# Jeremy Clarkson’s pub drinking game sparks police probe amid local concerns



There can be no doubt that Jeremy Clarkson, a figure synonymous with reckless stunts and irreverent humour, has a knack for stirring controversy—both on and off screen. Recently, his Cotswolds pub, The Farmer's Dog, was thrust into the spotlight after a ludicrous drinking game garnered the attention of local authorities. Allegations surfaced that this game—a contraption dubbed the 'beer puppeteer'—promoted irresponsible alcohol consumption, prompting an investigation by the police.

The bizarre game, which Clarkson exhibited on the pub's social media, involves players strapping into a harness rigged with levers and pulleys to swing a pint of beer into their mouths, all while racing against each other. Incredibly, a complaint deemed the activity reckless, yet the West Oxfordshire District Council, seemingly more interested in maintaining the status quo than public safety, opted not to take further action. Licensing officer Andrea Thomas proclaimed that the game didn’t breach licensing laws, highlighting a troubling trend of negligence by local authorities who are prioritising entertainment over community wellbeing.

The Farmer's Dog has been a focal point of Clarkson's ventures since he acquired the former Windmill pub. However, his attempts to reshape it into a local watering hole reveal a deeper issue: the culture of reckless enjoyment being promoted without accountability. While hordes queued to be served by the celebrity host on opening day—evidencing a public thirst for nostalgia—his tenure as a publican has been anything but smooth. Reports of patrons stealing glasses have forced Clarkson to implement anti-theft measures, and he himself has reportedly described the experience as a “total disaster” at times.

Clarkson’s aspirations for The Farmer's Dog extend beyond mere hospitality; they reflect a troubling attitude towards community standards. He aims to position the pub as a hub for local produce and community spirit, but this vision raises serious questions about the impact of such plans. An expansion of the car park, currently under scrutiny due to potential flood risks and threats to a nearby ancient burial site, showcases a careless disregard for local heritage and environmental concerns. His planning agent’s insistence that the changes are minor neglects the broader implications of increasing traffic and potential disruption.

As Clarkson navigates the peaks and troughs of pub ownership, he seems intent on carving out a niche that merges entertainment with tradition, albeit at a precarious cost. His ambition to introduce an outdoor bar and focus on local farming may resonate with some, but it ultimately risks undermining community values in favour of spectacle. The use of interactive games like the beer puppeteer, while controversial, epitomizes a troubling ethos of blurring the lines between responsible enjoyment and recklessness.

In an era where the integrity of local businesses ought to be sacrosanct, Clarkson’s approach serves as a disheartening reminder that the spirit of community can be overshadowed by the spectacle. As the repercussions of such antics unfold, the question remains: will the pub remain a centre for genuine sociability and enjoyment, or will it devolve into a mere playground for self-indulgence? The answer may very well depend on how local authorities and the community respond to this concerning trend.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-14746689/Jeremy-Clarkson-pub-beer-puppet-game-Cotswolds.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.homebuilding.co.uk/news/jeremy-clarkson-in-another-planning-battle-with-council-over-his-pubs-car-park> - Jeremy Clarkson is engaged in a planning dispute with local authorities over expanding the car park at his Cotswolds pub, The Farmer's Dog. The councils have raised concerns about increased traffic, flood risks, and impacts on a nearby 1,400-year-old Anglo-Saxon burial site. Clarkson's planning agent argues that the proposed work is minimal and falls under permitted development rights, aiming to ease congestion and limit overflow parking.
3. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/aug/23/jeremy-clarkson-fans-oxfordshire-pub-the-farmers-dog> - Hundreds of fans queued outside The Farmer's Dog pub in Oxfordshire for its opening day, eager to be served by Jeremy Clarkson. The pub offers traditional British food and beer from Clarkson's brewery, Hawkstone. Clarkson expressed his desire to have a restaurant on his farm but opted to buy a pub instead, aiming to provide a fun village watering hole.
4. <https://www.gbnews.com/celebrity/jeremy-clarkson-anti-theft-glasses-pub-farmers-dog> - Jeremy Clarkson's pub, The Farmer's Dog, has implemented new anti-theft measures after experiencing significant losses from patrons stealing glasses. Clarkson previously described the pub venture as a 'total disaster' and has been vocal about the challenges faced in running the establishment.
5. <https://www.hot-dinners.com/2024070313365/Gastroblog/Latest-news/jeremy-clarkson-pub-cotswolds-burford> - Jeremy Clarkson has purchased The Windmill pub near Burford, renaming it The Farmer's Dog. The pub offers traditional British food and beer from Clarkson's brewery, Hawkstone. Clarkson aims to provide a fun village watering hole and has expressed his desire to have a restaurant on his farm but opted to buy a pub instead.
6. <https://www.standard.co.uk/showbiz/jeremy-clarkson-cotswolds-pub-open-date-the-windmill-b1170989.html> - Jeremy Clarkson has offered a sneak peek of his new £1million pub in the Cotswolds, which he opened early for the Euro 2024 final between England and Spain. The pub, located on five acres of picturesque Cotswold countryside, offers views across the Windrush Valley and is just ten miles from Clarkson's Diddly Squat Farm, where he brews his beer and cider.
7. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2024/08/02/jeremy-clarkson-west-oxfordshire-council-cotswolds-pub/> - Jeremy Clarkson has applied to build a bar and outdoor tent at his pub in the Cotswolds. The former Top Gear presenter bought The Windmill near Burford in Oxfordshire for nearly £1 million in his quest to find a pub to sell his produce. Clarkson aims to transform the venue into a pub that will serve British produce exclusively and offer farmers a free pint.