

JACQUELINE HAYWARD & PAUL HOOTON, 3 LAVENDER COURT

To whom it may concern

We have received a letter from Mr Rob Scahill Licensee of the Orange Tree Inn in Baldock to give our thoughts on several questions relating to himself and the premises.

Point 1.

We live at number 3 Lavender Court which is situated to the left of the Orange Tree Inn when looking directly to the front of the Inn. The distance of our property is as close as fifteen meters from the car park boundary fence.

[REDACTED]

Point 3.

In our opinion we would have to give Mr Scahill (Rob) a huge 10 out of 10 for [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] when he was able to open again that he was able to bring some cheer with his live music events.

Point 4.

We did attend one event during the summer as we wanted to meet up with another couple who we hand not seen since the beginning of the pandemic for a drink and a chat. We all thought it was safe as the garden furniture was spaced far enough apart that we all we felt completely at ease. Apologies to the young man who was signing for our pleasure as we were busy in deep conversation due to the fact that we hand not seen each other for so long. This we managed to do even though there was live music.

[REDACTED]

Point 5.

Close proximity - From our living room window we look towards the rear of the marquee so of course we can hear the live music and it would seem that the people who frequent the events enjoy themselves and the entertainment.

A word on the noise level from the events, we have never found it to be a problem.

Point 6.

The Orange Tree Inn has been a big part of the fabric of Baldock for many years and like many licenced premises seen its ups and downs, but Mr Scahill (Rob) has managed to bring it back to life and long may this continue. We are sure that there are many local residents who feel the same way as we do and enjoy a drink and a chat with friends in their Local.

To sum it all up we have no complaints regarding the live music in the Orange Tree garden marquee and would hope that they continue in the future.

Thank you for taking the time to read our comments

Regards

Jacqueline Hayward & Paul Hooton, 3 Lavender Court

GWEN FRENCH, 40 THE SYCAMORES

Please note that my house directly abuts the pub garden at the rear,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I am able to enjoy much of the entertainment provided without even leaving my own garden but it is apparent that many neighbours are unhappy with the noise . Some of those who complain are comparatively recent arrivals although I am not among the oldest residents (apart from my age if that is relevant),They are all very nice people but I can' t think what they expected. If you move close to a pub you should expect some noise or activity.

[REDACTED]

Gwen French

RICHARD AND MARGARET MARRISON, 6 LAVENDER COURT

Further to Rob Scahill's recent letter we would like to give our views on The Orange Tree and it's recent Covid driven changes.

My wife and I live at 6 Lavender Court, which is adjacent to the marquee in the Orange Tree garden and have lived there for the last 4 years.

We are an elderly couple and weather permitting spend as much time as we can in our garden. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Prior to the Covid crisis we regularly frequented the pub for lunches, evening meals and Sunday roasts and [REDACTED]

With regards to the musical events, we haven't attended any of these but have often heard the music and have never found it to be intrusive or too loud. Rob has always adhered to the relevant restrictions regarding noise pollution and times and wholeheartedly believe that we are being respected as neighbours to The Orange Tree. The pub has been there far longer than the majority of houses in the vicinity but we have never experienced high noise levels coming from the garden even when it has been busy and no musical events are being held.

[REDACTED]

Kind regards
Richard and Margaret Marrison

CHRIS BENTLEY, 4 LAVENDER COURT

Dear Sir or Madam,

After carefully looking at the case of review regarding The Orange Tree, i would express my own personal comments on the matter.

We have overlooked The Orange Tree as residents of Lavender Court for over 24 years. The owner Rob has been the most considerate owner we have experienced as close residents in his lengthy tenure, previous owners of such have ran the pub to a significantly lower standard where we witnessed unruly behaviour in the car park many, many times. Rob has turned the pub into a place for the whole community and for family, we have witnessed nothing of the such as he has created strict rules and a family friendly environment, which we really appreciate.

In regards to the music noise, it is incredibly respectful to the neighbourhood, this has never been an issue. The Orange Tree is so important for giving a platform to local musicians, and entertaining the community it would be a detrimental blow for his fantastic events to be silenced.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Hearing live music in these troubling, uncertain times, while supporting local artists, which was such an uplifted thing for the community to witness.

It is such a shame that the smallest of minorities may impact the whole community in such a negative way. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I hope this similar scenario doesn't happen again, if the friendliest and safest pub in the Town was reprimanded for this, it would be a massive blow to the local community and further afield. I really hope you take my words and experiences into consideration as i know for a fact i don't just speak for myself here. The residents of Baldock and towns near by could definitely reciprocate my statement.

Please don't let the smallest of minorities affect the whole community.

Kind regards,
Chris Bentley

Mr. Chris Bentley
4 Lavender Court
Baldock
Hertfordshire
SG7 5AR
09/12/2020

TONY AND MARION WHITBY, 6 THE SYCAMORES

Dear Sir,

We would like to make our thoughts and comments about the Orange Tree PH known to the Licensing Committee.

[REDACTED]

- We live about 75 metres behind the Orange Tree garden, and when live events were held during the summer we were able to hear the music when we were in our garden, which at that distance was not too loud. Others closer by may have found the noise too loud.
- We did not attend any of the events in 2020 but have done so in previous years.
- The Orange Tree PH is an important local facility, with a pleasant atmosphere both indoors and in the garden. [REDACTED] we frequent it for a drink or a meal from time to time.

Tony and Marion Whitby. 6 The Sycamores, Baldock, SG7 5BJ

POLLY ELLIS, 1 LAVENDER COURT

Hi there,

My name is Mrs Polly Ellis and I have lived at 1 Lavender Court, Baldock since June of this year. My property overlooks the Orange Tree pub (our private road shares a boundary fence with the pub). I recently noticed the license review notice displayed by the pub and enquired with the landlord what the review was for. I had never met the landlord, Rob, before, or been a customer of The Orange Tree, but we had a really nice chat and he told me about the review notice. I offered to come forward with my opinion on the way the pub is run, as far as I can tell, and how I find the noise levels to be totally inoffensive.

I think it's worth noting that I have a 15 month old daughter whose bedroom is at the front of our property and directly overlooks the pub's premises. I can categorically say that she has never been disturbed by the noise, and hasn't even stirred if there is an event/live music taking place in the pub's garden. Second to that, my husband and I don't find it an annoyance at all either. Of course, we can hear the music, and perhaps because we face the back of the marquee, some of the noise is drowned out. But we had our windows open all summer and never had to alter the television sound to hear over the live music, for example.

[REDACTED]

I'm my opinion, when you buy a property in such close proximity to a pub/bar you should be mindful of it being a place which may create noise now and then. We take on that risk when we choose to

live so close to a pub that has been around for hundreds of years and is known to be a popular establishment.

If you would like any further information or have any questions, I'd be happy to speak to you further.

Thanks so much
Polly Ellis

CHRISTOPHER GOMM, 1 NORTON ROAD

Licensing review of The Orange Tree Public House, Baldock

I have noted with interest that my local public house is subject to a licence review and whilst I know very little about the laws concerning this type of licence I am very conversant with the importance of these premises to the very strong sense of Community Spirit within Baldock. I have lived in Baldock for around 40 years and have invested heavily in its community aspects for much of that time. I

[REDACTED]

In my opinion all the reasons listed on the review notice are a simple definition of the 21st century, it is a noisier place than it was in Victorian times. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I fully acknowledge that in some circumstances the issues listed can cause problems to some residents, I have first hand experience of this as I lived next door to a public house and opposite a 24 hour supermarket in Baldock for 18 years.

I have been an infrequent user of this public house for twenty years and have therefore seen first hand the way these premises have evolved. Yes they have changed and yes, during the Covid era, the main activities have relocated to the garden area under guidance from Parliament. The landlord here has gone to great lengths to mitigate issues for neighbours by creating covered areas within the garden and by screening those areas off to reduce the impact on neighbours.

I live about 150 metres from the pub so cannot be classified as being adjacent.

My views are purely from a non-licensing view, so if you feel they should be disregarded then I respect that decision, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I have personally attended most of the music events and have seen first hand how well managed they are [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I have not participated in the quizzes so offer no comments on that aspect (these are run for the benefit of the Community in unprecedented times) Yes I did once hear language that I would prefer not to hear on one rare occasion, but get real, this is a Pub, I hear worse in my local park from children.

I personally find the acoustic music sessions on a Sunday afternoon (usually one artist with an acoustic guitar) an important benefit for my personal mental health, and were the high-light of my week. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

This is the 21st century so I am sure that any nuisance issues can be dealt with by technology, as they are in every other venue, there should in my opinion be no reason to change the licensing of these premises. [Redacted]

[Redacted] (if you do not like Public Houses, don't buy a house next door to the one with probably the largest garden in town, a personal view) but the local housing is relatively very recent. There are dozens of houses within the immediate vicinity of this public house but there is only a small number of people seeing any issue, this needs to be viewed in the context of the overall benefit to everyone. [Redacted]

If you do consider my views, thank you.

Yours faithfully

Eur Ing Christopher Gomm C.Eng MCIBSE
1 Norton Road, Baldock, SG7 5AP

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]