Supporting Statement for Planning Application – Extension of Crich Taproom Opening Hours

Introduction
This statement is submitted in support of our application to extend the permitted opening hours of our taproom on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays until 8.00pm. The proposed extension will allow more customers to visit, improve the financial sustainability of the business and bring further benefits to the local community and economy.

Business Sustainability and Economic Benefits
Since January when we had a temporary extension on our opening hours, our tap rooms takings have almost doubled and we are now beginning to generate a small operating profit and have been able to employ more staff. Extending our opening hours permanently would allow us to build on this progress, welcome more customers and improve the long-term financial viability of the business.

Benefits to the Local Community
Our taproom attracts visitors from all over the country with regular visits from CAMRA teams from Sheffield, Birmingham and Tamworth as well as the immediate local community. Extending our hours permanently would continue to enable these people to visit the area, increasing local footfall and benefiting other nearby businesses such as shops, restaurants and other hospitality venues. We believe independent businesses like ours play an important role in creating vibrant local communities. Our taproom provides a welcoming social space where people can meet, socialise and support a locally operated business.

Customer Demand and Accessibility
Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays are particularly important trading days for our businesses and the extra trading hours we have had this past year has provided greater flexibility for customers, particularly those who are unable to visit within our current permitted hours due to work or other commitments.

Responsible Operation
We recognise the importance of being considerate neighbours and are committed to operating responsibly, taking reasonable steps to minimise any potential noise or disturbance to nearby properties. The proposed extension is intended to support the continued growth of an established business while maintaining a positive relationship with the surrounding community.

Conclusion
We believe the proposed extension of opening hours will deliver clear benefits by:
- Allowing more customers to visit and enjoy the tap room.
- Improving the financial sustainability and long-term future of the business.
- Attracting more visitors to the area and increasing local footfall.
- Supporting neighbouring businesses and the wider local economy.
- Providing an additional social space for the local community.

We are proud of what we have achieved so far and are keen to continue developing the taproom as a positive addition to the local area. We respectfully ask the Local Planning Authority to look favourably upon our application and support the proposed extension of opening hours.