

**From:** Nomad Wine <[wine@nomadwine.co.uk](mailto:wine@nomadwine.co.uk)>  
**Sent:** 23 March 2023 15:58  
**To:** Ross O'Neil <[Ross.O'Neil@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Ross.O'Neil@shropshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Re: Response to representations.

Hi Ross,

Please see below:

We have received and considered all representations and would like to address this response:

Firstly, we would like to make clear that we are happy to compromise on certain things that seem to be an issue, but if representations aren't withdrawn following this letter and our compromise, then we will be proceeding to the hearing having shown a huge willingness to compromise with you. We would also like you to be aware that we currently hold an alcohol licence and applying for a variation to that licence does not withdraw or remove our current licence. If our variation would not be granted, we would remain with our current licence which would enable us to host events for on-site consumption with no restrictions.

We are conscious of the quiet and serene location of Betton Mill, something that makes it so attractive to our customers as we are the only food and beverage outlet this side of Market Drayton and on this stretch of the canal, which we see as an improvement for the town. We have grown as a business over the past twelve months and seen a large demand for lunches, coffees, cakes etc – which we have taken on board alongside the sale of our alcohol (since we are primarily a wine company.) The sale of food and beverage during the day and into early evening has rarely brought any issues in terms of noise and in the past, your complaints have always been around our events. We would like you to understand that our events are part of our **current** licence without restriction and this variation has nothing to do with the events, it simply allows us to expand on the daytime/early evening sales of food and drink.

However, we would like to make clear that the hours stated on the variation are not the proposed new opening hours. We are a business that sells alcohol on line, and in doing so we have to be licenced – we do not intend to be serving glasses of wine at 9am as some of you mentioned, but we do need to be able to sell via our website/email/telephone orders at that time.

We would like to offer some understanding and compromise on our variation in the hope that you withdraw your representations and help us build a business with a harmonious relationship with neighbours.

Our proposed ON SALE CONSUMPTION hours would be: Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays; 12.30pm - 10pm. Sundays (over summer) 12.30pm-6pm. These would be our **licensable** hours for drinking onsite but it does not mean that we would be open for these exact hours as **usually** we would close at 8pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays. However we do run small group events on a Wednesday/Thursday evening – For example a painting class and French class. Please also note that not everyone coming on to our premises during these our opening hours is drinking alcohol. We offer soft drinks, hot drinks and food that make up a large percentage of our consumption sales.

We would keep OFF SALES hours as: Monday-Sunday 9am-10pm, allowing for us to sell alcohol to be sold for off-site consumption (website/email/telephone orders)

You feel strongly about the outside area, so we have discussed in detail, and we would like to propose the removal of any outdoor seating in order to show willingness to compromise with you and trade in a harmonious manner alongside our neighbours. We would be happy to offer this modification if you can accept our compromise and withdraw your representations.

Many of your representations are not relevant to the licencing authority, although we have read through them and taken them into account. We acknowledge your opinions and would greatly like to cooperate with you. We have used TENS in the past to allow us to stay open longer for certain events and that is also how we have been operating during this process. We **do** take our licensing very seriously.

Our current licence has one clause that we would like to remove, stating that we are allowed on site consumption for events only. It is our understanding that the events are the part that cause you the most discomfort, and so in order to show a willingness to compromise we would like to suggest that in our new variation that allows walk-ins during our consumption hours, we would consciously run less events. We do have to make money somehow, so in continuing with your representations, and pushing us to revert to our current licence, we will have to expand our event offerings in order to pay rent, pay staff and earn enough money to live ourselves. If you CAN compromise with us, then we are happy to hold less events as we will be able to make more money through daytime and early evening sales of food and beverages (both alcoholic and not.)

We would also like to add that we have agreed conditions with authorities and so they have all withdrawn their representations, so without the outside area involved, the conditions would now read:

#### **Trading standards**

- A challenge log for Challenge 25 and refusals will be maintained and made available to any authorised authority on request. The challenge log can be kept either electronically or in a hard backed/bound book.

Ref current condition 5, can this please be expanded, and split into two conditions as follows:

- Training on Challenge 25 procedures, proxy sales and individuals' responsibilities under the Licensing Act 2003 will be held for all persons involved in the supply of alcohol, prior to engaging in the serving of alcohol and within 14 days of them commencing this role.

- Refresher training on Challenge 25, proxy sales and their responsibilities under the licensing act 2003 to be provided no less than annually. Training records retained and available at the premises to any authorised authority on request.

#### **Environmental protection**

-No glass bottles shall be placed into external bins between the hours of 20:30 and 08:00 the next day.

#### **Licensing authority**

-No open drinks containers will be permitted to be removed from the premises with the exception of bottles of wine which have been purchased and opened for consumption on the premises but not finished by a customer, these may be resealed with a stopper and taken home by that customer.

We hope that you carefully consider our response and our compromises and withdraw representations before needing to go to a hearing.

Kind regards  
Rachel Tremblay and Cameron Cousens  
Directors of Nomad Wine Limited