

Appendix C

Woburn Street  
Amphill  
MK45 2HP

Central Bedfordshire Council

13 APR 2015

PUBLIC PROTECTION

Licensing Team  
Central Bedfordshire Council  
Watling House  
High Street North  
Dunstable  
Beds LU6 1LF

9 April 2015

Dear Sirs

**Application dated 18 March 2015 by the Queen's Head, Amphill, for a variation to its licence**

Please treat this as a written representation in relation to the above licence application.

I object to the proposed variation. The Queen's Head is right in the middle of a residential area. The result of allowing later opening would inevitably be a very considerable increase in the number and lateness of drinkers walking along Woburn Street, where my house is. Inevitably many of them will be drunk and noisy and creating a public nuisance. Woburn Street is narrow and the houses are right on the pavement. We are not allowed to have double glazing as the building is listed. My children's bedrooms are at the front of the house and the children have to get up early on Saturdays and Sunday for school/rugby. There is absolutely no doubt that to allow later opening would interfere with their sleep.

Amphill has a considerable history of problems caused by the late licensing of premises serving alcohol. Since the White Hart ceased to be open late these problems have, so far as I am aware, largely if not entirely abated. It would be extremely regrettable, and unfair on local residents, if the Council were to make the same mistakes that it has in the past and allow late-night drinking in Amphill again.

There is no reasonable basis for allowing the Queen's Head to stay open any later than it already does. Please reject the application.

Yours

**CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**  
**Licensing Act 2003**

13 APR 2015

Public Protection

**REPRESENTATION FORM FROM OTHER PERSONS**

This representation is made by another person in respect of the premises to be licensed as detailed below

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 3)	[REDACTED] Ampthill Town Councillor and Central Bedfordshire Councillor.
Organisation name/name of body you represent (if appropriate) (see note 3)	
Postal and email address	
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you are making a representation about	The Queens Head
Address of the premises you are making a representation about.	Woburn Street, Ampthill

Your representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 4)

Licensing Objective	Yes Or No	Please detail the evidence supporting your representation or the reason for your representation. Please use separate sheets if necessary
Prevention of crime and disorder	NO	The Queens Head is a small public house with a loyal and distinct clientele, whom I doubt will be the source of criminal activity.
Public safety	NO	I do not believe the Queens Head is likely to be a threat to public safety.
Prevention of public nuisance	YES	There is no doubt that the later a public house closes, the more noticeable will be the departure of its customers to residents living in the immediate vicinity. On warm evenings, outside tables are also used. On both counts, an extension could create unnecessary disturbance.
Protection of children from harm	NO	As long as there is adequate policing of underage drinkers, I hope this will not be a problem.

Please suggest any conditions that could be added to the licence to remedy your representation or other suggestions you would like the Licensing Sub Committee to take into account. **	The Queens Head is a small public house, with a particular character, so should not attract "outsiders" simply in order to drink later than normal. However, this will always be a risk if open until 1am, so I believe local residents should be protected from potential disturbance. A condition that drinking at outside tables should not take place after 11.30pm may be helpful.
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Signed: [REDACTED]

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Please see notes on reverse

This form must be returned within the Statutory Period.

Central Bedfordshire Council

13 APR 2015

Public Protection

Woburn Street,  
Amphill,  
Bedfordshire.  
MK45 2HP.

April 12, 2015

Licensing Team,  
Central Bedfordshire Council,  
Watling House,  
High Street North,  
Dunstable,  
Bedfordshire.  
LU6 1LF

Dear Sir/Madam.

It has been brought to our attention that the Queens Head public house of 20 Woburn Street Amphill MK45 2HP has applied for a late license on the 18th March 2015. As a resident of Woburn street Amphill we are officially opposing this application based on the following:

**1. Prevention of crime and disorder.**

In our 12 years of experience living on Woburn street we have witnessed and been victims of crime and disorder which were directly linked to periods of time when the White Hart and The Queens Head in Amphill have been serving drinks both officially and unofficially beyond normal opening times. Incidents include numerous damage to vehicles and property at the owners cost. Evidence of not all but some of these incidents were reported to the police which you should be able to access from police records.

**2. Public safety.**

We have personally witnessed many situations where public safety has been a huge problem. Again directly linked to periods of time when the White Hart and The Queens Head in Amphill have been serving drinks both officially and unofficially beyond normal opening times. The landlord of the Queens Head pub has proven his inability to manage his patrons behavior both inside and outside the premises to remedy any dangerous and inappropriate behavior. examples of this we have witnessed include but not limited to:

1. Fighting in the road and pavement outside the Queens Head public house and along Woburn street.
2. Loud shouting and abusive language outside the Queens head and along Woburn street.
3. Pub benches and Tables placed in the middle of Woburn street (road) at the crest of the hill by patrons creating an immense danger to oncoming vehicles, nearby pedestrians and parked vehicles.
4. Taxis pulling up outside and sounding their horn after legal hours.

### **3. Prevention of public nuisance and protection of children from harm.**

Living directly opposite the Queens Head public house within a residential area, public nuisance has been a huge issue for us and our family. The Landlord's laid back, irresponsible and inconsiderate approach to running the public house has lead to many inappropriate and offensive situations, examples of this include but not limited to:

1. Urinating in public outside the Queens Head public house and along Woburn street.
2. Fighting in the road and pavement outside the Queens Head public house and along Woburn street.
3. Loud shouting and screaming outside the Queens Head public house and along Woburn street.
4. Abusive language outside the Queens Head public house and along Woburn street.
5. littering of alcohol and food containers outside the Queens Head public house and along Woburn street.
6. Trespassing on private property along Woburn street.

As a family with young children we find the above examples of behavior not only a public nuisance but also harmful to our children who are not only being exposed to inappropriate language and behavior but are also suffering from disrupted nights sleep.

We feel that all of these problems would be exasperated if the Queens Head public house were successful in their application.

Sincerely yours,

Central Bedfordshire Council

**13 APR 2015**

Public Protection

*Dunstable Street*

*Amphill*

*Beds*

*MK45 2NG*

10<sup>th</sup> April 2015

To The Licensing Team  
Central Bedfordshire Council  
Watling House  
High Street North  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 1LF

Dear Sirs

**Application of 18 March 2015 by the Queen's Head, Amphill for a variation to its licence**

I am writing with regard to the above application and would like to register my objection. This is based on the following:

- Regardless of how well any establishment follows rules and regulations allowing people to drink late into the night simply creates a situation where the likelihood of drunken rowdy behaviour increases. This has been evidenced very recently in the centre of Amphill at No 4 where late licencing has resulted in drunken brawls with serious damage to people and property caused. Historically this was the case too when the White Hart operated its late licence and other establishments before them.
- I live very close to the centre of town on Dunstable Street and have witnessed first-hand the increase in noise and rowdy behaviour late into the night as a result of the late operating of No 4. Walking to my own front door can now be a highly intimidating experience. Between the closure of the White Hart and the opening of No 4 the situation in the centre of Amphill late at night had improved dramatically.
- My belief is that the Queens Head pub is a good establishment that is run perfectly well – but the increase in hours will simply increase the problems of unruly behaviour in the centre of Amphill and there is nothing that the publican of the Queens Head will be able to do to stop it once people have left their premises. It is the responsibility of the licencing committee to refuse the licence to prevent the problem happening the first place.
- I understand that The Hide Wine Bar has a late licence but that they actually elect not to make use of it now because it has been their experience that they cannot control the trouble that is caused as a result of staying open late.

**In conclusion:** the centre of Amphill is not just commercial it is residential and we residents rights to live peacefully should not be treated as subservient to the needs of late night drinkers. Only the licensing committee has the power to prevent the problems associated with late night drinking in the centre of Amphill and it is your duty to act. Please do so by refusing this licence.

Yours faithfully

Patricia Davies

**From:**  
**Sent:** 11 April 2015 16:41  
**To:** Licensing Enquiries  
**Subject:** Variation of License at Queen's Head Pub and White Hart Pub in Ampthill

I am writing to lodge my strong objection to the proposed late licenses at the two pubs in Ampthill for the following reasons:

1. I live at Claridges Lane, Ampthill just behind the Queen's Head Pub and a 3 min walk away from the White Hart. I have lived here for 13 years;
2. The bedrooms in my property are at the rear, the most susceptible elevation to noise nuisance from both pubs;
3. In the past I and my young daughter have been seriously disturbed by noise from the Queen's Head pub, especially when the pub holds folk music evenings and people drink outside the pub;
4. On the occasions when live music is played at the pub, we are always woken from our sleep - such sleep disturbance is unacceptable since we live in a residential area;
5. In addition, in the summer, when people drink outside and our windows are open to keep us cool at night, we are regularly woken and have had many disturbed nights sleep due to the noise from the Queen's Head;
6. This makes life difficult for my daughter who needs to get up for school at 6.30am and myself as I work full time, and we both need good undisturbed sleeps;
7. The area adjacent to the Queen's Head pub is wholly residential, and a late licence in such an area is simply not appropriate and would create a real public nuisance;
8. Furthermore when people leave the pub, it is not unusual for them to come up our lane and finish drinking, littering, talking, use foul language, arguing and on several occasions- fighting. It is intimidating to ask such people to lower their voices or move on and I don't feel safe when I have to do that. I also worry that my property will be damaged by such people if they wanted to vent their anger at me for having asked them to be quiet;
9. Whilst I am not regularly disturbed by the White Hart (when it was open), my neighbours on Woburn Street regularly were and I am very concerned on their behalf and therefore object to that late licence too;
10. The cumulative impact of such late licences needs to be carefully considered since the effect if both pubs were granted would be compounded than if only one went ahead.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email and confirm that my objections will be considered and addressed when you determine these two applications for the late licenses.

Regards

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**Victoria Clark2**

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**From:**  
**Sent:** 13 April 2015 12:53  
**To:** Licensing Enquiries  
**Subject:** Variations of licences objection.

Please would you forward to the appropriate department, with thanks.

I write to object to the proposed variations of licences for both the 'Queen's Head' and the 'White Hart' in Ampthill.

The last three weekends in Ampthill have seen a return to the 'bad old days' of a few years ago which resulted in Ampthill people power forcing a licence review of an establishment in Ampthill causing major public nuisance. This establishment was told to put an end to it's activities and peace has reigned since.

Another establishment has now been given licence to operate until 1am and consequently clients are leaving much later. It draws late night revellers from both outside the town and other pubs etc within the town. Unfortunately, this has set a precedent and the two establishments named in the licence variations now want to stay open longer.

Ampthill town and it's centre is small, the centre being a residential heart to our community. Early morning drunkenness and anti social behaviour has and is again, ruining the quality of life for our residents living within the centre and around. A check of police records will show that they are again being called out in the early hours of the morning. The police do not have the resources to man our town centre unless called. Residents feel unsafe in their own homes, windows have been broken, shouting and fighting ensues, property is stolen and vandalised, cars and taxis are a nuisance, all causing sleepless nights. I plead with you not to grant both these licensing variations for operating hours. One of the establishments is on the market square in the centre and the other just a stone's throw away. With regards,

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## Patricia Davies

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**From:**  
**Sent:** 13 April 2015 14:13  
**To:** Patricia Davies  
**Subject:** Fwd: Queens Head and White Hart, Ampthill - Licensing Hours -

> Sent: 11 April 2015 18:35  
> To: Licensing Enquiries  
> Subject: Queens Head and White Hart, Ampthill - Licensing Hours -

>  
> Dear Sir / Madam  
>

>  
> I live in Claridges Lane and am writing to lodge my strong objection to the proposed late licenses at the Queens Head and the White Hart in Ampthill because:

>  
> I live a stones throw from the Queen's Head Pub and a few minutes walk away from the White Hart and as a result am susceptible to noise disturbance from both pubs.

>  
> I am already seriously disturbed by noise from the Queen's Head pub when the pub holds music evenings and when people drink outside the pub. When I sit outside in my garden it is extremely disturbing to hear the noise from the pub. My young children frequently cannot get to sleep when music is played at the pub especially in the summer as they require their bedroom windows to be open.

>  
> When live music is played at the pub we are always woken from our sleep - this is unacceptable in a residential area. We moved to Ampthill for peace and tranquility and to find licensing hours may be increasing to 1am in an area such as Ampthill is shocking. We have had many disturbed nights during the summer from the noise at the Queens Head. This affects our sleep as we have to get up at 6.30am to go to school and work.

>  
> We live on a quiet lane and are regularly disturbed by drunks, people swearing, fighting and littering. I have felt quite threatened by this behaviour on occasion. We live in a residential area where young families live. It is not an area for people to party until 1am. If people would like to do so they can travel to nearby Bedford or Milton Keynes. These changes would certainly create a public nuisance.

>  
> I am also very concerned about the White Hart being granted a late licence and the impact it would have to residents on Woburn St and the rest of Ampthill. It is not the impact everybody in Ampthill wants. Also if the White Hart is granted a late licence then it opens up late licences to other establishments and Ampthill will alter completely. Residents will move out and the impact will be huge. The council needs to look to the future. Also everybody still talks about how the White Hart used to operate and how awful it was. Please do not allow that mistake to happen again. It will be catastrophic on the town and will impact property prices. The cumulative impact of such late licences needs to be carefully considered since the effect if both pubs were granted would be compounded rather than if only one went ahead.

>



> Please would you kindly acknowledge receipt of my email and confirm that my objections will be considered and addressed when you determine these two applications for the late licenses. I strongly object and would like the council to maintain the village-like atmosphere in Ampthill. If the spirit of the town changes it will affect whether I will continue to live here.

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Central Bedfordshire Council

15 APR 2015

Public Protection

Dunstable St  
Amphill  
Beds MK45 2NG  
11/04/15

Dear Sir/Madam,

Ref: Variation of licence at The Queens Head, Amphill

I would like to raise an objection to the above variation application. I live (together with my family) on Dunstable St, not far from the Queens Head pub. We have lived in the same house for almost 15 years and it is noticeable that when late licences are granted instances of anti-social behavior also rise substantially.

The type of instances fall entirely within the description of prevention of public nuisance (noise related incidents caused by people leaving the pub with a late licence, instances of minor property theft and vandalism such as plant pots being taken & smashed, windows being broken etc), public safety (there have already been at least two recorded fights in the town centre since a bar opened there recently with late drinking), and the prevention of crime and disorder (all of the above).

We have bedrooms that overlook Dunstable St directly and we are regularly awoken by noise when a late licence is granted. Whilst some noise and disturbance is to be expected in the centre of a town, a regular late licence would mean that it could once again become an inhospitable place at night for the majority of residents in the centre of Amphill, every weekend. Past experience has shown that late licences in Amphill (or any other small town) by definition cause longer drinking, which in turn means groups of drunk people gathering in the early hours of the morning, waiting for cabs or walking along the main residential roads in & out of town.

The CCTV in Amphill has in recent years been switched off (since the White Hart last closed). The justification for this was a lack of criminal or anti-social behavior. Looking at this another way - whilst the pubs had late licences, CCTV was required to monitor behavior and aid enforcement of any action required due to people leaving the pubs late & causing disturbance. Re-instating the late licences will return us to a position whereby those situations will inevitable occur again.

Yours faithfully

**CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**  
**Licensing Act 2003**

07 Apr 2015

Public Protection

**REPRESENTATION FORM FROM OTHER PERSONS**

This representation is made by an other person in respect of the premises to be licensed as detailed below

<b>Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 3)</b>	
<b>Organisation name/name of body you represent (if appropriate) (see note 3)</b>	Amphill Town Council
<b>Postal and email address</b>	66 Dunstable Street Amphill Beds MK45 2JS
<b>Contact telephone number</b>	01525 844170

<b>Name of the premises you are making a representation about</b>	The Queen's Head
<b>Address of the premises you are making a representation about.</b>	Woburn Street Amphill Beds

**Your representation must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 4)**

<b>Licensing Objective</b>	<b>Yes Or No</b>	<b><i>Please detail the evidence supporting your representation or the reason for your representation. Please use separate sheets if necessary</i></b>
<b>Prevention of crime and disorder</b>	yes	The night time economy of the Town Centre has changed over the past two years, which has resulted in the incidents of crime and disorder reducing. It is hoped that the atmosphere this has provided can be retained.
<b>Public safety</b>	yes	Residents in the Town are concerned that the Town Centre will become a no go area again.
<b>Prevention of public nuisance</b>	yes	Noise nuisance and anti social behaviour has reduced dramatically over the period since the nearby White Hart premises have been closed. It has been established that the Town Centre is a residential area.  With both the White Hart and the Queen's Head applying for late night licences the night time economy will change completely to the detriment of the local residents.
<b>Protection of children from harm</b>	no	

<b>Please suggest any conditions that</b>	A restriction on the licensing conditions for opening hours
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Form B.

<b>could be added to the licence to remedy your representation or other suggestions you would like the Licensing Sub Committee to take into account. **</b>	to be limited to 12 midnight.
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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 2/4/2015

**Please see notes on reverse**

**This form must be returned within the Statutory Period.**

### NOTES

1. If you do make a representation you will be invited to attend a meeting of the Licensing Authority's Committee and any subsequent appeal proceeding. If you do not attend, the Committee will consider any representations that you have made.
2. This form must be returned within the statutory period of 28 days from the date the application was displayed on the premises of the date given in the public notice in a local newspaper or other local publication.
3. Representations can only relate to the four licensing objectives.
4. Your representation will be passed to the applicant, to allow them the opportunity of addressing your concerns. Your representations will be published in the report available to the Licensing Committee, which will be publicly available. Names and addresses will only be withheld from the Committee report at your request.
5. Please return this form when completed, along with any additional sheets, to:

Central Bedfordshire Council  
Public Protection  
Watling House  
High Street North  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 1LF

Tel: 0300 300 8647

Woburn Street Ampthill MK45 2HP

Public Protection  
Central Bedfordshire Council  
Watling House  
High Street North  
Dunstable  
LU6 1LF

Central Bedfordshire Council

02 APR 2015

Public Protection

31 March 2015

Dear Sirs

**APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF PREMISES LICENCE – 17 MARCH 2015 - THE QUEENS HEAD, 20 WOBURN STREET, AMPHILL, MK45 2HP**

I am writing to oppose the recent application for extension of hours for licensable activities at the Queens Head pub.

I live on Woburn Street, opposite the Queens Head pub. Extending the pub's opening hours is entirely unacceptable for the following reasons:

- It will lead to an increase in noise and disturbance for the local residents. Many of the pub's customers, particularly smokers and in the summer, sit to the side and in front of the pub, where noise is not contained in any way (see attached photograph). It is unacceptable for local residents to be subjected to a lot of noise and late-night drunken behaviour in these seated areas until 1am at the weekend and 12am during the week. Loud music can also be heard all along the street, especially in the summer when doors and windows are left open. The pub is located in a densely-populated residential area and extending its licensing hours for serving alcohol and playing recorded music is inappropriate for its location.
- There have already been a number of public nuisance, crime and disorder incidents reported lower down on Woburn Street and in central Ampthill outside drinking establishments following the extension of licensing hours. During the weekend of 21 March 2015, I believe the police were consulted about troublesome customers in the Hide bar on Woburn Street (customers who were moving on to drink after 11pm at the No 4 Bar in Ampthill) and there was further disorder in central Ampthill (involving a smashed window). Extending the Queens Head's licensing hours will lead to further disorder and public nuisance along Woburn Street, as customers walk along Woburn Street from the town late at night (or arrive in taxis and cars from further afield). Ampthill has

also had a history of problems caused by late-night licensing of drinking establishments.

- The pub is located on the brow of a hill with approximately 6-8 pub benches situated on a narrow, sloping pavement outside the pub (see attached photograph). When there are lots of customers, not only do they create a lot of noise, but they tend to spill out across the pavement and on to the road, which is a public safety concern for cars approaching the blind summit of the hill. Neighbours tell me there have in the past been incidents of customers throwing pub benches on to the road. If the extension is approved, the risk of a serious accident is significantly increased due to a combination of the physical location and a greater number of intoxicated customers.
- There are two young families situated directly opposite the pub and it is unfair to subject children to noise and inappropriate behaviour late into the night throughout the week as well as at the weekend.

I therefore hope you will take all of the above into account and turn down the application.

Yours faithfully

MARCH 2015

QUEENS HEAD PUB  
108BVEN ST  
MMPTHILL MK45 2HP



Sloping, uneven  
pavement  
v. close to  
road

6-8 benches in front,  
capacity for 60+ people  
drinking after hours.

Approx. 3  
benches, possibly  
20+ people. No  
noise containment.

Residential properties are directly  
opposite.

Woburn Street  
Central Bedfordshire Council  
02 APR 2015 MK45 2LL  
Public Protection 27 March, 2015

Queens Head, 20 Woburn Street, Ampthill.

Dear Sir or Madam,

We see in the local paper that the Queens Head, 20 Woburn Street, Ampthill has applied to extend its licensing hours to midnight and 1 am. Given the close proximity to residential property on Woburn Street and the noise from the venue and guests leaving and arriving, we wish to object to this application.

Yours sincerely



Chapel Lane  
Amphill  
Bedford  
MK45 2LN

Central Bedfordshire Council

27 MAR 2015

Public Protection

25th March 2015

Dear Sir

re Change of opening hours at The Queens Head, 20 Woburn Street, Amphill MK45 2HP

I wish to object strongly to the proposed changes to the opening times, my house is opposite The Queens Head and the noise generated will keep me awake and seriously impact on my quality of life.

I have lived in my house for the last six months so it has been winter time and the windows are shut but even so when there is live music at the Queens Head I can clearly hear the music.

I also think that the increase in opening times will effect the value of my property no one wants to live next door week in week out to noisy neighbours.

Please, please don't grant the extension of opening hours I am having to look after two elderly parents my life is really stressful at the moment and I really, really need a good nights sleep.

Yours sincerely

**Woburn Street  
Amphill  
Bedfordshire  
MK45 2LL**

**Public Protection  
Central Bedfordshire Council  
Watling House  
High Street North  
Dunstable  
LU6 1LF**

Central Bedfordshire Council

**14 APR 2015**

**Your Ref: QH**

**12<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

**Dear Sir/Madam,**

Public Protection

**The Queens Head Public House, Amphill, MK45 2HP**  
**Application for Variation/Extension of Hours - Licensing Activities by Charles Wells**

In accordance with the notice placed in the front door of The Queens Head pub and we wish to object to the requested amendment to the pub's licence, allowing the late night sale of alcohol, refreshment and the provision of entertainment.

We have lived ~~near~~ the Queen Head for over 28 years and therefore we feel our objections should be listened to by the licensing committee.

We have few issues with the current landlord Richard Hammond but we feel the proposals are out of place with our local environment. Indeed the pub on its own web site describes The Queens Head as a community Pub within a village atmosphere. Therefore we do not feel the proposals fit in with the spirit of the Queens Head, particularly as it's very much "a locals pub". Extended drinking hours will attract non locals to Woburn Street who are in search of a late night drinking den – particularly now that the White Hart has closed. We believe that closed, partly because of the unruly behaviour and late night trouble which we are now trying to avoid in Woburn Street. Therefore, by accepting the application you would be merely moving the problem 200 metres up the road from the town centre into the fairly quiet neighbourhood of Woburn Street. To a point, the pressure created by the White Hart was accepted by the community because this was the town centre, yet this part of Woburn Street this is very much a residential area and as such should receive protection from the licensing authorities. Potential problems created by late night drinking will likely create significant issues for the immediate and local community - for example:-

**Prevention of Crime & Disorder** :- We have experienced a number of events over the years where the pub appears to be frequented by school kids – some of whom may or may not be 18 yrs old. In the past, we have had issues on Friday evenings and we certainly don't wish to return to those dark days BUT we do occasionally have problems, for example at the end of term and birthdays and late drinking hours may see the return of more frequent examples of unruly behaviour. When we have unruly behaviour we do occasionally call the police on 101 and sometimes they are interested but most of the time we never see any police presence to control such instances. We also have problems with kids urinating in Woburn Street and Claridges Lane (between the pub and no 22).

We have had many instances where alcohol is "squirreled" in our garden over the fence or in the under growth up Claridges Lane so in other words, customers of the Queens Head do not always purchase refreshments from the pub – possibly because of cost – or perhaps they are under age and wouldn't be served anyway? The current landlord is aware of this problem. We have also had our property damaged through alcohol related incidents – namely in 2008 where

a drunk punter from the QH pub decided to drive home and damaged our fence and both our cars parked in one of our drives off Claridges Lane.

We have also had wooden fence panels in Woburn St broken by unruly behaviour from guests of the Queens Head.

**Public Safety:-** I certainly wouldn't recommend the public to walk through the occasional large gatherings outside the pub – particularly late at night and in the summer when the evenings are warmer.

**Prevention of Public Nuisance:-** In our opinion the noise generated by the pub particularly late at night is already unacceptable. Whilst we are not suggesting the current landlord serves after time we do experience issues with noise from the courtyard at the rear of the pub into the early hours – even during the week – particularly when the weather is better in the summer months. We believe this would be even more unbearable if later licensing hours were approved. We hear this noise quite clearly at times of year when we have our bedroom window open (situated at the rear of our property) - which can cause difficulty to sleep. In fact we hear noise from the Queens Head courtyard most evenings throughout the year when we take our dog for a late night walk up Claridges Lane, typically between the hours of 10.45pm and 11.30pm. The problems arise when the weather becomes more pleasant and what appear to be regulars enjoying their company well into the early hours.

**Protection of Children From Harm:-** There are at least two families living directly across the road from the pub in Woburn Street. Allowing opening hours to 1pm would create unnecessary issues for those children with bedrooms looking directly at the pub. We have been unfortunate to see from our own windows men urinating outside the pub on the pavement – and when walking down Woburn Street to the Alameda Restaurant. Also men for some reason – particularly when there is a large gathering at the pub – such as end of school term/teenage birthdays – can frequently be found urinating in Claridges Lane and on or near our cars parked in the driveways. We also hear excess noise – revving up cars, slamming doors and motorbikes, bottles and glasses being broken together with shouting and screaming. Let's face it, people who are a bit tipsy do not talk quietly regardless of the time of day - but late at night – noise carries a long way and this could get worse.

If you have any questions following the reading of our letter please let us know but in the meantime we look forward to your sympathetic review of objections to the application.

Many thanks for your assistance in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

**Patricia Davies**

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**From:** Licensing Enquiries  
**To:**  
**Subject:** RE: The Queens Head, 20 Woburn Street

**From:**  
**Sent:** 14 April 2015 16:51  
**To:** Licensing Enquiries  
**Subject:** Re: The Queens Head, 20 Woburn Street

The Queens Head PH, Woburn Street, Ampthill

We are extremely concerned about the recent application to extend the licensing and live music hours at the above premises. We are therefore objecting to / submitting comments on the licensing application on the basis of 'Prevention of Crime and Disorder'. The premises is located in a predominantly residential part of the street on the fringes of the town centre within the Ampthill Conservation Area. The application relates to extended hours throughout the week. We already experience passing disturbance from people after visiting pubs/facilities in the town when their behaviour is loud, exuberant and sometimes offensive, particularly on Friday and Saturday evenings. We have also experienced incidents of vandalism: a glass thrown through our front house window resulting in damage to interior fabrics as well as the window, liquid thrown over the front door, bare foot prints on the front door, half drunk bottles / cans and broken glass left along the street and on our front door step and two incidents of a broken car wing mirror. Some of these incidents have been reported to the local police. There are now some new venues in the town centre that have late opening hours, and we have noticed an increase in this type of unsocial behaviour again since the opening of The Hide (2a Woburn Street) last summer. In addition to the noise from people in the street the noise of people talking in The Hide was audible in our back garden last summer despite assurances from the Council at the time of the application that there would be no nuisance from noise. We therefore have concerns that another establishment providing later drinking hours will pull people up and down our section of Woburn Street, exacerbating the existing weekend problems resulting in increased disturbance and pedestrian street noise directly outside our house but now throughout the week. This will have a negative impact on the reasonable enjoyment of our property and will disturb our sleep and that of our children. All the above will lead to a detriment in the amenity value of the Ampthill Conservation Area and adversely affect the reasonable enjoyment of our property until and beyond midnight and 1am for 365 days a year. We do not feel that this is acceptable.

Yours Sincerely

· Woburn Street.

Woburn Street  
Amphill  
MK45 2HP  
29 March 2015

To The Licensing Team  
Central Bedfordshire Council  
Watling House  
High Street North  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 1LF

Dear Sirs

**Application of 18 March 2015 by the Queen's Head, Amphill for a variation to its licence**

I am writing in relation to the above licence application. I object to the proposed variation. My reasons are:

1. The Queen's Head is in a residential area. I live very close to the Queen's Head on Woburn Street. The result of allowing later opening times would be a considerable increase in the number and lateness of drinkers walking along Woburn Street. It is likely that many of them will be drunk and noisy and some may create a public nuisance. That is certainly our experience when the White Hart in Amphill had late opening hours.
2. Woburn Street is narrow and the houses are right on the pavement. We are not allowed to have double glazing as the building is listed. My children's bedrooms are at the front of the house and the children have to get up early for school on Saturday mornings and sports matches on Sunday morning. There is no doubt that to allow later opening would interfere with their sleep and mine.
3. Amphill has a history of problems caused by late licensing of premises serving alcohol. In 2012, I had to contact Alan Stone in the Public Protection Team on several occasions regarding the nuisance caused by noise and drunken behaviour outside the White Hart after 11pm. There were problems in Amphill with drunken people shrieking and the noise from people waiting for and then getting in and out of taxis late at night. I also spoke to the police about public nuisance caused by late night drinkers. Please see the attached report from the Council's Public Protection Team which includes comments on increased taxi, vehicle and people noise from late night opening times at different premises in the centre of Amphill.

There is a late opening time at Number 4 Bar and Grill in the main square of Amphill. There are indications that this is becoming problematic following disturbance late at night in the square last weekend. I am aware that The Hide also had problems with drunken behaviour when it was using its late licence.

It would be extremely regrettable, if the Council were to inflict the problems associated with more late-night drinking on Amphill's local residents again, just when the town was becoming quiet enough most weekends and weekdays late at night to allow residents to sleep.

There is no reasonable basis to allow the Queen's Head to stay open any later than it currently does. Please reject the application.

Yours faithfully,