

To licensing@chichester.gov.uk

Weyborne Ltd - Retail sale of Alcohol -(Monday to Sunday 11am to 11pm)- Lurgashall

Dear Licensing,

We are the owners of Lower House Farm with woodland to the south west of the field and agricultural building owned by Weyborne Ltd which are the subject of this latest application. The family has owned the estate since 1940. Our ownership extends from the woodland up half of the track north to Fernden Lane and which is both a public bridleway and the access track to Reeth House. There is a gate onto the field in question with access across our property but this was historically used for agricultural access only.

Colin Ingram erected an agricultural barn in this field around 2007/8 for the storage of agricultural machinery. The field and barn were purchased by Nick Clarke, the owner of Blackdown House and the director of Weyborne Ltd, and the building was subsequently as a distillery without planning consent. This operation ceased two years ago. (Ref SDNP/18/00299/COU 21st November 2018)

The barn was therefore to return to store agricultural equipment and vehicles in relation to the vineyard on the land only. Prior to the cessation the access track was substantially damaged and occasionally blocked with very large articulated delivery vehicles as this section of the track is very steep and narrow and totally unsuitable for large vehicular access. It was also deemed a danger for riders and pedestrians on the bridleway.

The present application contravenes the agricultural restriction and again poses a threat to the rural use of the bridleway. Fernden Lane itself is a very narrow rural road and the further increase of regular large vehicular movement along the length of this lane is a major problem both for the existing residents and those wishing to enjoy ease of riding and pedestrian access to the National Trust Estate of Blackdown.

We therefore object strongly to this application and trust that, in the interests of the area and the safety of its residents, it will be refused.

Yours sincerely

John and Nicola Braithwaite
For Guy Properties (Farming)
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Ropes Lane
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