

To whom it may concern,

As long-standing residents of Church Street, we wish to register our support for the recent application submitted by Chater's cafe to extend its license to allow for seating outdoors.

Having lived on Church Street for more than 24 yrs, we have seen the area change quite considerably over that time - mostly for the better.

In particular, we've been delighted to see that since opening last year, Chater's has become a much valued addition to the street. It is a popular destination for people of all ages, dog-walkers, 'home-workers', local business people, tourists, young families and others. We gather here for the best coffee in town, delicious homemade food and their own unique aperetivos.

We have always found owners Máire and Max Chater to be consistently charming hosts. They are unfailingly welcoming, helpful, engaging and interested in their customers and local opinions. As a former food business owner myself, I admire their dedication and professionalism in running a licensed premises, providing a safe environment for all their guests and successfully preventing any form of nuisance that could disadvantage their neighbours. For example, when visiting in the evenings, we've noted the vigilance of staff in ensuring guests leave quietly and by closing time. We can also testify to never having witnessed or heard from our property any anti-social behaviour or loud music. Indeed Chater's is a venue one visits for conversation and a relaxed and convivial atmosphere.

Given our experiences of living with Chater's on our doorstep we wish to add our wholehearted support to its application to provide outdoor seating for those who wish to enjoy the summer weather both during the day and evenings. We are confident this would be a wonderful complement to the existing premises and, under the management of Máire and Max, will continue to enhance the environment of Church Street and Saffron Walden as a whole.

We hope the licensing committee will consider these comments when making its decision.

Suzanna and Paul Doyle

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