

Jo Borthwick

Subject: FW: Street Trading Policy Consultation

Appendix C

From: Clerk to Shefford Town Council
Sent: 05 September 2018 19:15
To: Licensing Enquiries <Licensing.Section@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk>
Cc: Chairman of Shefford Town Council <P.Mackin4@ntlworld.com>
Subject: Street Trading Policy Consultation

Dear Sir/Madam,

Shefford Town Council would like to submit the following comments for the consultation on Central Bedfordshire Council's Street Trading Policy that ends on 5th September 2018 (today).

It should be noted that these comments expressed derive from recent experience when an 'inappropriate' street trading licence was approved in Shefford High Street this year, and apparent 'invalid' objections were made by the Town Council as a consultee.

It is felt that paragraph 1.2 "Consent will normally only be refused if it is not safe to allow a vehicle or stall to trade in the proposed location." contradicts the purpose of the policy as set out in paragraph 1.1. . To counteract this contradiction, the addition of "or is not suitable for the environment as detailed in paragraph 1.1"

Item 17 and 18 in Appendix A refer to "where a street trader wishes to make a change to the hours of business and the type of goods" and such requests will be ordinarily be granted, on payment of an administration fee and subject to paragraph 5.8 of this policy". Would you please confirm if Town and Parish Councils will be consulted before approval is given to these changes, and if not, why they would not be consulted.

With the introduction of the Miscellaneous Provisions Act, Local Authorities have the power to ban trading on the roadside. So why does Central Bedfordshire Council consider it appropriate to allow street trading in laybys when the Nationwide Caterers Association (NCASS) make comment in their trade journal about the hazards roadside street trading units can cause? NCASS also noted that many councils used the Miscellaneous Provisions Act legislation to close down many roadside units as they were causing a traffic hazard.

Kind regards

Francesca Fitch

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