

Licensing Committee  
Redditch Borough Council  
Town Hall  
Walter Stranz Square  
Redditch  
B98 8AH

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2013

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to register my objection to the application for a premises licence for the convenience store located at 17 Flyford Close, Lodge Park, Redditch B98 7LU. The basis for this opposition is that granting a licence for these premises will not promote the licensing objectives, particularly the prevention of crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour.

I have been a resident in close proximity (some 20 yards) to the premises for some considerable time, including when the premises previously was granted a license to retail alcohol.

The previous retailing of alcohol at these premises led to an increase in antisocial behaviour with groups of youths gathering outside the premises to consume alcohol purchased. The youths often frequented the area outside the premises from early afternoon right through into the night even after the premises had closed, and were both intimidating and abusive to those walking by.

The area located in front of the premises is very closely surrounded by residents, including myself, and a gathering of youths in this area caused noise and disturbance to myself particularly in the late evening, when it was nigh on impossible to even open my windows due to the noise created by these youths.

The premises made no effort to control these youths (both directly and through the restriction of sale of alcohol) and the antisocial behaviour that occurred outside the premises, perhaps as even the owners feared their own safety also. The police were often left to deal with repeated issues increasing the workload for the local police with the additional call outs for the behaviour, noise and intimidation by the groups of youths.

There was also a huge increase of litter and vandalism in the area, and I note that the premise even now does not provide any facilities for disposal of litter, leaving the council the cost of clearing up the area.

Since the premises had stopped retailing alcohol, and subsequently closed, the issue was completely eradicated and there have been very few incidences of youths/groups gathering in and around the area of the premises as well as issues of antisocial behaviour and litter.

The premise has recently re-opened as a convenience store and I have no objection to the premises continuing to trade without a license to retail alcohol. I trust that the licensing committee will also take into consideration that a license to retail alcohol at these premises was previously refused by the committee before this new application, on these same grounds.

Granting a licence would provide a further source of alcohol within an area already readily populated with licensed premises in more suitable locations that are not heavily surrounded by immediate residences (such as Tesco Express Lodge Park, Bargain Booze and Tesco Extra Oakenshaw store, all of which are a short walk away), and as national companies also have tried and tested means of preventing the sale of alcohol to minors, and the provision of additional security such as CCTV systems within the area to prevent antisocial behaviour.

In view of the above, I would urge the Licensing Authority to refuse the application.

Yours faithfully

Mr Joel Stanford

■ Dormston Close  
Lodge Park  
Redditch  
Worcestershire  
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