

Charney Bassett Parish Council

Charney Manor

For those not already aware, the Society of Friends at Charney Manor have made application to the Vale of White Horse District Council for a Premises License. The application can be viewed on the Vale website at <https://licensing.southandvale.gov.uk/online-applications/licencingApplicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=QPI552SF01200>

In summary the application seeks a Licence for the sale of alcohol (up to 00.30 am) and the ability to hold up to 20 events a year with live or recorded music (up to 1.00 am). The proposals will be of particular interest to those living near or next to the Manor premises. Anyone wishing to make comment on the application should write to the Licensing Team at the Vale (Licensing.unit@whitehorsedc.gov.uk). The contact officer is Elizabeth Lock and the Council's general number for enquiries is 01235 422556. **The deadline for comment is 2nd April.**

The Parish Council did not know the application was to be submitted, but one of the trustees attended the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday providing reasons for submitting the application and answering many questions from Councillors. Residents will recall that the trustees invested heavily in professional fees for the planning permission which was eventually granted in 2019 for a new dining and kitchen facility. This is now unlikely to be built but to continue to be viable the Manor has to consider alternative sources of revenue. We were told at the meeting that the flexibility provided by the terms of the Premises License, if granted, was most unlikely to be used to the full and, for example, residents were unlikely to be sold alcohol beyond 11.00 pm. It was accepted, however, that if granted the License would be permanent and would allow future trustees flexibility in using the License to its full extent.

The Parish Council is still considering the application and may itself make representations to the Vale. But it is most important that residents do not rely on any comment that the Parish Council may make. Any concerns, or support, should be addressed individually by residents to the Vale as advised above. The Parish Council would very much appreciate a copy of any representations that are made as these will help inform any comment which the Parish Council might submit.

Please do copy any representations you make to the Vale to the Parish Clerk (parishclerk@charneybassett.org.uk). If you have any queries about the application you need to get your answers from the Vale officers who have all the details and know how the application will be processed. Guidance on Premises Licenses is available at <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/licensing/alcohol-and-entertainment-licences/premises-licences-for-alcohol-and-entertainment/how-to-advertise-your-application/> albeit this is written primarily for applicants.

We hope this information is helpful. If further information emerges that we think would be helpful we will share it in a further bulletin.

David Roberts
Parish Chair