



ERG

Events Resilience Group

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Licensing  
The Civic Centre  
West Paddock  
Leyland  
PR25 IDH

Date as Postmark

Dear Sirs

Re: Licence Review — The Hunters, Hennel Lane PR5 5UL

I write in support of The Hunters public house in Walton le Dale.

The Hunters is my local pub, and although I frequent it less often than some, I do feel that I can provide a balanced view of the establishment, its management and its clientele.

The pub has been my local pub for a little over three years and in that time I have seen it go from strength to strength, building excellent links with the local community and investing heavily in the infrastructure and marketing. Unfortunately I fear it has become a victim of its own success.

In more recent times the pub has been a local hub, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic, but because of this it has started to attract people from out of the area who should be considered as less desirable by the management.

It is my belief that it is here where mistakes may have been made, purely down to a naivety by the management team rather than mismanagement, in that these people were not wanted nor expected to start frequenting the establishment and by the time this was realized they had already become regular attendees. The fact that the management want and try only to run a family friendly, local pub, I believe explains their lack of action to nip this situation in the bud as quickly as perhaps they could, and this of course has led to review.

Having spoken to Mr Bloomer about this, I have offered a little advice including the use of security staff at peak times, and I believe this is an option he would consider should it be suggested by yourselves.

Sirs I am the director of a well established and reputable event safety management specialist. I have many years experience of licensing compliance, crowd management and general safety compliance. My expertise is recognised not only by my extremely high profile clients, who include in their numbers Festival Republic and the Tall Ships Race, but also regular invitations to



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lecture in my field at universities across the north west. It is this background that I believe qualifies me to give a balanced and unbiased opinion for this review.

To remove or restrict The Hunters licence would be detrimental to the local community. This establishment creates a good number of jobs both internally and with local suppliers and this in turn creates financial gain to the area. With the exception of a small number of incidents there has always been minimal cost to the statutory authorities and minimal intervention required.

Where the hospitality sector has been all but destroyed throughout the Covid-19 period, The Hunters management have worked exceptionally hard to keep it going, keep their staff provided for and to give locals somewhere to go and get away from what has been, to be blunt, a pretty dreary period for not only the borough but the country as a whole.

I would urge you to treat this review purely as an opportunity to advise and offer to work with the management rather than penalize them.

With kindest regards

David Sammons MSc  
Director  
Events Resilience Group