

Mrs [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Thorpe Road
Thornton
BD13 3AT

For the Attention of The Watchmakers at South Square Review Panel.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I lived in Friendly Street for 46 years before moving 4 years ago to another part of Thornton, so I speak as a long-time neighbour and supporter of South Square Arts Centre.

It was always such a lovely quiet and peaceful place to live that not many people in the village knew about. A really pretty and very historical backwater of Thornton that felt very safe. We never had any problems with any noise nuisance at all.

I have visited my old neighbours on a number of occasions once lockdown restrictions were lifted last year and I was really upset and very angry to see what has happened to the back garden of South Square.

The noise that came from that beer garden when I have visited my friends was truly awful. Sound has always 'bounced' around in this area which is why it has always been a very safe place to live. Any strange noise and we'd be on full neighbourhood watch.

The noise from all those drinkers was so loud that we couldn't sit out in my friend's garden and when we went inside, she had to close all the windows to keep the noise out and even then, we could still hear the screeching women and men shouting. She told me that she has to keep all her windows closed whenever the beer garden is open to the drinkers because of the extreme noise levels.

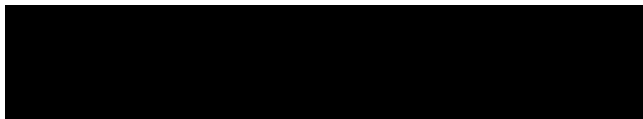
She has a lovely small garden which she has put a lot of time and money into but she is not allowed to enjoy sitting outside in good weather whilst the pub feel much more entitled to using South

Square's! This is really unfair to her and ALL the neighbours, including the elderly people who live at nearby Alan Court, who have to endure this now and South Square should never have allowed The Watchmaker's to use this as their own personal beer garden. There is a perfectly adequate and attractive seating area for the pub in the front courtyard that is much more suitable to this kind of hospitality.

This beer garden should NEVER have been allowed to be built and used in this way. It has totally spoilt the area and as much as I miss living in that lovely little street, I am very glad that I do not have to live near all that awful racket.

I sincerely hope that the Review Panel will err on the neighbour's side and let them – many of whom are retired now – live without the stress and anxiety of having had an unwanted Beer Garden foisted upon them.

Kind regards,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.A black rectangular redaction box covering the address of the sender.

[REDACTED]
Enderley Road
Thornton
Bradford
BD13 3JZ

Regarding the review of the License of The Watchmaker bar, 377, Thornton Road, Bradford.

I have lived on Enderley Road for many years and have always been pleased to have the South Square Arts Centre as a neighbour and I have supported it in many ways. I am very upset and disappointed that they have chosen to allow the bar to use the once quiet garden on Enderley Road as a beer garden - especially as they are aware through correspondence, personal discussions and meetings of how much this is affecting the lives of nearby residents.

Until the Spring of last year the bar (previously named the Cobbles) operated its outside business in the enclosed courtyard of South Square. I had occasional problems with anti social behaviour, mainly obstructive parking and people using my land as a toilet. There were other more serious problems that eventually led to the tenancy of the Cobbles being terminated. What I didn't have then was the noise nuisance that The Watchmaker bar has brought to the area. I would gladly accept the return of the anti social behaviour in exchange for what I have now.

My home is directly opposite the beer garden but at a lower level and therefore noise from it carries extremely well. At the beginning of the afternoon I can hear individual conversations between customers. Noise then builds up as more people arrive and more alcohol is consumed. By mid afternoon and into the evening the noise is typically very loud and is such a nuisance that I cannot spend time in my garden. This I find very frustrating and stressful. I have spent a great deal of time and money working on my garden and this is one of my main interests. I would normally spend most of the warmer months outside either gardening or reading and would have most meals outdoors but I was unable to do so last year. I couldn't even open a window in the height of the summer as I could hear the noise throughout my home.

There are some South Square classes and groups that are meeting in the garden and occasionally customers from the cafe have takeaway food in there. I have no issue with the garden being used in such a way or even the occasional event. It is the predictable, regular and pervasive noise from bar customers that is the concern. The times when I am most concerned about the noise are Saturday and Sunday afternoons when I would like to relax outside with my family.

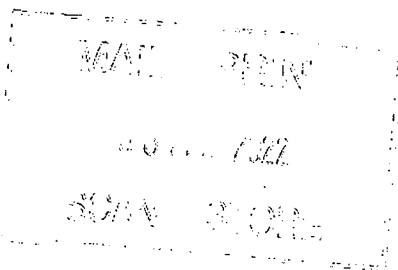
Since the beer garden opened there have been fewer Watchmaker customers using the courtyard, even though this is directly outside the bar. Indeed there have been many times when the garden has been full and no one at all has been in the courtyard.

I would ask the Panel to consider excluding the garden from The Watchmaker license and the situation reverting to how it has been previously. The bar can then continue to trade successfully both inside its premises and in the South Square courtyard, without the home lives of residents being blighted by the unacceptable noise nuisance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mrs [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Friendly Street
Thornton
Bradford
BD13 3JY



3rd April 2022

REVIEW THE WATCHMAKERS AT SOUTH SQUARE IN THORNTON

My partner and I are both over 70 years old and we have lived in Friendly Street for over 22 years and we live very close to South Square. We object very strongly to the back garden being used as a Beer Garden by the pub, The Watchmakers.

I have lots of long term health problems including COPD which I have to take medication for and have been in hospital many times for. I struggle to catch my breath at the best of times but when the weather is good, I NEED to have my windows open for fresh air to help with my breathing.

Last year when the beer garden opened, because of all the noise and racket that comes from the beer garden – women screeching their heads off and men shouting and swearing I had to keep my windows closed which makes my breathing even worse. I then need to increase my medication which I shouldn't have to do. Last year was a nightmare for most of us neighbours apart from the two neighbours that are involved with South Square.

It's a very quiet area around here and because we are both in our early 70's we don't want to have to move because before the beer garden opened, it was lovely and QUIET. The noise has already started again with the good weather last weekend (25th March) and I have been in touch with the environmental health who have told us to keep a diary. The pub has a decent courtyard right next to them so why has South Square allowed the back garden to be used as BEER GARDEN?

South Square had a residents meeting last year before it was opened and they TOLD us that there wouldn't be any noise nuisance but they have lied time and time again every time we have complained. I bet none of them would like to live so close to something so loud. I don't see why my health – both physically and mentally - has to suffer so that a supposed 'Community' Centre can make money out of a beer garden that was not in South Square's plans. Thornton councillors don't care about us which they should do because we voted them in but they have sided with the pub. It's not right that. They are supposed to be impartial.

I really hope that the review panel will stop the pub from serving alcohol in that garden and keep the drinkers to the front, where they should belong.


Yours sincerely

 and 



[redacted] and [redacted]
[redacted] Friendly Street
Thornton
BD13 3JY

Dear Sir,

SOUTH SQUARE PUB BEER GARDEN

I have been told by my neighbour that the Watchmakers pub at South Square is having a review about the beer garden so I want to write to you for me and my partner, Simon.

We moved into our lovely house early last year after waiting ages for it to be renovated. We have wanted to live here on Friendly Street for ages because its such a lovely quiet spot but still close to the Village and we're both from Thornton.

But since we moved in South Square opened a beer garden and we're really thinking about having to move again which is so unfair after all the money we've spent to get our house just right. But the noise that comes from that beer garden is really really bad and its awful.

We don't have a garden but we like to sit on our front door step when it's nice and the racket that comes from the pub garden is so loud that we can't stay out long. We even have to shut our windows to keep the racket out of the house. You can hear people talking loudly and men are often swearing and then tons of women with really loud high pitched laughter. We know exactly when the beer garden is open because you can hear the noise straight away and it goes on for hours. My neighbour who lives across the road is also talking about moving and she's lived here for 25 years. Why do we have to move just so the pub can have their beer garden???? The lady who lives next door to me is deaf so she's not bothered about it and she works for South Square anyway.

I work at BRI as an HCA and I get home from work and I'm really tired and all I want to do is relax and have a rest and that horrible noise just spoils it for me.

Me and Simon have walked down to have a look at the garden and it's rammed with people who don't care about the people who live close by. I feel really sorry for all the old people who live at Alan Court too which is right by the garden. South Square and the pub don't care about them at all. If they did they wouldn't allow all that noise to keep going on. Me and Simon have walked round there to Alan Court and its like sitting in

the beer garden, it's that loud. South Square should never have built this beer garden because its like something that you'd see in the centre of Bradford and not in a very quiet residential area. We don't want to move because if we had wanted to live in a noisy area then we'd have moved into one. Thank you for listening.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]