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Licensing and Public Protection  
Torbay Council  
Town Hall  
Castle Circus  
Torquay  
TQ1 3DR

13 July 2020

Dear Sir,

**PL1080, Shoals Café on the Lido, Berry Head Road, Brixham, Application no 057345**

Shoalstone Pool CIC, as the management company responsible for operating the swimming pool site that includes Shoals Cafe on the Lido, would like to formally object to the proposed variation to their alcohol license (PL1080, Shoals Café on the Lido, Berry Head Road, Brixham).

We oppose this application to change the license to allow sales off the premises on the grounds of the foreseen increase in public nuisance, crime and disorder, and danger to public safety.

Prevention of public nuisance and prevention of crime and disorder: Shoalstone Pool and the surrounding site itself have been often subjected to vandalism and anti-social behaviour. We have regularly been in contact with the police to seek help to disperse groups causing a public nuisance on pool side and within the car park area during the day and in the evenings, and to report vandalism and break-ins. On numerous occasions this has been related to misuse of alcohol. All of these instances have been logged with the police.

Public safety: The risk to the public of the drinking of alcohol and swimming is well documented, as can be evidenced by the recent high-profile RNLI campaign that seeks to inform the public, "...remember alcohol and water don't mix". We also have to contend with the physical effects too. To protect public safety, all incidents of broken bottles and glass near the pool require the pool itself to be closed, drained completely and any glass removed from the bottom of the tank. This is not an easy task, and we need to wait for the correct tide levels to refill the pool, which thus represents loss of income and loss of an amenity to the community.

We have worked hard to improve conditions and behaviour on site, and the request for a change of license goes against everything we have been trying to achieve. We have liaised with our local neighbourhood policing team and taken on board various suggested strategies: looking to get the youth groups involved

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Company number 8946499

with the pool, providing our lifeguards with further training on how to maintain order and deal with difficult individuals, and making the immediate pool deck and surrounds an alcohol-free zone when lifeguards are on duty. The police did suggest making the whole site an alcohol-free area but on balance we felt it would be difficult to enforce.

We are aware that we cannot control what happens outside of the pool opening times, but at SPCIC we give a consistent message to all users of the site by controlling alcohol use.

Shoals Café currently only have an on-the-premises alcohol license, and intentionally the Shoals Café Lease between the tenants Sean and Sarah Perkes and BTC states that they can only sell alcohol on the premises:

**PERMITTED USE:** a Café for the sale by retail of food and alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks for consumption ON THE PREMISES.

The proposed change of licence we believe will offer encouragement to the drinking of alcohol away from the defined trading areas of the café. The greater consumption of alcohol around the site itself is likely to make the effective running of the pool increasingly difficult and exacerbate, as detailed above, an already challenging situation.

Yours sincerely

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