

**From:** Emma Burle on behalf of Licensing  
**Sent:** 15 Oct 2020 10:44:01 +0000  
**To:** Emma Burle  
**Subject:** Fw: Licensing Application Ref: 20/01201/LAPRE Woodies 10-11, 13 St Pancras, Chichester, PO19 7SJ

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**From:** Michael Griffiths [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15 October 2020 11:22  
**To:** Licensing <Licensing@chichester.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Timothy Horne <THorne@chichester.gov.uk>; a.scicluna@chichestercity.gov.uk <a.scicluna@chichestercity.gov.uk>; Richard E. Plowman <RPlowman@chichester.gov.uk>; Kevin Hughes <khughes@chichester.gov.uk>; Sarah Lishman <slishman@chichester.gov.uk>; Martyn Bell <mbell@chichester.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Licensing Application Ref: 20/01201/LAPRE Woodies 10-11, 13 St Pancras, Chichester, PO19 7SJ

□ We have lived in a property in Keats Way since 2013. The property is on the north side of a square, centred on the New Park Road Public Car Park, of which three sides are exclusively residential, being part of 'an award winning development in the heart of historic Chichester'. Woodies is on the fourth side of the square which incorporates, inter alia, a pub with guest rooms (The Nag's Head), some restaurants, a picture framers, and a number of apartments.

By comparison with the previous application which was withdrawn (20/00986/LAPRE1), it does appear that a number of amendments have been made in the latest Woodies application which ought, at least theoretically, to enable adequate supervision of patrons whilst they are within the curtilage of the Woodies premises.

However, even if we assume that such supervision is adequately carried out, that does not address the issue that Woodies has access, both directly and indirectly, to the New Park Road car park. Experience dictates that such access, over which Woodies will have no control, will tend, especially given the increased consumption of alcohol contingent upon the extended licensing hours, to promote the potential for crime and disorder and public nuisance as patrons gather and shout, sing, argue and chant.

Eastgate Square is a natural amphitheatre which amplifies sound exponentially, which becomes a particular issue on hot nights when residents need to keep their windows open. By way of illustrating the potential issue with patrons spilling out of Woodies, the Nag's Head has a licence [until 11.00pm](#) yet quite frequently over the recent summer months since re-opening (and prior to the imposition of the 10.00pm curfew), it has been nearly [1.00am](#) before revellers have stopped talking, shouting and singing outside the premises and then noisily clearing the car park or catching taxis, all at a level which disturbs and inhibits sleep for nearby residents.



We ask the rhetorical question: by analogy, just what time of the morning is it going to be before the outside area and car park are clear of Woodies' patrons given an opening hours cut-off of 1.00pm. Could it be 1.[30am](#) before noise has abated? Or sometimes 2.00am? Or even later?

Much recent research, particularly by Professor Matthew Walker, has highlighted the importance of regular, undisturbed sleep to health and well-being. As residents of the Eastgate Square development, we already have to accept the consequences to sleep of extremely bright lighting at bedroom-height level which continues all night in order to 'police' the car park. In addition, it now seems certain to us that the external noise contingent upon the extension of Woodies opening hours would at times rise to a level which could constitute a statutory nuisance under the terms of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

We would urge the refusal of this application.

Jan and Michael Griffiths  
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PO19 7BA

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