

12 August 2020

The Licensing Partnership PO Box 182 Sevenoaks Kent TN13 1GP

By email: <a href="mailto:licensing@sevenoaks.gov.uk">licensing@sevenoaks.gov.uk</a>

And by email to the Case Officer: <a href="mailto:lorraineneale@maidstone.gov.uk">lorraineneale@maidstone.gov.uk</a>

**Dear Sirs** 

Hush Heath Winery, Five Oak Lane, Staplehurst, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 0HX

Premises Licence Number: 19/00380/LAPRE

Application to vary premises licence: Ref 20/01678/LAPRE

We write further to the residents' representations contained in the letter dated 5 August 2020, emailed to the Licensing Authority on 10 August 2020.

There is a further point we wish to make in the light of our attendance at the Staplehurst Parish Council meeting on Monday 10 August 2020.

The application seeks permission for off-sales until 7 p.m. on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The premises licence holder explained at the Parish Council meeting that this variation was sought because the Licensing Sub-Committee had made a "mistake" in its decision last year as they had "tried to close the shop before the winery closed". He said this was a mistake as "the shop and the tasting room is one area".

The Licensing Sub-Committee did not make a mistake last year. The reasons for this difference between the time at which off-sales end, and the time at which on-sales end was explained in the decision (under the heading prevention of public nuisance) as follows:

"The intention of 19:00 for on sales at the premises was stated to be to allow flexibility for any visitors staying a little over time and to provide assurance for neighbours that

it would not extend into the evening, particularly outside the premises. Sales from the shop were agreed to remain at the current operational hours [17:00 Nov-Mar and 18:00 Apr-Oct] and although not matching the on sales elsewhere it was felt that this could be accommodated by sufficient notice to visitors on the premises."

This proposed variation to extend the time for off-sales until 7pm on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday is opposed for all the reasons set out in the representations dated 5<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

This letter is sent on behalf of all those who signed the letter of 5 August 2020.

Yours faithfully

Signed electronically:

Alison Clark

Natasha Davidson-Houston

Andrea Hodgkiss

**Amanda Tipples**