



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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LICENSING ACT 2003

APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE

PREMISES NAME	CORNERSTONE
PREMISES ADDRESS	1 GLOUCESTER STREET, PAINSWICK, STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, GL6 6QN
APPLICANT NAME/S	CORNERSTONE (PAINSWICK) LTD
APPLICATION TYPE	APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE
APPLICATION REFERENCE	26/00830/LAPRNW
DATE OF HEARING	03 SEPTEMBER 2026
DATE OF DECISION	03 SEPTEMBER 2026
DECISION	APPLICATION GRANTED SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS INCLUDING REDUCED HOURS

BACKGROUND

Cornerstone is a proposed new restaurant to be located in a building which is on the corner of Gloucester Street and Cheltenham Road in the centre of Painswick. Cheltenham Road is the main road that runs through Painswick town. There are doors and windows on each side of the building fronting both roads. The applicant has advised that downstairs historically had planning permission for commercial use and upstairs is residential. This has been confirmed by Planning Officers.

The applicant has said that his intention is to serve food on small plates in a delicatessen/tapas style. Alcohol beverages will be ancillary to the dining experience. The area will be configured for seated eating and there will be no outside seating.

Stroud District Council ('the Council'), being the relevant Licensing Authority, received an application for a new premises licence to permit sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises every day as below:

The licensable activities and times requested are:

On Sales of Alcohol	Monday to Sunday New Years Eve	11:00 to 22:30 11:00 to 00:30
Opening Hours	Monday to Sunday New Years Eve	08:00 to 23:00 08:00 to 01:00

If sale of alcohol is granted, the applicant will have an entitlement, under live and recorded music exemptions, to provide live and recorded music, no later than 23:00, during the times that on sales of alcohol are permitted on the licence. In this case, if the licence is granted as applied for, the exemption would apply between 11:00 and 22:30 each day and on New Year's Eve it would apply between 11:00 and 23:00. This is an automatic entitlement and the licensing panel, when considering an application for on sales of alcohol, cannot take account of the right to this entitlement when making their decision. A licence holder's right to the exemption can only be removed or conditioned through the review process.

An Application Plan was attached to the application which shows the area proposed to be licensed.

During the 28 day representation period the applicant became aware that a letter was being circulated to residents outlining concerns. The applicant wrote a response letter addressing some of the concerns and volunteering some conditions as below:

- Recorded music to be background only
- No outdoor drinking or seating
- Seated service only (no standing drinking)
- Challenge 25 policy
- CCTV covering entry, exit, and customer areas
- Quiet dispersal policy
- Secure waste storage within the premises boundary

It should be noted that the hearing panel cannot impose any conditions restricting a licence holder's right to the live and recorded music exemption.

The Applicant also provided a risk assessment.

REPRESENTATIONS

The Council received representations against the application from two residents that live very close to the proposed new restaurant.

In addition, The Council received one representation from Councillor Luff who is representing twelve local residents that did not want to submit individual representations themselves. They asked Councillor Luff to submit representation on their behalf and

represent them at a hearing. This representation was submitted as five separate emails from Councillor Luff submitted sequentially through the representation period.

Points raised in the representations against the application include:

- Noise from use of the premises
- Noise from people leaving and arriving
- Noise transmitting through shared walls
- Noise from deliveries and collections
- Anti-social behaviour
- Smoking and vaping in the street
- The extent of the proposed operating hours
- Nature of the use of the premises and future use
- Highway safety of the road and pavement
- Parking and traffic pressures

The Council received eight representations in support of the application. Several mention that they welcome a new venture by a local person that lives in the village. Some of the support representations are from residents living close to the proposed new restaurant and say they have no objection.

HEARING

The Licensing Panel consisted of Cllr Brown (Chair), Cllr Hamilton and Cllr Turner. No interests were declared.

The Applicant was in attendance, together with three parties in support of the application and one party against.

There were no apologies.

The Licensing Manager took the Panel through her report summarising the application being made. Reference was also made to the attached plan, a letter from the applicant offering conditions to alleviate local residents concerns and a risk assessment.

There were no representations from the Responsible Authorities.

The Licensing Manager confirmed that the Authority had received three representations against the application; two from individuals and one from Councillor Luff representing several residents. There had been eight representations in support.

It was confirmed that the panel had received and read all of the documentation and would be basing any decision taking account of the documentation as well as well as the information from the hearing.

OTHER PERSONS' REPRESENTATIONS

The panel heard from other persons in attendance that were in support of the application as well as considering the written representations in support. Representations in support included welcoming and supporting local people and businesses and seeing an empty property in the village being used. Further those in support had been assured by how the Applicant planned to run the business and how he was dealing with the concerns raised by local residents.

The Panel then heard from Councillor Luff who was attending in his role as District Councillor to represent local residents that were against the application. Strong concerns were raised around whether the property was suitable for the proposed business and a fear that in fact it would become much more of a bar than a restaurant. Concerns were raised regarding the location, being a quiet residential area and that granting the application would lead to problems due to people drinking for extended periods, smoking and vaping outside, increased traffic and inconsiderate parking, noise from the operation of the business, noise from customers leaving late at night and an increase in anti social behaviour. Concerns were also raised in respect waste management, the impact on local school children and their safety getting to and from school and the impact on local residents. There were also concerns that a child living very close to the premises would suffer disturbed sleep.

APPLICANT'S REPRESENTATIONS

The Panel heard from the applicant in response to the issues raised within the objections. The Applicant confirmed that he intended to run the business as a restaurant and that the application to serve alcohol was ancillary to that. The Applicant confirmed that he understood his responsibilities if granted a licence and that he took them seriously.

In respect of some of the specific issues raised, he would do everything he could to minimise the impact, he would accept reasonable conditions and was aware that he must demonstrate ongoing responsibility and that the Local Authority had powers to review and take further action.

The Panel raised questions around whether the business would still be viable with reduced operating hours and whether the Applicant had considered this in order to mitigate the concerns of local residents. The Applicant felt that the requested times were not unreasonable, although also accepted that the panel may make a decision to reduce the opening hours particularly on weeknights. The panel also asked about the intended capacity and it was confirmed that the plan was for 12 tables of 2 and some other casual seating at the bar, total 30-35 covers.

Questions were raised around the playing of music and the applicant confirmed that he was planning on playing background music only. It was clarified by the Licensing Manager that

that if granted a licence there was an automatic exemption for the playing of live and recorded music.

The Panel asked questions around the lack of outside space and how to deal with not having a smoking area. The Applicant confirmed that customers would be asked not to smoke near to the premises, there would be no smoking signs and staff training to re-direct customers elsewhere.

The issue of waste management was also raised by the Panel. The Applicant confirmed that he would have a secure bin store outside, waste would be stored inside and not taken out late at night to avoid noise disturbance and similarly collections would be arranged at sociable hours.

The Panel asked questions around whether any thought had been given to noise mitigation solutions such as soundproofing. The applicant stated that he would carefully manage noise levels, he was looking to create a sociable atmosphere where customers could enjoy a meal and glass of wine with background music only in order to allow conversation. However, this would be monitored and steps taken if feel sound level is increasing e.g. closure of windows.

Questions were also posed to the Applicant from Councillor Luff on behalf of those objecting to the application. These were focused on noise concerns from the operation of the business and waste management as well as concerns over impact on traffic, safety of children and pedestrians. The Applicant confirmed he would be operating challenge 25, would have a quiet dispersal policy and staff training. Further if the Panel decided to curtail the operating hours and add conditions, he would understand and abide by them.

DECISION

The Panel had due regard to:

1. The provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 which confer the powers of the Licensing Authority to deal with the application;
2. The obligation to promote the four licensing objectives as set out in Section 4(2) of the Licensing Act 2003; and
3. The relevant sections of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and Statutory Guidance.

The Panel considered that it must carry out its functions with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives, as set out in Section 4(2) of the 2003 Act. The Panel cannot take into account Representations which do not relate to one or more of those licensing objectives and acknowledged that any Representations which are received must be relevant and evidence-based. Any irrelevant representations are disregarded.

The Panel considered the oral and written representations received both against and in support of the application and noted the concerns that have been raised. The Panel noted the explanations given by the Applicant in addressing these concerns, however considered

that further restrictions upon the licence were required to meet the licensing objectives, particularly around Public Nuisance and noise disturbance to local residents.

The Panel are satisfied the licensing objectives have been met and therefore decided to GRANT the Application subject to the conditions set out in Schedule 1, which include reduced operating hours. The full list of activities with timings granted and conditions to be added to the licence are shown in Schedule 1.

Further the Panel acknowledge the Applicant's approach to how he planned to manage the business, particularly in respect of the waste management plans and consideration of noise and nuisance and did not feel it necessary to impose formal conditions upon the licence in this regard.

APPEAL

All parties are reminded of their rights of appeal against the Licensing Authority's decision pursuant to Section 181 of and Schedule 5 to the Licensing Act 2003. An appeal must be made to the Magistrates' Court and commenced within 21 days of notification of the authority's decision.

REVIEW

All parties are reminded of the procedures contained within the Licensing Act 2003 relating to the potential review of a premises licence.

This provision allows the public, businesses or Responsible Authorities to apply for a review of a premises licence where problems arise, such as crime and disorder, risks to public safety, public nuisance or failure to protect children from harm.

The Licensing Authority respectfully reminds all parties that for any review to be successful in restricting a licence, evidence would need to be collected of incidents occurring that demonstrated that the licensing objectives were not being adequately promoted. The Council's Environmental Health Service can be contacted out of hours to report complaints of excessive noise nuisance.

Schedule 1

Permitted Activities and Timings

On Sales of Alcohol	Sunday to Thursday	11:00 to 21:30
	Friday & Saturday	11:00 to 22:30
	New Years Eve	11:00 to 00:30
Opening Hours	Sunday to Thursday	08:00 to 22:00
	Friday & Saturday	08:00 to 23:00
	New Years Eve	08:00 to 01:00

Conditions

1. The premises will provide seated service only (no standing drinking).
2. The Challenge 25 scheme shall be adopted so that any customer attempting to purchase alcohol who appears to be under the age of 25 shall be asked for photographic ID (Passport, Photo Driving Licence or PASS accredited card) and the sale shall not be made unless ID is produced. Suitable signage will also be displayed advertising the scheme.
3. CCTV will be installed internally and will record all customer areas including entry and exit points. The system will record continuously, and footage will be stored for a minimum of 28 days. Recordings will be available to authorised Officers or Police upon request.
4. A quiet dispersal policy will be in operation at the premises.