

**To:** Dave McBain

**Subject:** Application for variation of premises licence, Shaylers, 4 Church Street Ampthill

Dear Mr McBain,

**Re: Application for variation of premises licence – John Shayler – Shaylers, 4 Church Street, Ampthill**

Please treat this email as an objection.

The Sex Entertainment Venue licence was granted despite strong opposition and anger from the residents of Ampthill.

There was significant media coverage of the public opinion and a petition containing over 2000 signatures was raised and presented. The only reason there were not more objections raised before the licence was granted was that many residents thought it was not a serious application and believed it would not actually happen. They also could not believe that anyone would grant a licence for such a venue in such an unsuitable location.

Now that an extension of the licence to 4am has been applied for, I am concerned that this could potentially result in more anti-social behaviour in the centre of Ampthill. Customers leaving the club at that time of the morning after drinking alcohol are more likely to be disruptive and commit a crime.

This would have a serious impact on:

The quality of life of local residents.

The prevention of crime and disorder.

The prevention of public nuisance and public safety.

The licence for The White Hart has been pulled back to an earlier time to try to stop these things. It would be a strange decision to then extend the licence of the SEV!

It would also place extra pressure on Police resources at a time when Police Officer numbers are being cut drastically.

There are a number of residential properties within the immediate vicinity of the premises in question. Some of the residences have young children whose sleep may be disturbed by private car and taxi traffic in the early hours of the morning. Broken sleep patterns could have an adverse affect on their education.

One of my employees has already been approached by males outside the club making lewd comments and causing her anxiety, stress and concerns.

The proprietor of the club has made a verbal assault on my partner's hairdresser and then driven off the wrong way out of the one way part of the car park.

All the above covers the four licensing objectives of the Licensing Act 2003.

I am strongly opposed to any extension to the licensing hours, and I hope the views of Ampthill residents will not be ignored this time. I hope that a sensible decision will be made and that common sense will prevail. I would be grateful if the Licensing Committee would take note.

Yours Sincerely

  
Bedford Street,  
Ampthill  
Beds  




# Ampthill & District Preservation Society

*For the protection and conservation of our local architectural and environmental heritage*

Chairman:

[REDACTED]



Hon. Secretary:

[REDACTED]  
Ampthill,  
Bedford,  
[REDACTED]

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2013

Dear Chief Licensing Officer,

4 Church Street, Ampthill -  
Applications for Variation of Sex Establishment Licence  
and Variation of Premises Licence.

This Society objects to the applications for variation of permitted hours specified in the Sex Establishment Licence and the Premises Licence in respect of No 4 Church Street, Ampthill.

Our Society objected to the original application for grant of a Sex Establishment Licence and our reasons were set out in our letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> July 2012 a copy of which is attached hereto. Those reasons remain valid.

The Licence was granted by your Council in spite of numerous very strong objections by local residents of Ampthill. Spokespersons for Central Bedfordshire Council have since sought to justify grant of the Sex Establishment Licence by the number of "strict" conditions which were attached to the licence by the Council. It follows therefore that any relaxation of those conditions would nullify that justification.

Permitted hours specified in the Premises Licence should be based on the opening hours permitted by the Sex Establishment Licence.

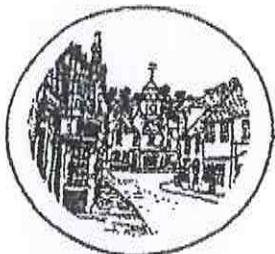
Yours faithfully,

(Chairman)

(Secretary)

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





# Ampthill & District Preservation Society

*For the protection and conservation of our local architectural and environmental heritage*

Chairman:

[REDACTED]

Hon. Secretary:

[REDACTED]  
Ampthill,  
Bedford.  
[REDACTED]

7<sup>th</sup> July 2012

Dear Chief Licensing Officer,

Application for Sex Establishment Licence –  
4 Church Street, Ampthill.

This Society objects to the application for grant of a Sex Establishment Licence in respect of 4 Church Street, Ampthill, for the reasons set out below.

- 1 The location of 4 Church Street is on the small Market Square which is at the heart of Ampthill and its town centre shopping area. Seating is provided on the square and it is a social area where people, especially children and young people, gather.
- 2 The premises are about 80 yards from the Maurice Kachuk School of Dancing which is situated in Kings Arms Yard opposite the Market Square. The school's pupils are mostly young children. In addition to those who arrive on foot many pupils arrive and depart by parent-driven cars which use the nearby Waitrose town centre car park situated immediately behind 4 Church Street. The pedestrian route from the car park to the school is via the market square and a pedestrian crossing close to 4 Church Street.
- 3 The Market Square is the venue for community events including the annual Civic Christmas Carol Service, and the formal Switching on of Christmas Lights with attendance of "Santa Claus" and many children. These events are held in front of 4 Church Street.
- 4 A popular market stall is frequently erected on the Market Square in front of 4 Church Square as are fund-raising, table-top sales in support of various charities.
- 5 Ampthill already attracts large numbers of revellers at night especially at weekends. There is frequent late-night noise, rowdy behaviour, occasional criminal damage and assaults in the town centre. A sex establishment will attract even more late-night visitors thereby escalating these problems.
- 6 4 Church Street is in the centre of the Ampthill Conservation Area which is wholly inappropriate for premises of the type proposed.

- 7 The premises are close to private dwelling houses and residential apartments in Church Street and Bedford Street.
- 8 There are bus stops in Church Street near the Market Square.

We submit that all the above reasons make the location in question wholly unsuitable for the activities which are proposed by virtue of the grant of a Sex Establishment Licence and we urge the Council to refuse the application.

Yours faithfully,

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(Chairman)

(Secretary)

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

[licensing.section@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:licensing.section@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

Central Bedfordshire Council  
Watling Street North  
Dunstable  
LU6 1LF

12 February 2013

Dear Sirs,

**Application to extend the licence obtained by the establishment "Shaylers" at 4 Church Street, Amphill ("Shaylers")**

I understand that applications have been made to; (1) extend the operating hours and the provision of sexual entertainment until 4am and; (2) the supply of alcohol until 3.30am on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. I wish to strongly object to these applications.

The granting of any such extension would **undermine** the 4 licensing objectives imposed by the Council, which are:

**The prevention of Crime and Disorder**

It is well documented that late night licensing increases crime and disorder levels in the vicinity of the licensed premises. The council is well aware of this. In fact, this has been proven locally by the White Hart pub, which is opposite Shaylers, and has just had its late night license curtailed. It seems ridiculous to replace one problem immediately with another. We have to tolerate fighting, broken windows, damaged cars, litter and general disorder.

**Public Safety**

Many local people now feel so unsafe that they are unwilling to come into the centre of Amphill for a quiet drink or meal.

**The Prevention of Public Nuisance**

Whilst having taxi's available to take people home is very useful, it is extremely disturbing for residents to have to cope with the taxis queue noise into the early hours. Engines running and door slamming is not conducive to a good nights sleep!

### **The Protection of Children from harm**

Our children are up early and often have to walk through the town centre the morning after a premises late night opening. They are witness to the vomit, broken bottles and property damage, which they find disturbing and threatening.

Why should the commercial interests of one company come before the interests of the residents in Ampthill who want to be able to frequent their own town centre safely and quietly, without fear of loutish behaviour from drunkards well into the early hours? Shaylers is located in the centre of Ampthill, which is a small historic market town not a large city and has a substantial amount of residential property and is also Conservation Area.

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Yours faithfully

A thick, black horizontal bar used to redact the signature of the sender.