

Patricia Davies

From: Lynne Darlow [lynne@darlow.co.uk]
Sent: 11 August 2011 14:46
To: Patricia Davies
Subject: Fw: Licence to sell alcohol



----- Original Message -----

From: Lynne Darlow
To: licencing.section@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
Cc: stsanson@redborne.com ; stldarlow@redborne.com
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2011 2:38 PM
Subject: Licence to sell alcohol

I would like to object to the issuing of a licence to sell alcohol. I have tried to download your form without success so am proceeding to inform you of our objections by email. I have also tried contacting you by telephone without any success.

My organisation is:
 Redborne Upper School
 Flitwick Road
 Ampthill
 Beds
 MK45 2NU
 Telephone 01525 404462
 email stldarlow@redborne.com

The premises we are making representation about is:
 Shell Garage
 101 Ampthill Road
 Flitwick
 Beds
 MK45 1BE

I am disappointed that the garage has made an application during the summer holidays when the school is closed. This suggests that they were hoping to get the application approved without our knowledge and the opportunity to make representation.

To prevent crime and disorder:

There are already issues with young people and the consumption of alcohol in both Flitwick and Ampthill. The garage is located between Ampthill and Flitwick thus it is ideally situated to catch young people as they move between the two areas. Several areas have already been identified as alcohol free zones and the police regularly have issues with students drinking under age, getting drunk and causing a nuisance and committing offences. As a school we work closely with the police and Flitwick Town Council so can speak confidently on this matter. The issues that we have had to respond to in relation to under-age alcohol consumption are drug use, particularly cannabis, under-age sex, graffiti, damage to property including some incidents of arson. The boys responsible for the arson had been drinking alcohol prior to committing the offence.

Public Safety:

Selling alcohol from a garage does not reinforce the message of alcohol free driving to members of the public and our students. Instead it creates a subconscious link between driving and alcohol. Why not pick up a bottle of alcohol when you fill up the car, go up to Ampthill Park and have a drink and then drive home! Adults can already buy alcohol from both Tescos in Flitwick and Waitrose in Ampthill. In addition, there are other outlets in existence. There is no necessity to create further outlets, particularly one so closely located to a school.

To prevent public nuisance:

Many students attend evening functions at our school and the opportunities to purchase alcohol on the way to the function are limited. The close proximity to the school of the garage makes the purchase much easier.

There is not doubt that this would impact on our evening functions and the local community. Young people move easily between Flitwick and Ampthill and the garage creates an opportunity to purchase alcohol which they can then drink as they move between areas. Under the influence of alcohol it is very easy for young people to be noisy and become a nuisance to members of the public.

To protect children from harm

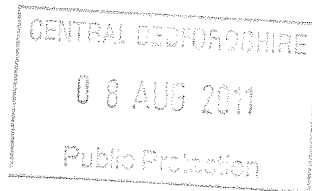
The garage is located off the roundabout next to Redborne Upper School. Students visit the garage on their way to school and after school to buy drinks and confectionary.

Sixth Form students are allowed to visit the garage during the day when they are not in lessons when they may purchase drinks and snacks. They also use the garage before and after school. Sixth Form students are not in uniform therefore it is difficult to identify their age, many local older. This makes it easier for them to purchase alcohol. For example, if we have an evening event such as 'The Battle of the Bands' after rehearsal students could easily go over to the garage and buy alcohol. Alcohol could be shared with younger students or bought on their behalf..

We know that older ex-students will buy alcohol and cigarettes for younger students. These ex-students may often be seen sitting on the wall outside the garage. It would not be difficult for them to purchase items for our students.

Lynne Darlow
Deputy Head Redborne Upper School
11 August 2011

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4th August 2011

The Licensing Officer
Central Bedfordshire Council
Watling House
High Street North
Dunstable
Beds
LU6 1LF

Dear Sir

Re: application for alcohol licence at Shell Garage, 101 Ampthill Road, Flitwick.

We would like to make representation regarding the granting of the above application for the following reasons.

Firstly, we live approximately 100 yards from the above premises on the main road that connects Flitwick and Ampthill. We already suffer with litter etc being deposited in our garden as this is the first house that pedestrians arrive at after leaving the garage on their way to Flitwick, by the time they arrive at this house they have finished their sandwich/snack/drink and use our garden as a dustbin.

Secondly, we also suffer vandalism to our garden and property and being woken by people who during the early hours of the morning are on their way home to Flitwick who have had too much to drink and the fact that they would be able to purchase more alcohol at the garage we suspect is only going to accentuate the matter.

We would be grateful if you could take these concerns into consideration when deciding to grant/or not the licence.

Yours faithfully

V Woodcraft - G Devonshire
Valerie Joy Woodcraft and Gordon Devonshire

1 The Paddocks
Flitwick
Bedford
MK45 1XE

