

## NEWS

# 'Pub already causes nuisance with noise'

### Families oppose plans for outdoor bar over loud music fears

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NEIGHBOURS are fighting plans to set up an outdoor bar in a pub beer garden - after having their peace shattered by the racket of live music.

The Roebuck, in Forsbrook, below, wants to install an outdoor bar, create a new-look interior and open earlier - at 8am - to serve breakfasts, tea and coffee.

But the plans have sparked opposition from people living nearby, who want borough councillors to reject the application when they meet this week.

Environmental health officials, who warned the Cheadle Road pub after complaints about live music in the beer garden last year, also oppose varying the pub's licence.

Neighbour Wendy Green, of

nearby East Bank Ride, said: "Forsbrook is not a large village and the pub already causes a nuisance with noise pollution. Music and bands are already playing outside at times during the weekend, especially during the summer.

"A major issue is parking. The pub has no car park of its own which often means cars are parked in nearby streets with no consideration given to local residents."



Officials at Staffordshire Moorlands District Council say people living 170 metres complained about music from the pub's beer garden.

Environmental health officer Denis Colgan said: "The primary concern is the proposal to license the outside area of the pub, which will mean the premises could operate as an outdoor music venue throughout the year.

"This has significant potential

to cause disruption to the nearest neighbouring residential properties.

"During previous music events in the beer garden, the department received noise complaints in May, June and August 2018. The residents reported that music was audible in their garden and living room during some of these events, and these residents resided approximately 170 metres from the pub.

"No action was taken due to the infrequent nature of events, but a warning letter was sent."

The pub's solicitor, George Domleo, says the changes will not have 'an adverse impact' on the area. He said: "Our client is planning a refurbishment of the premises with the inclusion of fixed seating internally and the creation of an outside bar for the sale of alcohol."

The licensing sub-committee will rule on the application when members meet at Moorlands House, Leek, on Thursday at 10am.



**SISTER ACT:** A schoolgirl in the footsteps of her three sisters at Brown Edge Carnival. Evie Goodwin, aged nine, was crowned Carnival Queen, just like her sisters Megan, aged 15, and Libby, aged 12, before her. Mum Emma Goodwin said: "I'm really, really proud. It's all about the girls."