

Warwick House,
65 Derby Road,
Melbourne,
Derbyshire.
DE 73 1FE.

16th. September, 2005.

Environmental Health Dept,
(Licensing)
South Derbyshire District Council,
Civic Offices,
Civic Way,
Swadlincote,
Derbyshire.
DE11 OAH.

Dear Sirs,

Re: Application for Licensing Extension, Alma Inn, Derby Rd, and
Melbourne.

I am writing to protest in the strongest terms about the application by The Alma public house on Derby Road, Melbourne to extend its hours of opening to 1am weekdays and 2am at weekends.

I am a resident living at about 100 yards from these premises. Should you care to check police records you will find that in the past few years I have had to call the police on several occasions to deal with rowdiness, vandalism and damage to our property principally caused by drinkers from the Alma (usually after the unofficial lock-ins) who congregate in Derby Road until after 2 am waiting for taxis and buses.

On two notable occasions, both on a Saturday night, we residents witnessed a serious assault by a dozen youths on one individual. On both occasions I called the police who failed to arrive. On both occasions the police controller explained that disturbances in Derby meant that no officers were available for Melbourne. On the first occasion an inspector from Derby was later dispatched to me to apologise. Later drinking hours at this already unruly pub will certainly attract youths from elsewhere and trouble will ensue, but even later than usual. We have come to expect little or no police protection.

I can say with absolute certainty that these drinkers come from this public house since my neighbours and I have, unsuccessfully, seen the licensee personally to ask him to try to control his customers, particularly their exits into the street past our residences.

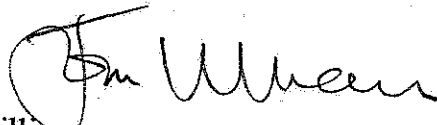
There was, until recently, a slight improvement in the behaviour of the customers with the previous tenant. He has now left and we are again experiencing previous levels of disruption. By granting this extension you will assist the brewery with a difficult public house but you will also expose the residents and rate payers to more of this late-night anti-social behaviour, as The Alma becomes the late night drinking spot for the region.

It is also odd to note that planners in Swadlincote point out the dangerous and constricted nature of Derby Road outside The Alma but have allowed licenses to two further drinking spots around us. The parking situation has thus become impossible on Friday and Saturday nights. It might be of interest to you to note that Curleys Winebar on Derby Road, adjacent to The Alma, shut its doors for good 3 years ago after the owners experienced a gross level of violence and misbehaviour which even they found intolerable.

We were a respectable residential district. The pub is surrounded by respectable residents, many with children. Later drinking hours will inevitably drag out the misery of antisocial behaviour into the early morning, bringing with it the attendant faeces, urine, vomit and condoms.

Should you be considering extending the license for this public house might I extend an invitation to you to visit the area on a Saturday night at 1 am to witness the behaviour for yourselves. Might I also take the opportunity to remind you that you also need to protect and serve the permanent householders of the town as well as the publicans.

I am, Yours faithfully,



John Williams

WARWICK HOUSE,
65 DERBY ROAD,
MELBOURNE,
DERBYSHIRE.
DE73 1FE.

TEL: 0044 (0)1332 863854

The Alma Inn, Derby Road, Melbourne, Derbyshire.

Summary of principal objections to proposed Licensing Application.

Some General Observations.

I note that the application is made in the name of Malcolm Cowan. I believed that Mr. Cowan had left the public house and that the pub had a new tenant. Certainly a recently advertised event at the pub promised new management. It would be useful for any hearing to firstly explain who owns the premises and for whom the application is made.

I note that the application made by Mr. Cowan, dated 31st August, describes The Alma as "providing food". This is not the case. Food was served until Spring of this year under a franchise operated and organised by Mr. Cowan. Food was served in a dining room for which planning consent was presumably obtained as a dining area. However Mr. Cowan parted company with his franchisee earlier this year and gave the dining area over to drinkers and, I believe, a pool table. Many problems were also caused by the food being carried to the dining area in the open air across the yard.

I mention this simply to point out an inaccuracy and to also point out that the publicans claims to planners are apparently liable to change.

A Summary of Objections.

The principal objection I have to the proposal to extend the licensing hours of The Alma may be categorised as objections about Crime and Disorder as well as Public Nuisance.

The number and strength of the objections, as well as the objection from Derbyshire constabulary, should give the Licensing panel some idea about the opinion of these premises held by its immediate (and not so immediate) neighbours.

Despite the urban nature of this pub, the setting is within the Town Conservation area and the premises are surrounded by dwelling houses containing families, many with children. The pub is situated on Derby Road at one of its most constricted points. For much of the Spring and Summer Mr Cowan utilises the small car park of the pub for a variety of extra mural activities. Most recently this involved a substantial marquee erected on the car park enabling him to accommodate more drinkers at the pub, but forcing their vehicles into the road. At this time Friday and Saturday night parking for the pub spread into all the surrounding terraced streets, preventing residents from parking in front of their own premises and subjecting residents to noise and abuse at the end of the evening as the Alma customers returned to their vehicles.

Planners should note that there is only parking for about six vehicles on the pub premises, assuming that the licensee is not holding a function in the yard. His customers park wherever they can on Derby Road or surrounding streets. The events held regularly in the yard all seem to include loud and unruly gangs of young men chanting, swearing and misbehaving. All this is clearly visible and audible to neighbours. Despite our complaints no effort was made by the licensee to police these events or provide any protection, noise abatement or care for his neighbours. We have never had an explanation from, or consultation with, the licensee. Clearly his own risk-assessment does not include any concern for the health, security and safety of his neighbours.

My point is that the licensee has a history of inflicting his schemes on his neighbours without any apparent interest in the community he affects. There is no communication from him or any attempt to rectify the situation when complaints are made to him or his staff. This is a village community. It is not an anonymous urban environment.

I note that the application indicates that live or recorded music or TV presentations may be a feature of the later hours for which Mr. Cowan is applying. Please note that the pub has no sound-proofing, despite its proximity to neighbours. Thus, on hot evenings or when the pub is crowded, ventilation is achieved by simply opening the windows and thereby greatly adding to the noise pollution experienced by those living nearby. Living only 100 yards away I could, if I so wished, sing along with the Karaoke or follow the TV football game while in my bed with my own windows closed. Clearly, Mr Cowans Health and Safety audit did not include the environmental impact on his immediate surroundings. To imagine that this level of noise and rowdiness will last until after 2 am fills many of us with horror.

My greatest misgivings, however, stem from the rowdiness, criminal damage, drunken shouting, fighting, swearing and abuse we experience as this pub empties. Since I am able to clearly observe the actual exit of the customers from the pub I am in doubt whatsoever that the largest amount of the problems we experience at this time are directly attributable to The Alma clientele. It is also not without significance that these exit times already often seem to bear little relation to official licensing hours.

In the case of my own house my wife and I have had Alma customers urinating on our front door, vomiting in our front garden, smashing our exterior light (twice) and fighting directly outside our bedroom windows as they wait for taxis or party buses. I have witnessed many fights beginning in the car park directly outside the pub and then spreading through the streets. It is often not possible to sleep at these times. I am especially concerned for those neighbours who have children or who need to rise early for work (as I need to do myself on many Sundays.) I have called the police on many occasions after witnessing assaults or criminal damage to property and vehicles but response generally comes too late (or not at all.) I have received an apology from an Inspector from Derby Police after waiting for over an hour after watching one particularly vicious assault by Alma customers on a passing youngster. Many of us no longer bother to report the less dramatic misbehaviour.

Please do not misconstrue my protest against the application to extend licensing hours. I have no generic misliking of pubs or licensed premises. We live in a community which is generally happy with its pubs and which has licensed premises dealing professionally with customers and neighbours alike. The Liberal club, for instance, nearer to my own house, has bigger premises and can be noisy and very busy. However, the management of this club is generally much more careful than The Alma and its mix of ages in those drinking at the club is wider. It is the particular nature of Alma customers, many of whom share the same disposition and age group, which provides trouble where customers at The Liberal Club do not.

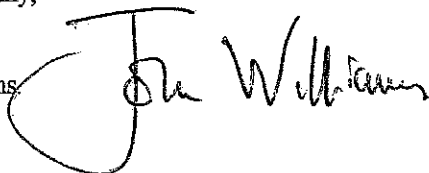
An extension of Licensing hours, in effect, turns The Alma into the first night club in the area. Even the most generous forecast would have to allow that the noise, violence and antisocial behaviour will increase and continue even after 2am in the same way disruption continues after current licensing hours. The strain on an already unhappy neighbourhood will be intolerable. The application does not offer any real amenity to the town residents. It is rather an opportunity for the Licensee to capitalise on the new legislation. It is not without significance that this particular public house should be the first to seek to cash in. The only beneficiaries will be the Brewery, the Licensee and his rowdy clientele of youngsters who will assuredly flock to the Alma after the other pubs close. The amount of taxis and buses coming to pick up customers indicates that much of the current customer base is not local. An extension would simply extend drinking hours to outsiders. Their opportunity to drink outside the pub at the same time is particularly worrying.

I do not believe that the management of the Alma should be granted an extension due to their current disregard for their neighbours and the impact that their current business has on the local environment. Their only reason to apply can be their own financial advantage. This will be no consolation to those of us who will need to endure the antisocial behaviour, depreciation in house values and depreciation in the quality of our lives which will all be an inevitable consequence of allowing the extension.

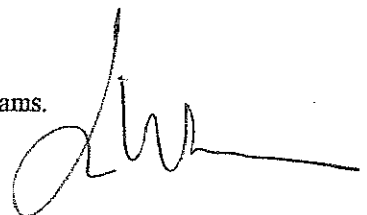
My wife and I strongly oppose the granting of the extension of the license of The Alma public house. I enclose a newspaper clipping from a national newspaper of today. It makes the same case which I attempt to present to you in this letter.

Yours faithfully,

John Williams



Lynne Williams



How drink helped fuel the rise in violent crime

Daily Mail 10 Oct 2005

By **Matthew Hickley**
Home Affairs Correspondent

PHUGS claim a victim once every six seconds, according to figures published yesterday.

In the three months to June, police recorded 318,200 violent crimes - up 6 per cent on same period last year.

Half of the violence is blamed on binge drinking. Coming just five weeks before Labour's controversial licensing reforms usher in round-the-clock drinking, the figures will be a blow for the Government's claims that crime is under control.

Ministers tried to play down the figures, claiming police were 'not hugely concerned' over longer opening hours for tens of thousands of pubs and clubs.

But police leaders dismissed that claim as night and voiced fears about front-line policing once the laws come into effect.

The latest quarterly crime figures, covering the three months to June, contain some good news with domestic burglary falling by 11 per cent compared with the same period of 2004 and car crime down 8 per cent. Overall crime fell 1 per cent to 1,406,100 offences.

Gun crimes continued to rise, however, increasing 5 per cent to reach 11,160 offences in the year to June 2005 - just over 30 every day.

Firearm attacks causing less serious injuries leapt by 65 per cent to 3,620. Serious injuries were up seven per cent to 460 while fatalities fell from 70 to 60.

But the continuing surge in violent offences - which have now been rising annually for five years - helps explain by public fear of crime is growing.

The most worrying figure for ministers will be the 137,800 violent assaults using lesser injuries between April and June. This included the bulk of booze-fuelled street brawls and was a 12 per cent year-on-year increase.

Police in England and Wales recorded 277,900 incidents of violence against the person, 6 per cent more than in the previous year.

Total violence recorded by police in England and Wales, including robbery and sexual offences, was also up 6 per cent to 318,200 incidents.

The Home Office estimates, however, that only a quarter of such offences are actually recorded by

police, meaning that in reality a violent crime is committed on average every six seconds.

Sexual offences rose by 12 per cent. Robbery increased by 4 per cent, reversing a steady decline over the past four years when police have been ordered to focus on street crime.

Ministers believe the hugely popular iPod digital music player is partly to blame for rising robbery figures. Other costly items such as BlackBerry hand-held computers and mobile camera-phones are also thought to have fuelled street thefts.

From next month thousands of pubs and clubs will be allowed to open late into the night, prompting warnings from police chiefs, judges and medical experts of a rise in drink-related violence and disorder.

Home Office Minister Hazel Blears played down such fears, saying: 'I don't accept that police are hugely concerned about this. They have got to use the powers they will have under the new Licensing Act.'

But Alan Gordon, vice-chairman of the Police Federation which represents rank-and-file officers, said

many were already at 'the end of their tether'.

He said: 'Our stretched resources will be even more stretched, with more officers having to work late at night and therefore fewer available during the day.'

'It is very, very wearing and stressful for police to be constantly working extended late shifts, or all night.'

Glen Smyth, chairman of the Metropolitan Police Federation, said: 'Most nights of the week our officers are overwhelmed by a sea of drunken, violent, vomiting yobs who

when they're not fighting each other are falling through shop windows.'

'That's now. What's it going to be like when we have a licensing free-for-all?'

Tory home affairs spokesman Edward Garnier said that unless ministers delayed the licensing reforms they would be guilty of 'staggering complacency and pursuing the politics of neglect'.

The British Crime Survey, based on interviews with thousands of adult householders, showed a 5 per cent year-on-year drop in total crime, although violence with injury rose 3 per cent.

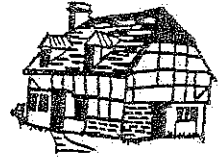
Seventeen per cent said they saw a 'high level' of anti-social behaviour, up from 16 per cent the previous year, while the number worried about public drunkenness and rowdy behaviour was up from 20 to 23 per cent.

Ministers said the risk of becoming a victim of crime in a given year was at the lowest level since the survey began in 1981, at 24 per cent.

But Home Secretary Charles Clarke accepted figures for violent crime were still 'too high'.

Cottage Antiques

34 Derby Road Melbourne Derby DE73 1FE
Telephone: 01332 862465



Antique Fine & Country Furniture - Anything Old Bought & Sold

Environmental Health Dept
SDDC
Civic Offices
Swadlincote

12/09/05.

RE : Application for extended opening hours 'THE ALMA PUBLIC HOUSE,' Derby Road, Melbourne, Derbys.

As a close neighbour of the above premises i.e. within 100yds I would like to object to the application to extend the hours of the above public house.

Grounds :- THE ALMA is situated in a densely populated residential area of the town, has a history of disorder resulting in police attendance and in particular has a history of considerable live music being played on the premises which lack any soundproofing.

The application requests the ability to provide entertainment when the premises are open for the sale of alcohol. Surely the provision of entertainment and late licensing are two separate issues. I have no objection to people drinking alcohol into the early hours, but when this is combined with entertainment that will inevitably be of the loud noisy variety such as live bands, Karaoke evenings and thumping Juke Boxes then this is a different issue. Surely there already exists legislation that prohibits the playing of loud music past the hour of 11.00 pm. Does this new legislation allowing pubs to open later override this?

In summary provided that a new later license does not include the provision to provide entertainment past the existing hour of 11.00 p.m. then I have no objection to people drinking themselves silly to whatever hour in an orderley fashion. Only when this results in acts of public disorder will this be a problem, and the proof of the pudding will be in the eating.

Yours sincerely


Roger Harrison

38. DERBY ROAD

MELBOURNE

DERBYSHIRE

DE73 8FE

Dear Sir

As regarding the application for extended hours at the Alma inn public house on Derby Rd Melbourne.

We have lived over the road for some years now we have seen fighting damaging cars laughing and shouting in the car park all hours. If they get the extended hours we would get the overflow from all the other pubs it would be terrible they have no consideration for the people that live here. As regarding the music we would get the base of the music all the time and slamming of car doors just outside our bedroom window.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs & Mrs Trotter

*Touchdown,
63, Derby Road,
Melbourne,
Derbyshire, DE73 8FE.
Tel: 01332 864399.*

12th September 2005. *e-mail: william.rowley@btinternet.com*

The Environmental Health Officer,
South Derbyshire District Council,
Civic Offices,
SWADLINCOTE,
Derbyshire.

Dear Sir,

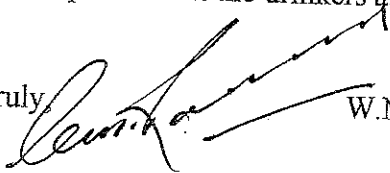
The Alma Inn, Derby Road Melbourne.

My attention has been drawn to an application made by one Malcolm Cowan in respect of these premises. To begin with my understanding is that Mr Cowan ceased to be what used to be called the licensee some weeks ago: at least the premises widely advertised a party to welcome the new host.

However, be that as it may, I write to express my total and unreserved opposition to the request now being made under the recent legislation to permit the sale of alcoholic refreshments up to the hour of 2 a.m.. The Alma has over the fifteen years I have lived here been the source of noise and disturbance into the early hours even when the permitted hours ended at 10.30. Latterly the premises have employed 'canned' music with no regard for the disturbance inflicted on the neighbouring premises all of which are of a residential nature, even if some of the ground floors have daytime commercial use. As things are now it is pointless retiring to bed with the window open for on Friday and Saturday in particular there will be noisy shouting and 'singing' once the pub decides it is time to evict its customers, that being an hour which bears no relation to what have hitherto been known as permitted hours. Attempts to enlist the aid of the police have been futile since happily the noise has not implied violence.

The prospect of the Alma having extended hours to 2a.m. fills the local population with dread and I ask that your committee pay regard to the fact that no other premises in Melbourne is seeking an extension beyond midnight. If there is one out of line it is only to be expected that the drinkers at other houses will proceed to where there is a later facility.

Yours truly



W.N.K. Rowley.

cc. Cllr Harrison.

Head of Legal Services,
South Derbyshire District Council,
Civic Offices,
SWADLINCOTE,
Derbyshire DE11 0AH.

21st October 2005.

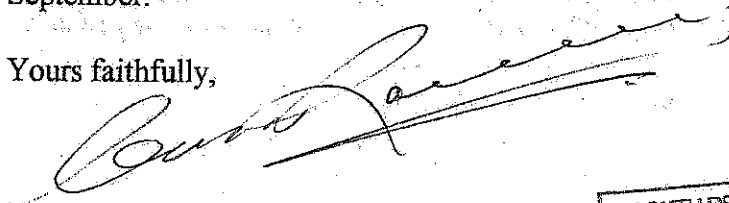
Your ref NB.

LICENSING ACT 2003; The Alma Inn, Melbourne.

With reference to your letter dated the 14th October I write to confirm that it is my intention to be present at the Hearing and to call a witness. I shall advise the name of the witness at the commencement of the Hearing. I do not consider that the Hearing is unnecessary.

I enclose a written summary of my representations supplemental to my letter of the 12th September.

Yours faithfully,



W.N.K. Rowley.

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL	
CHIEF CLERK	
DATE	24 OCT 2005
ENTRY	
COPY	
TO BE RECORDED	
SEC. NO	

The Alma Inn, Derby Road, Melbourne. Application pursuant to sec.12 and 17 of the Licensing Act, 2003

Representations to the Licensing and Appeals Sub-committee.

As the plan at Appendix 1. indicates, these premises are situate in a primarily residential area of Melbourne. While the ground floor of the adjoining premises at No 61, Derby Road is used for commercial purposes it is easy not to appreciate that the upper floor is occupied as two residential flats. With the exception of the Liberal Club and the shop of L.Ward, all the premises shown on the plan with a frontage either to Derby Road or to South Street are occupied for residential purposes.

During 2004, the premises of the Alma were extended at the rear by the construction of a room designated as a restaurant or dining room and initially it was used for this purpose but for a number of months past it has been used as a pool room and general addition to the drinking area. Associated with this extension has been the creation of a raised outdoor terrace and drinking area the effect of which has been to reduce the size of the car park and hence the number of cars which can be accommodated. The necessary consequence is that cars overflow on either Derby Road or South Street. I mention these matters as an indicator of the consideration those who own/mange the premises have for the local residents.

I totally oppose the application now made for the extension of permitted hours for the sale of alcohol to 1a.m. and to 2a.m. on Friday and Saturday. I have resided in my house for fifteen years and during that time almost without exception any disturbance after 11p.m. has been attributable to the Alma irrespective of who has been the licensee or owner. At one time there was a tenant/licensee but when that tenant left, the brewery appointed a sequence of managers and they understandably tried to attract back trade which had departed by the introduction of both recorded and live music. That continued when Mr. Cowan took over the premises and it became progressively more noisy and prolonged. The hitherto legal hours have been flagrantly abused and one was left wondering how the Bench had been persuaded to grant extensions night after night.

As though the noise coming from the premises was not bad enough, it was as nothing compared to the raucous and noisy behaviour of the customers departing the premises at anything between 11 p.m. and midnight. It has been quite impossible leave open a bedroom window no matter how warm the evening without having to tolerate such noise from the clientele departing the Alma. Indeed on many occasions in the past two or three years when the premises appeared quiet, the peace of the neighbourhood was shattered in the early hour by departing guests, thus giving support to the popular view that the premises had 'lock-ins'.

It is within my knowledge that while residents on Derby Road have been affected by the manner in which the premises have been conducted, those houses at the lower end of South Street have been no less disturbed. There are children living at No. 1. South Street and I am told by their parents that they are regularly disturbed by noise from the Alma, while my neighbour at No. 2 South Street, which corners Derby Road, frequently complains to me that he is disturbed and he has to rise soon after 5a.m. to go to work.

Having seen the full application I note that one of the reasons relied upon for the liberty to sell alcohol at such late hours, is the provision of indoor sporting events. I can only suppose that is a euphemism for televised football matches all of which appear to be an evening feature and one wonders why it is necessary to seek late hours for something which can be watched at home unless it is just another excuse to facilitate even more consumption of alcohol. In any event such 'entertainment' is concluded well before the extended hours the applicant is now seeking. In the same way, is it really essential to extend the hours for the sale and consumption of alcohol to facilitate the provision of music and dancing?

It is not clear whether the reference to the sale of late night refreshment is suggested as a reason why a late night facility is desirable: I mention again that the dining room has been turned into a pool room. Need I say more?

This application is for something totally inappropriate to a rural community however it may be in an urban setting. I suggest it is prompted by a desire on the part of the applicant to establish a base for a profitable business and has no part in seeking to meet an established need in the area. I urge the Sub-Committee to reject the application.

13th September 2005

Ms Andrea McCaskie
Head of Legal Services
South Derbyshire District Council
Civic Offices
Civic Way
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE11 0AH

Dear Ms McCaskie

Objection to extended opening hours: The Alma, Derby Road, Melbourne

I am the house owner and resident of 41 Derby Road, Melbourne which is located close to The Alma Public House.

I understand that the licensee of The Alma has applied for extended opening hours both for week day and weekend evenings and so I am writing to you to formally register my objection to this application on a number of grounds:

- The Alma is situated away from the main shopping and restaurant area of Melbourne within a close residential area. Already the area is disturbed by large groups of often drunken people leaving the pub at closing time after 11.00pm and the extended hours will make this situation untenable in the early hours of the morning; to make it worse on most nights of the week.
- The existing problem is likely to be made considerably worse because this application is for longer opening hours than other public houses in Melbourne. If successful it would result in groups of drinkers vacating other establishments at 11.00pm or 12.00 midnight and then walking down to The Alma, often along Derby Road, disturbing residents for the first time and then vacating the Alma once again after 1.00am or 2.00am, causing a second disturbance.
- The nature of The Alma as a sports and music bar featuring Sky TV sports events and evenings such as Kareoke often attracts groups of young revellers, rather than smaller groups of more responsible drinkers. Again the later hours will only make this worse with The Alma in effect becoming the village's first night club. I imagine it likely they will continue to offer more 'themed' nights to attract this clientele.

Given the public house's location close to the conservation area this will not only be detrimental to local residents but will detrimentally affect the overall tone and atmosphere of the village.

My own property is a Grade II listed cottage which since purchasing two years ago I have renovated in line with advice from the council's conservation officer, I hope contributing to the status of the village along with the work of many other responsible residents.

With the on-going work of the council and its partners to reduce anti social behaviour in the area through CCTV etc, plus the work of residents such as myself working hard to invest in maintaining the good character of the centre of Melbourne, I find it incongruous that the council would consider approving an application such as this.

Whilst I recognise the extension of opening hours is a country wide issue, I hope the council considers the importance of safe guarding the well being of local residents and Melbourne's reputation by rejecting this application.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss my concerns further and if this is of use, please contact me. Please note however I am out of the country from 17th September – 5th October.

Yours sincerely

Louise Smith

41 Derby Road
Melbourne
Derby DE73 8FE

Tel: 01332 865027 (evenings)
Mobile; 07970 389439



SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Licensing Act 2003

Representation by an Interested Party

Note: Please be aware that this form may be viewed by the Applicant or by a representative of the Applicant. It may also be read out in public at the sub-committee hearing.

Before completing this form please read Guidance Note - *Representations by Interested Parties*. Details of where this can be obtained are set out to the bottom of this form.

An interested party can make representations against a relevant licence application. Representations may be made on behalf of the above by a representative e.g. MP, solicitor, or a friend.

Please indicate in which capacity you are making this representation by ticking a box below:

- A person living in the vicinity of the premises
- A body representing a person in the vicinity of the premises
- A person involved in a business in the vicinity of the premises
- A body representing a business in the vicinity of the premises

Representations are only relevant to an application if they relate to at least one of the four **Licensing Objectives** listed below:

1. **The Prevention of Crime and Disorder**
2. **Public Safety**
3. **Prevention of Public Nuisance**
4. **The Protection of Children from Harm**

Representations may be made at any time during a period of 28 consecutive days starting on the day after the application was given to the Licensing Authority.

In the case of a closure order issued by the Police, representations may be made during the seven days that follow relevant notice being given to the Local Authority by the Magistrates Court, starting on the day after the day the notice was received.

Please enter your contact details below: -

Name:	Louise Smith
Address:	41 Derby Road, Melbourne
Postcode:	DE73 8FE
Tel:	01332 865027 (not available 16 th Sept – 6 th October 2005 – out of the country)
E-mail:	<u>Louise.smith@channel2020.co.uk</u> (not available 16 th Sept – 6 th October – out of the country)

Please confirm name and address of person or business affected in the vicinity, if different from the address given above. i.e. this could be a shop premise in the vicinity but you do not live at the shop premises.

Name:	
Address:	
Postcode:	

Address of premises in application causing concern, which you wish to make a representation about

Name of Applicant:	
Address of Premises	The Alma, Melbourne
Application Details:	

Please give details of your representation in the box below. Indicate which of the Licensing Objectives your representation refers to by ticking the relevant box/es:

- **The Prevention of Crime and Disorder**
- **Public Safety**
- **Prevention of Public Nuisance**
- **The Protection of Children from Harm**

Details of representation.....

- The Alma is situated away from the main shopping and restaurant area of Melbourne within a very close residential area. Already the area is disturbed by large groups of often drunken people leaving the pub at closing time after 11.00pm and the extended hours will make this situation untenable in the early hours of the morning; to make it worse on most nights of the week.
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Given the public house's location close to the conservation area this will not only be detrimental to local residents but will detrimentally affect the overall tone and atmosphere of the village.

Having a vibrant village centre is part of Melbourne's appeal and important to its prosperity, however, late night licenses also need to be balanced with the quality of life of local residents.

If possible please suggest alterations to the application that would resolve the problem mentioned above, again paying attention to the licensing objectives

Restrict any extended license to 12.00 midnights on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Once the Licensing Section has received this form you will receive a written acknowledgement and you may be contacted to discuss the issue prior to any referral to a sub-committee hearing.

Please tick this box if you consent to any notice of any hearing being sent to you to the e-mail address provided by you above.

Please tick this box if you do not intend to attend or be represented at any hearing.

(NB; It depends entirely on the time and date of meeting whether I would be able to attend.)

If you wish to withdraw any representations you may do so confirming this in writing to the address given below, providing you do so no later than 24 hours before the any hearing, or otherwise orally at the hearing.

Signed:

PRINT NAME: Louise Smith

Date: 13th September 2005

Please return this form to the following address:

South Derbyshire District Council
PO Box 6927
Civic Offices
SWADLINCOTE
DE11 0AH

49 Derby Road
Melbourne
Derbyshire
DE73 8FE

11 September 2005

Dear Sir

Application by the **Alma** public house, Derby Road, Melbourne for extended hours

I wish to object to the application by the above based on approximately 5 years of past experience of the disturbance caused by the clientele in this dense residential area. The previous landlord - who has just retired - was effective in keeping the disturbance to a minimum. The landlord prior to him was not effective. Given this difference in management style of the Alma, I cannot solely rely upon any landlord in future to minimise the disturbance. I live approximately 25 metres from the Alma.


I am objecting on the following grounds:

- the history of disorder outside the Alma - the Police have attended
- high levels of noise from people leaving the Alma and walking along Derby Road in the early hours of the morning
- increased incidents of drunken behaviour which currently and previously include - knocking on front doors along Derby Road as they pass by - bouncing off windows and doors and cars on the narrow pavement - damage to wing mirrors of cars parked along Derby Road - glasses and bottles left on window sills along the road and on doorsteps - broken glass along the road
- past experience with noise from extremely loud live music and karaoke sessions in a building with no sound proofing within this residential area
- My concerns about the disturbance caused by the above behaviour, which is directly related to the Alma and its clientele, are that extended hours will result in
 - considerable disturbed sleep during both the working week and weekends
 - the impact of this on my economic and social well being and ability to function at work
 - impact on quality of life as a consequence of the disturbance during the day at weekends and on into the early hours of the morning throughout the week
 - the impact on the value of the houses within a considerable radius
 - the impact on the saleability of the houses within a considerable radius - all of the houses are family houses but they are unlikely to continue to be suitable for children so change of use to offices etc. could become the only viable option for such buildings in future with the consequent 'hollowing out' of the centre of Melbourne
- In addition
 - the difference in requested opening hours between the Melbourne Hotel, the Viscount Lamb and the Alma will result in passage of people going from the Melbourne Hotel to the Alma along Derby Road to take advantage of the longer hours at the Alma - Melbourne Hotel and the Viscount Lamb have requested up to 12.00 throughout the week

- the drunken behaviour of people going between the two currently and in the past has caused the disturbances described above during opening hours in addition to those which occur at closing time.
- there is likely to be an increase in this drunken behaviour due to people moving from the Melbourne Hotel and Viscount Lamb to the Alma to take advantage of the extra hours applied for by the Alma.
- there will be an increased drain on Police resources and time to control the consequences of all of the above

I hope that you will take these objections into consideration when you make your decision about these extended opening hours given its direct effect on myself and family

Yours faithfully



Julia Reid

cc Mark Todd MP

Jacobs Carl

From: Harrison, John (Elected Member) [John.Harrison@Derbyshire.gov.uk]
Sent: 30 September 2005 15:54
To: Jacobs Carl
Subject: Alma Inn, Melbourne

FAO Mr Carl Jacobs

Please note my support for the deep concerns which have been expressed to you by those of my constituents who live in close proximity to The Alma Inn, 59 Derby Road, Melbourne, which has applied for a variation of its licence to extend the opening hours. The combination of extended licensing hours, together with an application for a coterminous entertainment licence, is seen as creating the potential to blight materially, on a daily basis, the lives of the pub's immediate neighbours.

My recommendation is that in the absence of effective noise abatement, entertainment should not be allowed after 11.00pm each day and that the licensing hours be cutback from those requested having regard to the reasonable best interests of those living in neighbouring properties not to have their sleep disturbed by departing customers.

John Harrison
Elected Member for Melbourne

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Mr. Iwan Thomas MBE
The Barn
36 Derby Road
Melbourne
Derbyshire
DE73 8FE

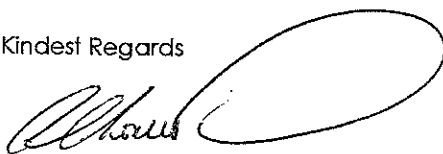
15 September 2005

Environmental Health Dept
South Derbyshire District Council
Civic Way
Swadlincote
Derbyshire
DE11 0AH

Dear Sir/Madam

We would like to object to the application of extended opening hours at the Alma Public House on Derby Road, Melbourne, Derbyshire. Living opposite the pub has lead to many reasons why this application should not go ahead. There is already consistent noise from clientele leaving the pub, which plays a huge impact on our quality of life during the evenings. If the hours are extended it would be impossible to live with, we are very worried that if the extended hours are granted we will have trouble selling our house and/or losing value due to noise, nuisance and disorder. Parking on derby road close to the Alma has already lead to several incidents of drunken behaviour, where car wing mirrors are damaged, broken windows etc. It would be upsetting to let such an application go through and ruin what is known as a peaceful village.

Kindest Regards



Mr. Iwan Thomas MBE

