

[Redacted], Saunders Piece,
Amphill,
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

7.2.13

Licensing Team,
Central Bedfordshire Council,
Watling House,
High Street North,
Dunstable,
Beds LU6 1LF

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE
08 FEB 2013
Public Protection

Dear Sirs,

Re: Application for extension of alcohol licence in respect of Sex Entertainment Venue at 4 Church Street, Amphill

We write to object to the above application for extension of alcohol license.

We struggle to find any reasons that the extension of an alcohol license to 3.30 in the morning to premises in the highly residential centre of our tiny town would be a good idea.

We are well aware of the issues that a late license can raise, as the White Hart has recently had its license, which was only to 1.30am, revoked as a result of many of them: unacceptable noise; unruly behaviour and threatened and actual violence; vomit, beer glasses and other rubbish littering the ground all down Dunstable Street; taxis causing congestion and parking issues far down Dunstable Street; large (presumably not cheap) police presence often required in the town centre at closing time, and general disruption to property and people in the vicinity. My husband and I have felt nervous in the town centre at closing time – lots of people fuelled up by alcohol spilling out into the tiny town centre late at night can be intimidating and unpredictable.

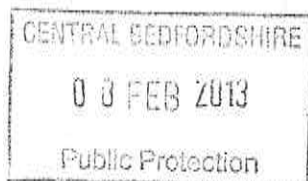
The restriction of the White Hart license shows that a late night license causes problems in Amphill town centre. I believe that Shaylers has only actually been open since 30 November 2012, and only on Friday and Saturday nights, which means it has not been open long enough to ascertain the impact it specifically is having on the late night problems in Amphill. But surely, given the clear appetite for late night entertainment and the disruption that results because the town centre is so small and residential, granting an extension of this alcohol license will mean all the problems that have resulted from the White Hart's late license will shift to Shaylers, and be exacerbated due to the longer opening hours.




That it is a sex entertainment venue applying to serve alcohol until 3.30 am is also relevant. There is research linking the objectification of women in SEVs with increased violence towards women (there are links available to this research on the 'Object' website, www.object.org.uk, see particularly *Profitable Exploits: Lap Dancing in the UK* written for Glasgow City Council by Julie Bindel). If the SEV license is also extended to 4am, this would permit hours more of titillation and drinking. In the early morning, not long before children who have to leave early to get to school are about, men will be leaving the venue drunk and sexually frustrated, a frustration that could tip into violence due to excessive alcohol consumption. We have three daughters and are particularly concerned about this. We don't want Amphill to become a no-go area – and how would that be possible, anyway? It is not possible to get through Amphill without passing the vicinity of Shaylers.

Please confirm that our letter of objection has been accepted, and that it will be read out to the licensing committee. Please let us know when and where the licensing hearing will take place. Let us know immediately if it has not been accepted so we can appeal. It is difficult to know, as lay-persons with no legal expertise, on what grounds precisely we are 'allowed' to object. We find it most disheartening and an abuse of our 'democracy' that people can spend a lot of time and effort expressing heartfelt concerns to be told they are not 'valid'. We think this could put a lot of people who would like to object off writing, as they feel they may well be told that their letter is not valid. Few of us have access to the expert legal advice that the proposer will certainly have.

Yours faithfully,

 v



 Saunders Piece,
 Ampthill,



7.2.13

Public Protection
 Central Bedfordshire Council
 Watling Street North
 Dunstable
 LU6 1LF

Dear Sirs,

Re: Application for extension of sex entertainment licence in respect of 4 Church Street, Ampthill

We write to object to the above application for extension of sex entertainment license.

At the Council meeting where the petition against the opening of the SEV was officially handed over, Councillor Spurr could not confirm that the conditions attached to the SEV had been met when Shaylers opened. In fact, he could only say that a visit a few days previously showed *some progress* has been made towards meeting the conditions. We are unable to find out exactly what the conditions that were **not met** are, and **whether they have been rectified**. This is surely not acceptable in itself. How can the club be allowed to run at all if it is not meeting the conditions that were imposed upon its opening?

Shaylers has only actually been open, we believe, since 30 November 2012, and only on Friday and Saturday nights. It is surely too early to ascertain the actual impact the present opening hours are having on the town. The White Hart has had its late night license revoked due to problems that the late opening caused in this tiny, highly residential town centre. It is impossible to disassociate the impact of alcohol and sexual entertainment as one will clearly fuel the other. With the White Hart losing its late license, many of the alcohol related problems associated with The White Hart's late license will probably shift to Shaylers, if the alcohol license is extended - and be exacerbated by the far longer opening hours. And this will be complicated by the sexual entertainment nature of the venue.

Surely Shaylers must show that has met the conditions imposed on it as a SEV, and prove that it will **continue to do so over time** before any consideration can be given to extending its hours. The council must also show that it is able to enforce the conditions, otherwise the whole thing seems to make a mockery of the licensing process. The license is up for review in August: surely this is soon enough to consider the impact of the club on the town; whether the conditions have and continue to be met, and whether the council is able to enforce them.

There is research linking the objectification of women in SEVs with increased violence towards women (there are links available to this research on the 'Object' website, www.object.org.uk, see particularly *Profitable Exploits: Lap Dancing in the UK* written for Glasgow City Council by Julie Bindel). If the SEV license is extended to 4am and the alcohol license is extended to 3.30am, this would permit hours more of titillation and drinking. In the early morning, not long before children who have to leave early to get to school are about, men will be leaving the venue drunk and sexually frustrated, a frustration that could tip into violence due to excessive alcohol consumption. We have three daughters and are particularly concerned about this. We don't want Ampthill to become a no-go area - and how would that be possible, anyway? It is not possible to get through Ampthill without passing the vicinity of Shaylers.

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Yours faithfully,





AMPHILL TOWN COUNCIL

Tel.: 01525 404355

Fax: 01525 406957

Direct dial 01525 844170

Email: d.sutherns@ampthilltowncouncil.org.uk

Website: WWW.ampthilltowncouncil.org.uk



66 Dunstable Street
Amphill
Bedford
MK45 2JS

Licensing Team
Central Bedfordshire Council
Watling House
High Street North
Dunstable
Bedfordshire
LU6 1LF



05 February 2013

Dear Sirs

Applications for extended hours Premises and SEV Licences, 4 Church Street, Amphill

Amphill Town Council is strongly opposed to the granting of extended hours under either of the above applications lodged on 15th January 2013.

It is the duty of any local authority to promote the wellbeing of residents and the safe, comfortable enjoyment of their homes and surroundings. There are an estimated 78 flats or houses within a 100 metre radius of 4 Church Street, housing around 120 adults in addition to their children.

For many years, the centre of Amphill and its residents have suffered serious issues of public nuisance, antisocial behaviour and criminal damage directly attributable to late night consumption of alcohol.


In the very short time since the review of the licence of another establishment in the town centre, local residents have already reported a significant improvement in their quality of life.

It is a developing policy of Amphill Town Council to standardise opening hours in order to avoid any one establishment attracting a disproportionate number of late night customers.

Amphill has many restaurants and public houses, contributing sensibly to a vibrant evening economy, which the Town Council would wish to encourage. For the sake of our many local residents, however, we do not believe that an overnight economy is appropriate. The presence of a magnet to those wishing to consume alcohol well into the early hours of the morning has already been shown to upset this equilibrium.

Amphill Town Council takes its responsibility for the prevention of public nuisance, crime and disorder extremely seriously. We trust that the CBC Licensing Team will take our objections equally seriously.

Yours faithfully



Dawn Sutherns
Town Clerk.

[REDACTED]
Dunstable St,
Amphill,
BEDFORDSHIRE
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
licensing.section@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Central Bedfordshire Council
Watling Street North
Dunstable
LU6 1LF

8 February 2013

Dear Sirs,

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

We 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.

We wish to strongly object to these applications.

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

The prevention of Crime and Disorder

Public Safety

The Prevention of Public Nuisance

The Protection of Children from harm

The reasons are as follows:

1. Shaylers is located in the centre of Ampthill which is a small historic market town which comprises a substantial amount of residential property and is a Conservation Area. Shaylers is located in an historic building in the centre of the town. It is surrounded by narrow streets.
2. As far as we are aware all of the other pubs and restaurants in the centre of Ampthill only have a licence until 11pm or midnight. Indeed, The White Hart (which is a pub that is only 50 meters from Shaylers) has recently had its licence curtailed and now has to be closed by midnight.
3. A late licence in a small residential town creates numerous problems. The residents of central Ampthill have been subjected to:-
 - i) People screaming and shouting into the small hours of the morning causing distress and sleep deprivation to many residents including young children (we have 4 young children who have regularly been disturbed);
 - ii) Crime and disorder. Many fights have broken out, countless widows have been smashed, personal possessions destroyed or stolen and cars damaged. The crime statistics for the centre of Ampthill highlight these problems and show that most crimes are committed late at night;
 - iii) Anti social and drunken behaviour. People have regularly vomited and/or urinated on the street or on resident's property, rung door bells and dropped litter (often beer bottles and glasses which get broken and create a hazardous and dangerous obstacle the following morning);
 - iv) Taxis clog up the narrow streets often running their engines late into the night and car doors are slammed causing further disturbance;
 - v) The centre of the town is becoming an intimidating and no go area for many people and primarily the people who live there!
4. The above problems have been caused by late licences operated by Shaylers and The White Hart. People have no doubt frequented both establishments. The simple fact is that the longer people are allowed to drink, the more intoxicated they become and the more problems they cause. This in turn results in more misery for the residents of Ampthill and more precious resources being wasted on sorting out these problems such as increased policing, pressure on environmental health services and stress on vital hospital and ambulance services.
5. As mentioned above the centre of Ampthill is primarily a residential area where many families reside. It is not a city centre; so how can a licence until 4am be reasonable or justified? How often are such late licences granted? As I understand the matter, it is difficult for establishments in large town centres (such as Luton) to be granted such a late licence

because of the problems they create. One local business man told me that when he operated a nightclub in the centre of Luton the latest licence permitted was 2.30am.

6. What purpose will it serve and who will it benefit? The only person who will really benefit will be the applicant. Indeed, how many local people will want to go out until 4am? Surely such a late licence will not serve the community it will just attract people from elsewhere who will then cause problems for the people in the community! How can this be fair and reasonable?


How will such a late licence be policed? At present, the service operated by the Environmental Health department finishes at 1am, so any problems with noise cannot be dealt with after this time. Also, we suspect that fewer police officers will be on duty and or patrol at 4am. So if the licence is extended are the community services needed to monitor it also going to be extended? We suspect not.

We understand that it has been stated by a representative of the Licensing Department that any objection put forward must be based on evidence directly attributable to the premises and cannot be based on hearsay or likelihood. This is incorrect. The Guidance issued to Licensing Authorities by the Secretary of State makes it clear that evidence relating to general problems in a locality **can and should be taken into account**. Furthermore, problems have occurred in the centre of Amphill late at night since Shaylers opened and as Shaylers and The White Hart are the only establishments in the centre of Amphill which have (or had in the case of The White Hart) a licence beyond midnight then these problems are directly attributable to the establishments having a late licence i.e. Shaylers.

Finally, some sense has prevailed in revoking the late licence held by The White Hart and it has been recognised that due to the numerous problems experienced by local residents that the centre of Amphill is not an appropriate place for there to be establishments with late licences. Accordingly, it would be a ludicrous state of affairs for the same Licensing Department to then go and grant another establishment an even later licence! It would be absurd and a complete waste of precious public funds. If the licence is granted then there is no doubt that problems will arise which will have to be managed and policed by the environmental health and the police officers and this will then lead to a review of the licence. All this can be avoided by the applications being refused on fair and reasonable grounds.

We trust that due consideration will be given to the above points and we look forward to hearing from you. If we can be of any further assistance, then please do not hesitate to contact us. We also understand that our identity will not be passed to the applicant unless our permission is given.

Yours faithfully,



Dave McBain

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 February 2013 14:18
To: Dave McBain
Subject: Application for variation of premises licence, Shaylers, 4 Church Street Ampthill

[REDACTED]
Bedford Street

Ampthill

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Dear Mr McBain,

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

In order to improve the quality of life for Ampthill residents, the Ampthill Community Safety Group (ACSG) works hard to try to prevent crime and disorder, and public nuisance. Public safety is a priority.

As evidenced by media coverage and public opinion with a petition containing over 2000 signatures, the SEV licence was granted despite strong opposition and anger. Extension of the licence to 4am could potentially result in anti-social behaviour as customers exiting at that time of the morning after partaking of 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.

This would place extra unwarranted 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.

A recent Friday night (1 February) Street Watch patrol report has revealed that youngsters are already taking an interest in the SEV. This gives cause for concern which must not be ignored as we are talking about the 'Protection of children from harm'. An extract of the report pertaining to the SEV is below.

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

The ACSG remains strongly opposed to any extension to the licensing hours, and hopes on this occasion, the views of Ampthill residents will not be ignored. We

expect the Licensing Committee to take note."

Yours Sincerely

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AMPTHILL STREET WATCH Patrol Report - Friday 1st February 2013

".....As we approached the Post Office, we saw 8-10, I guess 14-16 year olds (referred hereupon as the group) mainly male walk across the street to look into Shaylers' front window. They proceeded round the back of the building to the front entrance of the SEV. The group was scruffily dressed with baseball caps and hoods, and behaved in an anti-social manner. Some carried bottles.

We followed them and at the SEV entrance could hear them 'mouthing off'. We could see Shaylers' door staff being very wary of the situation wishing to avoid any confrontation. When we arrived on scene, the door staff were clearly relieved to see us. Apart from two males of the group, one of whom had a bottle of lager in his hand, the group dispersed quickly. For a few moments we soaked up verbal abuse from these two before they went away 'having had their say'. We noticed most of the group disappear down the Kings Arms Yard. At this stage after a chat with a member of the door staff, I dialled 101 and gave a sitrep to the FCR operator.

Our main concern about the group was the anti-social behaviour, underage drinking, lack of parental control, and attraction towards the SEV.....".

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.
For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>

[REDACTED] Dunstable St,
Amphill,
BEDFORDSHIRE
[REDACTED]

licensing.section@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Central Bedfordshire Council
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LU6 1LF

8 February 2013

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We wish to strongly object to these applications.

[REDACTED] which is down the road from Shaylers.

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

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The reasons are as follows:

1. Shaylers is located in the centre of Amphill which is a small historic market town which comprises a substantial amount of residential property and is a Conservation Area. Shaylers is located in an historic building in the centre of the town. It is surrounded by narrow streets.
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 - i) People screaming and shouting into the small hours of the morning causing distress and sleep deprivation to many residents including young children (we a young child who is regularly being disturbed);

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 - iv) Taxis clog up the narrow streets often running their engines late into the night and car doors are slammed causing further disturbance;
 - v) The centre of the town is becoming an intimidating and no go area for many people and primarily the people who live there!
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 5. As mentioned above the centre of Ampthill is primarily a residential area where many families reside. It is not a city centre; so how can a licence until 4am be reasonable or justified? How often are such late licences granted? As I understand the matter, it is difficult for establishments in large town centres (such as Luton) to be granted such a late licence because of the problems they create. One local business man told me that when he operated a nightclub in the centre of Luton the latest licence permitted was 2.30am.
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 7. How will such a late licence be policed? At present, the service operated by the Environmental Health department finishes at 1am, so any problems with noise cannot be dealt with after this time. Also, we suspect that fewer police officers will be on duty and or patrol at 4am. So if the licence is extended are the community services needed to monitor it also going to be extended? We suspect not.

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case of The White Hart) a licence beyond midnight then these problems are directly attributable to the establishments having a late licence i.e. Shaylers.

Finally, some sense has prevailed in revoking the late licence held by The White Hart and it has been recognised that due to the numerous problems experienced by local residents that the centre of Ampthill is not an appropriate place for there to be establishments with late licences. Accordingly, it would be a ludicrous state of affairs for the same Licensing Department to then go and grant another establishment an even later licence! It would be absurd and a complete waste of precious public funds. If the licence is granted then there is no doubt that problems will arise which will have to be managed and policed by the environmental health and the police officers and this will then lead to a review of the licence. All this can be avoided by the applications being refused on fair and reasonable grounds.

We trust that due consideration will be given to the above points and we look forward to hearing from you. If we can be of any further assistance, then please do not hesitate to contact us. We also understand that our identity will not be passed to the applicant unless our permission is given.

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