

Licensing Act Sub Committee Hearing

Friday 6th July 2007

Members of the Panel:	Councillors R Cook, Griffin (Chair) and Kaiser
Application Premises:	Shop and Save
Officers present:	Ralph Harrison, Head of Public Protection Tony Macnab, Solicitor Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer
Responsible Authorities Present:	Sgt Malcolm Suggitt, Licensing Officer Marie Nevison, Police Solicitor
Applicant:	Mr Randhawa, Director of View Bar Ltd Mr Dhillon, Designated Premises Supervisor Mr Ellwood, Solicitor for the applicant
Witness for the applicant:	Miss Huntley
Interested Parties:	Councillor John Lauderdale Diane Bell Anthony Dowson
Decision:	
<p>The Licensing Authority hereby rejects the application for a new premises licence for the sale of alcohol as it is not satisfied that the application promotes the licensing objectives relating to the prevention of crime and disorder and the prevention of public nuisance.</p> <p>The Licensing Authority heard evidence from the applicant concerning the steps to be taken to promote the licensing objectives including the installation of a CCTV system, a Challenge 21 scheme and a Criminal Records Bureau check to be carried out for all staff. In addition a 24-hour security access scheme will be in place.</p> <p>Miss Huntley, who lives next door to the premises, gave evidence in support of the application by stating that she was initially against the application but after speaking to the applicant she was now in favour. The premises had previously been derelict and this attracted a large number of problems including drug taking. As the premises are now back in use the situation will improve.</p> <p>Chrissie Fothergill, who lives on the other side of the premises, had written a letter in support of the application and confirmed that drug related problems had occurred whilst the premises were vacant and now the premises are in use the problems have gone. In addition the problem of youths congregating has disappeared.</p>	

The Police, Responsible Authority, gave evidence of alcohol related anti-social behaviour and public nuisance occurring in the vicinity of the premises. PC McArdle provided a statement which contained evidence that youths congregated in the Cornwall Street area drinking, attend addresses in the Cornwall Street area or pass through the area with associates with alcohol. Sergeant Suggitt stated that another outlet selling alcohol in this area would make the work already in place to tackle anti-social behaviour harder and significantly reduce the quality of life for the residents of Cornwall Street and the surrounding streets.

Sergeant Suggitt commented on the fact that if the premises were not granted a licence and became vacant again it would be easier for the Police to deal with the problems associated with a boarded up property than to deal with the problems caused by further premises licensed to sell alcohol.

Councillor Lauderdale put forward representations as an interested party and as an interested parties' representative on behalf of the two residents present. He described incidents of anti-social behaviour and public nuisance and was of the opinion that these problems would increase if these premises were granted a licence.

Written representations were received from a number of interested parties who outlined evidence of anti-social behaviour and public nuisance.

The Licensing Authority considered that the evidence and representations given by the Police, Responsible Authority, and interested parties demonstrated that if the premises were granted a licence for the sale of alcohol this would exacerbate the existing problems of alcohol-related anti-social behaviour and public nuisance experienced by the local residents.

The Licensing Authority did not consider that any conditions could be applied to the application which would enable the licensing objectives relating to the prevention of crime and disorder and the prevention of public nuisance to be promoted.

For the above reasons the application for a new premises licence for the sale of alcohol is hereby refused.

SHEILA GRIFFIN

CHAIR