or occasional bigger gigs or festival concerts limited to a restricted number of weekends, we are concerned that a licence to develop a full time outdoor arena which is permitted to broadcast amplified music at concert volume would be highly detrimental to a large number of local residents, and granting of such a licence extension without careful public consultation, full planning disclosure and ongoing monitoring of the impact on the local community would be irresponsible. In light of the easing of lockdown restrictions, it appears that the indoor performance areas and theatres should soon be allowed to open again. We would like to request at the very least, some significant restriction to the number of days and sound levels permitted by any licence amendment.

Yours sincerely,

Helen and Harvey Phillips

To Sir/Madam of the Licensing Authority,

This representation refers to the application made by Richard Turner & Simon Lacey for The Big Sheep, Abbotsham Road. The representation is made by myself, Sandra Cooper, owner of Lower Winsford B&B.

Lower Winsford B&B is a period farmhouse in the countryside offering adult only peaceful stays. We are rated 8.9 on booking.com and are consistently praised for peacefulness and quietness of the house and the surrounding location (see images 1). Our reviews dictate our successfulness as a guesthouse and it is more important than ever for us to maintain positive reviews to ensure our success in the future.

In summer 2021 we first experienced disturbance due to the noise from the Live Events at the 'The Big Sheep'. Although we do not wish to stifle creativity or entrepreneurial endeavour, we don't see it fair for such to cause disturbance to our business that likewise has suffered and continues to as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. The new and existing licenses & licensing proposals cause us concern about disturbances that may be caused to our business. We believe the adaptation of purpose of the Big Sheep's grounds has led to unacceptable noise levels at our property. We have several videos that show the loudness of the events that can be supplied if so wished for.

Understandably last summer was considered by all in the hospitality industry as exceptional circumstances, as a result we decided not to lodge an official complaint about the noise of the events and tried to work with Richard directly. We contacted Richard Turner about the issue with varying degrees of success. Richard seemed to listen and understand our problem but no action was seemingly taken thereafter to solve it.

As a result we worried that those guests who had booked over the weekends when events took place would give us bad feedback about their stay. With the new licensing proposal which at worst would cause noise nuisance Monday - Saturday 10:00 to 22:00 and Sunday 10:00 to 18:00, it is inevitable that guests will complain and reviews us poorly because of it.

We have noted that there have been changes made by Richard & Simon, the stage, described on social media by The Big Sheep as 'Epic' has grown in size, unfortunately the direction in which the stage is pointed has not changed. The stage

is pointed directly towards our business which is only 340m away (see images 2). The guest rooms we offer are on the front of the house in the line of sight of the stage. The noise level is worsened by the underpass midway between The Big Sheep and Lower Winsford B&B, it seems to work as an amplifier (see images 3). These concerns were raised with Richard last year in the hope that a solution could be found in positioning the stage towards the Atlantic Highway where the neighbours are further away.


We think that a remedy for the situation would be for Richard to work with the villagers's and local businesses to find a way to sustainably host these events so that no one is affected. We would welcome noise testing and to give feedback that can help future design and layout changes that ensure peace for everyone.


I hope there may be an amicable situation for everyone and my business can continue to offer peaceful stays throughout the summer.


Kind regards,


Sandra Cooper

Images 1

-  **Wayne**
Australia



 Double Room with En-Suite and Garden View


 4 nights - September 2019


 Family


Reviewed: 10 September 2019

Very comfortable and quiet. A friendly host who looked after us very well 10

 - Quiet room, triple glazing stopped all noise from nearby roads. Excellent continental breakfast with comprehensive range of cereals, breads, spreads and fruit. Easy to find, well signposted. Pleasant garden area with outdoor seating.
-  **Shawn**
United Kingdom


 Superior Double Room



 1 night - September 2020


 Couple


Reviewed: 22 September 2020


Just want we wanted peaceful setting with a beautiful room, perfect 10

 - We had bedroom 5 with 4 poster bed, at first it felt a little soft, it was such a comfortable bed, pillows were lovely, breakfast was delicious and Sandy was a lovely host nothing was too much trouble

 - The only negative was the shower very little power but that is all
-  **Jensen**
United Kingdom


 Double Room with En-Suite and Garden View



 2 nights - August 2019


 Family


Reviewed: 8 August 2019


Superb 9.2

 - Lovely quiet hotel. Clean and freindly. 1 hour drive from ilfracombe and woolacombe beaches. Western ho beech close by. The premium room was really nice. Would recommend. Enjoyed watching the bats doing a display outside the house in the evening.

 - Nothing.
-  **Adam**
United Kingdom


 Twin Room with Private External Bathroom



 3 nights - September 2020


 Quiet


Reviewed: 21 September 2020


Perfect place to relax 10

 - Located perfectly away from loads of great areas, really clean and we would definitely visit again

 - Nothing negative
-  **Martyn**
United Kingdom


 Twin Room with Private External Bathroom



 1 night - July 2020


 Group


Reviewed: 28 July 2020


Good and enjoyable stay in a quiet location 8.0

 - In a quiet location with a local pub only 5 minutes walk away serving good pub food. Continental breakfast with a good selection. Very friendly and warm reception - nice facilities in the twin room. Followed covid-19 guidelines and clean facilities, bedroom and shared spaces socially distanced

 - Would have liked a option for an English breakfast
-  **Gordon**
United Kingdom


 Deluxe Double Room with En-Suite and Garden View


 3 nights - September 2019

 Couple

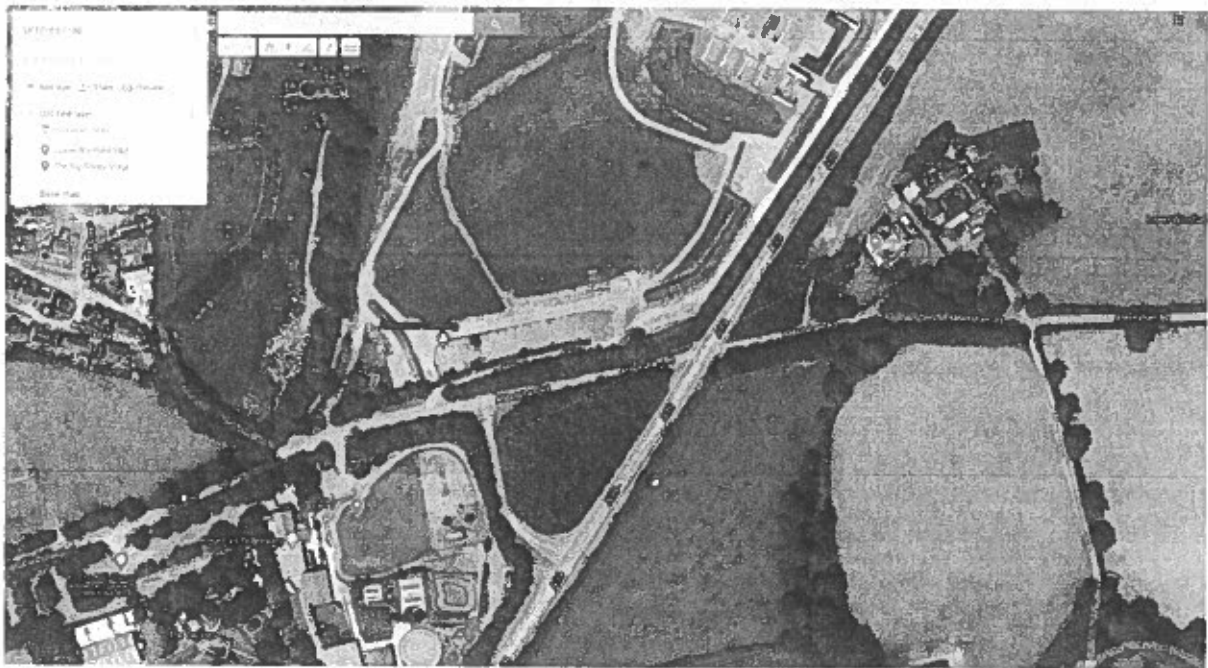
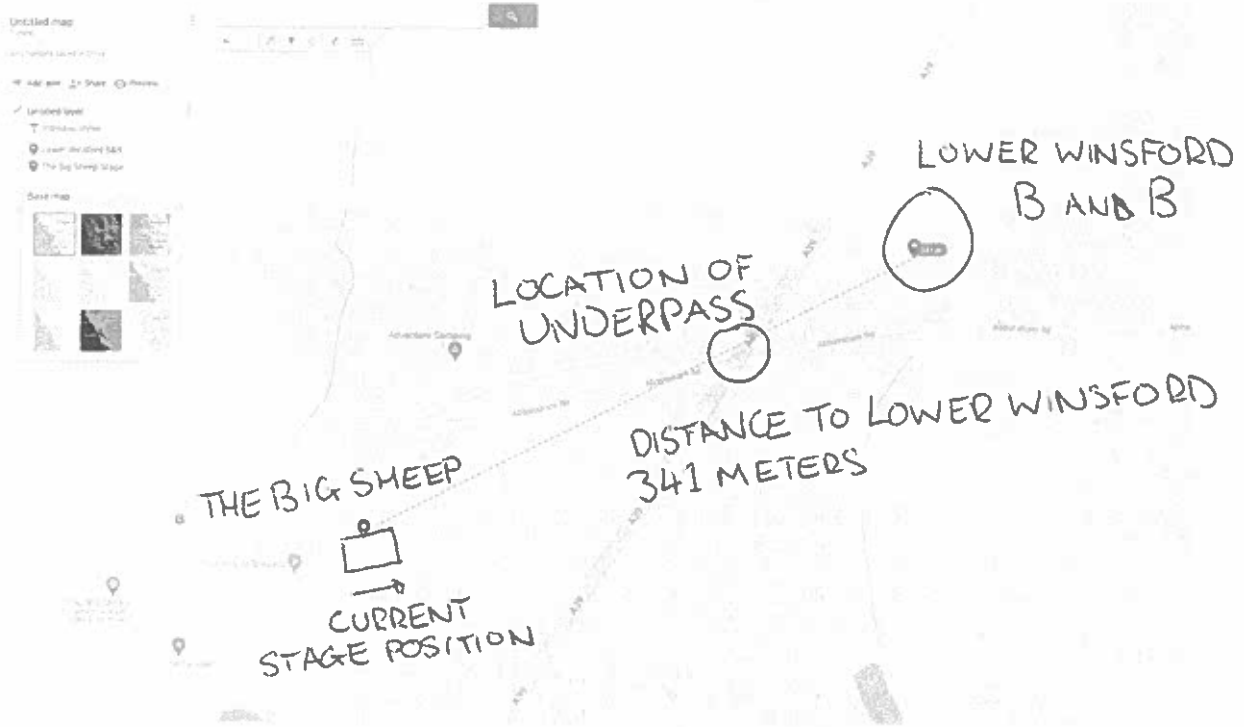
Reviewed: 27 September 2019

very pleasant. 10

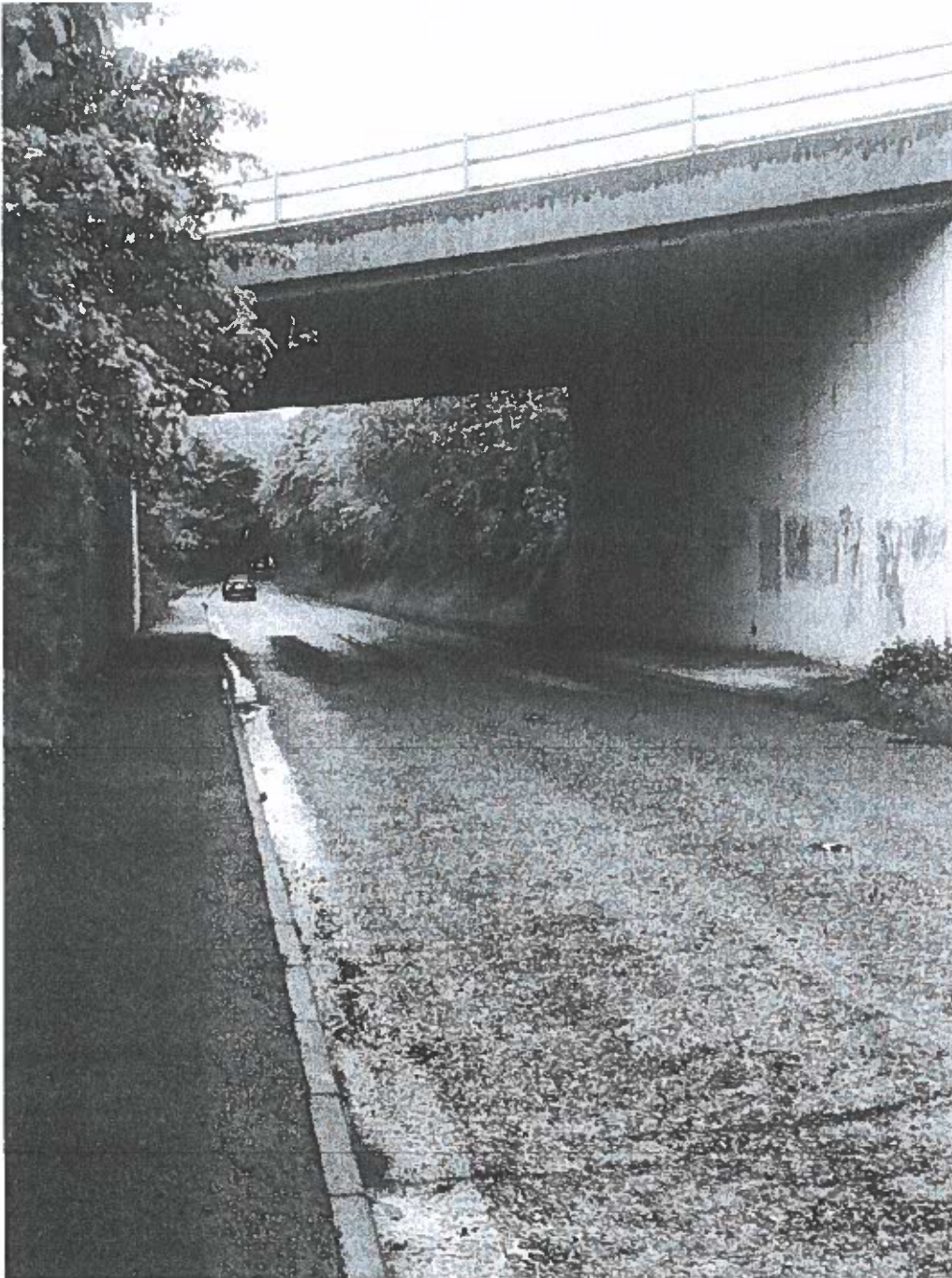
 - The location was very rural and pleasant being quiet and pleasant. Our needs were met all our expectations.

 - Nothing

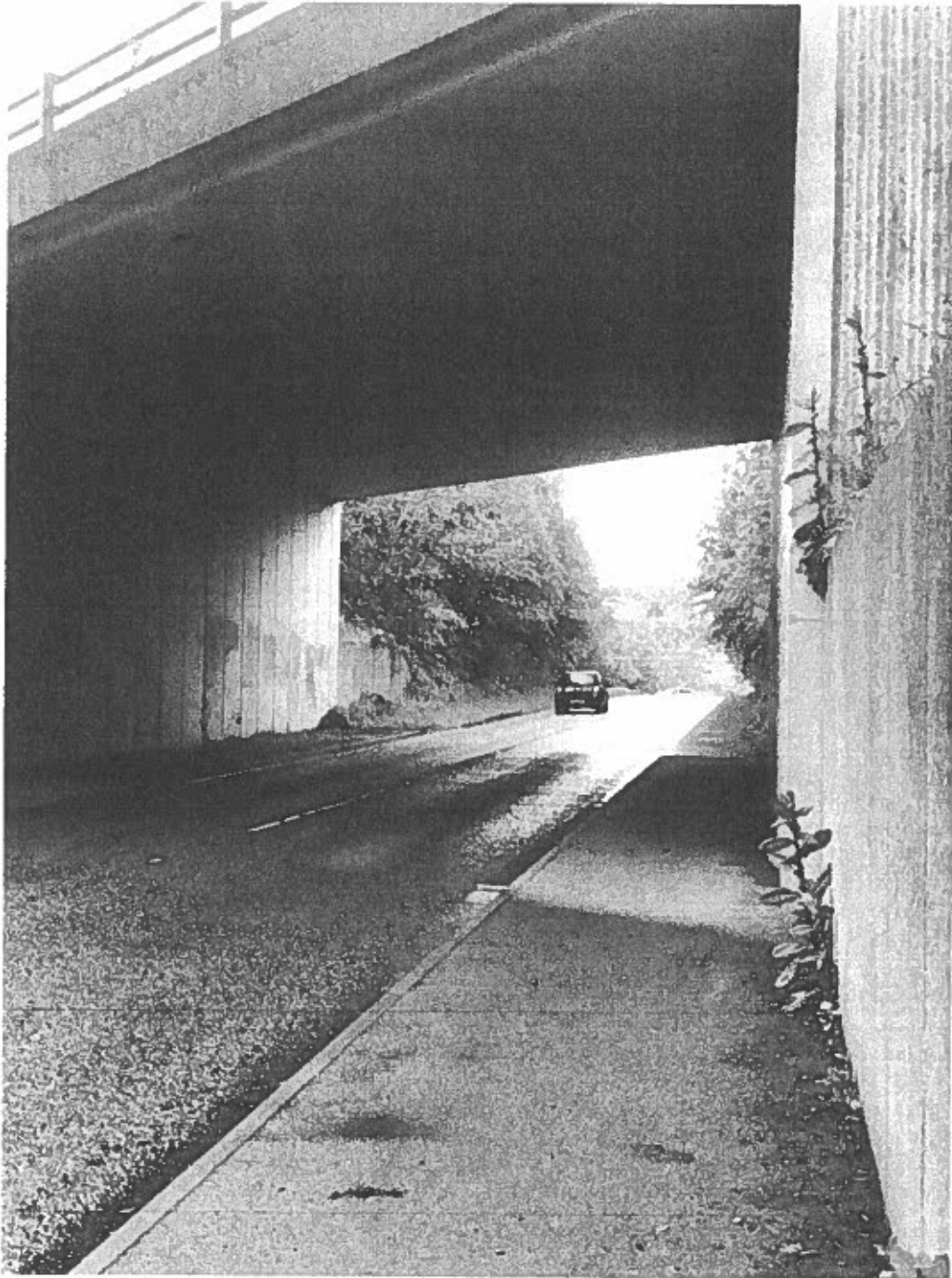
Images 2



Images 3



Underpass towards Lower Winsford B&B. The entrance to the property is between the 2 cars in the image.



Underpass towards The Big Sheep.

