

Objection/representation received from member of the public

Objection received as part of e-mail on 18th July 2022, from Cindy Siu at Locanda on the Weir (hotel situated adjacent to Porlock Oysters' outside courtyard):

Aquaculture lies adjacent to my small (4 bedroom) award winning boutique hotel, we have received a lot of hard won national press for its peace, beauty and design, there are approximately 2.5 metres between where they propose to sell and serve alcohol and my hotel entrance and the closest guest bedrooms, it is also adjacent to the owners accommodation. Already the noise of the oyster water pumps can be heard at night and is disturbing.

I am objecting on the grounds of an alcohol license to be a potential public nuisance both from noise, light and smell. At present there are 4 x pub benches in their outside courtyard which looks onto my hotel entrance with a narrow lane separating us, as far as I can see this is where customers would potentially be boozing and eating and as far as I know there are no provisions for bathroom facilities, the closest is in the main public car park some distance away however my garden which is un gated and my car park behind their premises could potentially be used as a toilet, this is in fact the least of my concerns.

Exmoor National Park is a place of peace and tranquility, it is why visitors come to stay at my hotel, it is also a night sky reserve for the dark skies ,even with the best customers in the world there will be noise pollution to my property and surrounding ones plus potential light as it will be a hazard if the courtyard is unlit, this will affect my hotel and then of course there is the rubbish and smells associated with licensed premises. If this alcohol license is granted to what was supposed to be a retail outlet for oysters, or that is what I was led to believe, it will cause in particular noise disturbing my guests in the front 3 bedrooms when they on average retire after dinner at 9-9.30pm, I can foresee many many complaints and loss of business plus personally I do not want to be disturbed by their customers drinking in their courtyard by my bedroom.

Porlock Weir already has a pub plus another licensed hotel other than mine we really do not need nor want the oyster shop selling and serving customers into the night it is far far too close to my home and my business . If I had known when planning was being sought for an operation like this and if their application had been posted somewhere public and visible, I would have objected, an oyster shop is a lovely addition to Porlock weir but a licensed bar without adequate provision for indoor facilities and drinking is not. I cannot express strongly enough how badly this operation will affect both my small hotel and my domestic dwelling.
