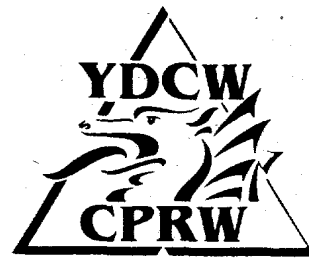


Ymgyrch Diogelu Cymru Wledig
Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales
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Pembrokeshire County Council
Licensing Division
County Hall
Haverfordwest
SA61 1TP

16th January 2020

National Trust (Enterprises) Ltd. Application for a premises licence at Gupton Farm, Castlemartin. The application is for a licence to supply and sell alcohol at events planned throughout the year both indoor and outdoor. The outdoor events will include Plays, Films, Live Music, Recorded Music, Performing Dance, Weddings, many with Late Night refreshments

SUPPLEMENTARY OBJECTION

Please find below a SUPPLEMENTARY OBJECTION to that already submitted. This includes comments from CPRW members and other local people who contacted me after reading our first submission and are concerned about issues further to those I have already raised.

1. People wish to express concerns that alcohol fuelled visitors may be unaware of the extreme danger Freshwater West holds for swimmers and surfers. I raised this before but they would like me to add that there were deaths at Freshwater West before life guards were engaged, but for only part of each day during part of the summer months. There was a report in the local press last year of youngsters having to be rescued by older surfers because they were being taken out to sea by a rip current. My father nearly drowned swimming there. He managed to get to the rocks and cling on until the tide turned. Below is a report from BBC Wales in 2010.

Rip current danger for six people at Freshwater West

• 8 August 2010



ADAM PITMAN / RNLI of Freshwater West's lifeguards helping one of the rip current victims to safety

A warning has been issued about the dangers of straying outside marked safe areas of the sea after six people were caught in rip currents.

Lifeguards had to coordinate the rescues in four separate incidents at Pembrokeshire's Freshwater West.

Even though there are lifeguards present for some of the summer they won't be there throughout the year or when the National Trust propose to hold their events, nor be there to cover out of hours events in their entirety. This application is to supply alcohol to campers, visitors and guests from 8.30am to 1 am the following morning. Local people have serious concerns about the potential for unnecessary alcohol fuelled deaths in the sea at freshwater west should you grant the National trust the licence they request.

2. People have expressed concerns at the principle of the National Trust's request to make alcohol available at such a small campsite with one holiday cottage. At what other of their small campsites does the National Trust sell alcohol?
3. People are concerned at the length of time alcohol will be available to the public at Gupton. The application is to supply alcohol from 8.30am to 1 am the following morning. Thus it will be for sale over a period of sixteen and a half hours on certain occasions. The National Trust gave notice that it will serve refreshments between 2300 and 0300 hours. ie during the night. They also state that the site is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to the public who are free to walk in as guests. And as guests they are free to purchase alcohol. They are then free to drive or walk to Freshwater west and consume it there. This is like having an off licence near by. People are worried that staff will be unable to prevent guests from taking it off site. Indeed they will be unaware of whether they are serving campers, walk in public, or invited guests? There is a potential for anti social behaviour and concerns about safety and order in public places such as along the adjoining Castlemartin Road, parking places, the dunes, and beach, if alcohol can be carried off site.
4. People are very annoyed that the application submitted to supply alcohol at Gupton demonstrates that it is a first stage in the noisy commercialisation of one of the most distinctive wild areas in Pembrokeshire. People come to the area for the experience of remoteness and tranquillity. The National Trust has developed Gupton up to now, consistent with the area's primary attractions. Any introduction of commercial enterprises is at odds with this. Freshwater West, seascape, beach and dunes offers visitors and local people a unique experience of the raw nature of the Atlantic ocean meeting the shore, unsullied by

commercialisation and the type of behaviour often associated with the serving of alcohol.

5. Gupton is part of the setting of Freshwater West and located within the narrow coastal National Park. This application is contrary to National Park purposes, including the quiet enjoyment of the countryside. The National Trust application signifies that alcohol will be sold not only to campers and holiday cottage guests, but at proposed in door and out door public events and private functions. People are very cross and disturbed that Gupton should even be considered as suitable location for such events where they will detract from the peaceful enjoyment of this special area of the National Park. This fact is relevant to this application for a licence to sell alcohol because as the application demonstrates, it is the first stage toward inappropriate development and commercialisation of this beautiful, unique and tranquil landscape, introducing noise day and night, and obtrusive lighting at night ..

This application by the National Trust for a licence for alcohol sales at Gupton demonstrates a failure by that organisation to appreciate and protect the special qualities of Freshwater West and its setting. . At present they have a campsite and holiday cottage there, .neither of which requires the necessity if having alcohol sales on site. The events they intend to promote on that site at which alcohol will be sold are inappropriate in this part of the National Park. and will be objected to strenuously as damaging to the conserving of the qualities and character of this much loved area.

Yours sincerely

Mary Sinclair
Chairman of the Pembrokeshire Branch of CPRW