

# APPENDIX C

**From:** sarah barrett [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 August 2022 08:40  
**To:** Licensing Shared Email [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Robson, Debra [REDACTED] Andy Cook [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Sherlock's Bar - Licence variation objection

To the licensing application committee.

**Re: Sherlock's Bar, 17 Clarendon Road, Southsea** – Application for licence variation to increase opening hours for sale of alcohol and playing of pre-recorded music on Friday & Saturday evening from 11pm (current) to 1am

I am resident at 21 Clarendon Road Southsea and thoroughly object to this application for licence variation for the following reasons:

**Noise** – The primary issue is noise coming from Sherlock's from live and recorded music, karaoke and live music singalongs. In addition, their rowdy drunken, profane customers, fuelled by cheap drink promotions, both sitting outside the bar and when leaving at closing time, the noise extending for some time past 11pm and at times resulting in arguments, physical violence and altercations between their customers in the street outside. The noise emanating from Sherlock's Bar can be heard from all rooms in my house and my back garden; serene & tranquil Sunday afternoons on the lawn reading a book or just relaxing are not possible when all that can be heard are dreadful renditions of Elvis' songs or some other crooner belting out an equally terrible set of songs.

The thought that this kind of disruptive noise and behaviour might be allowed to take place up until and after 1am is completely intolerable to me. The impact of this situation to 11pm already causes me stress and anxiety, disrupts sleep and means I am tired and irritable at work. I cannot have my windows open in the summer, which recently during the hottest ever spell of unprecedented temperatures has been incredibly stifling. It is not evident that Sherlock's proprietors or staff actively take responsibility for their own customers' behaviours at closing time, there doesn't seem to be any calming influence from them or shepherding - fired-up, blotto customers are discharged onto the pavement and the bar door is shut behind them.

I attach a small selection of recordings of the music and noise from customers.

**Pavement obstruction** - The bar premises has a very small area out front for outside tables and chairs, which are squeezed on to sit within the boundary of this area. Which is fine until they are in use by customers, at which point chairs, the people using them and standing customers expand onto the pavement itself, causing obstruction and issues for pedestrians, especially those with mobility issues (my mother being one such person). Mr Peckham also allows this outside drinking to continue right up until the current closing time, unlike responsible bars in and around Palmerston Road, who clear drinkers from outside areas by 9pm. In addition, the outside gutter area is also littered with cigarette butts which never seem to be cleaned up.

The proprietors have never asked me how their establishment makes me feel or consulted with me about the noise, only on raising a formal complaint to the council in the summer of last year (21/01972/ENI) did Mr Peckham make a commitment to me and Richard Maidment to better manage his bar and the noise from music and his customers' behaviours. Unfortunately, at the start of the warm weather again this year, the previous commitment made seemed to have dissolved and I found myself needing to complain once more about the same old problems and having my right to live a peaceful life in my own home taken away from me.

And now once again, I find myself needing to spend more of my time formally raising objections about Sherlock's, making audio recordings & videos and a diary of the issues and sending them to the council. Even just today, I had to send a picture of the way the application poster has been placed in the window, obscuring the email address to which representations are to be made - I can't help feeling this has been done on purpose to complicate the process. It is difficult to see that the current proprietors act responsibly and sensitively with regard to their neighbours, which can be evidence by all of the above. I have been a licensee holder myself in the past and so I fully understand the value of being a good citizen & neighbour and controlling noise and customers is paramount to an establishment operating harmoniously with residents.

I understand that I live adjacent to a partially urbanised, commercial area but would like to say I have absolutely no issues with any other of the establishments nearby. It seems clear that this bar would be better located in the Osbourne/Palmerston area, where all the other similar bars are situated rather than abutting a highly residential area where neighbours are negatively affected.

Your faithfully,

Sarah Barrett