

**The Thatched Cottage  
Symonds Green Lane  
Stevenage  
Herts  
SG1 2HP  
0148 312063 / 07939 532381**

**01 November 2021**

**Ref: 21/00653/LAPRE2**

**Dear Sir or Madam,**

**I am writing to express my concern about the application to extend the licensing hours at the premises formerly known as The Crooked Billet .**

**Symonds Green Lane is a no through road, meaning that all motorised traffic approaching or leaving the premises has to pass the same half-dozen houses. A nightly closing time of midnight, with an additional 30 minutes "drinking-up time" is likely to cause late-night noise for residents. Worse still, extending closing time to 1am could mean noise until almost 2am, which is bound to disturb sleep. Customers leaving on foot and walking in the opposite direction will pass at least the outer edge of the Blakeney Estate, an area of accommodation catering for older people who are also likely to be disturbed.**

**Symonds Green residents have been told that the premises will be a "high-class steak house", and as such it's hard to imagine why it would need to be open until 1am. However, flashing, colour-changing lights have been installed throughout the ground floor suggesting something more akin to a night club. If this is the case a 1am closing time could also result in an influx of customers after other establishments close, resulting in even more traffic on what is effectively a single-lane road.**

**Additionally, the Green is rich with nocturnal wildlife including hedgehogs, deer, foxes and badgers. Although my objections to extended opening hours clearly indicate an element of self-interest, I am also concerned about the effect that tired customers, eager to get home in the early hours, may have on this conservation area.**

**I never had cause to complain about The Crooked Billet when it was a traditional pub. When I moved to Symonds Green I took its proximity into consideration, and if it was occasionally noisier than usual I accepted that it was only to be expected.**



**I would ask you to please consider seriously whether there is any need to extend licensing hours beyond those already authorised.**

**Yours faithfully,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catherine Green', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Catherine Green (Mrs)**



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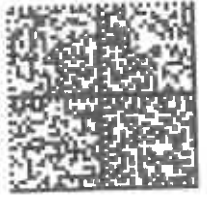
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