

REPORT: Regulatory Committee

DATE: 18 January 2010

REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive

SUBJECT: Application for a premises Licence – Langdale News 52 Langdale Road Runcorn

WARDS: Grange

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To hold a hearing to assess relevant representation made in response to an application for a premises licence in respect of Langdale News 52 Langdale Road Runcorn

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee consider the relevant representations and make a determination on the application.

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1** An application has been made under section 17 Licensing Act 2003 (“the 2003 Act”)
- 3.2** This hearing is held in accordance with the 2003 Act and the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.
- 3.3** The procedure to be followed has been circulated to all parties and will be repeated at the beginning of the hearing.
- 3.4** The hearing is solely concerned with those aspects of the application, which have been the subject of relevant representations as defined in the 2003 Act.

4 THE APPLICATION

- 4.1** Baljinder Singh Dhillon has applied for a premises licence in respect of Langdale News 52 Langdale Road Runcorn
- 4.2** The application relates to the supply of alcohol off the premises between the hours of **08.00** and **22.00** each day

5 RELEVANT REPRESENTATIONS

5.1 RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES

The following responsible authority has made relevant representations

5.1.1 CHESHIRE CONSTABULARY

Cheshire Police have requested two conditions to be attached the premises licence namely

1 CCTV

a) An effective CCTV system should be designed and installed in accordance with the Cheshire Constabulary's CCTV guidance document called 'CCTV in Licensed Premises – An Operational Requirement'. It must also include a colour monitor not less than 24" screen size clearly visible to customers showing them as they enter.

b) The Designated Premises Supervisor will need to demonstrate that their CCTV system complies with their Operational requirements. A commissioning test must be carried out with the licensing and CCTV Liaison Officers before hand over of the system and activation of the premises licence. The commissioning test will need to demonstrate the following

- Recordings are fit for their intended purpose.
- Good quality images are presented to the officer in a format that can be relayed on a standard computer.
- The supervisor has an understanding of the equipment / training
- Management records are kept
- Maintenance agreements and records are maintained
- Data protection principles and signage are in place.
- There are enough staff trained to be able to operate and download images when required by a relevant person

2 The sale of spirits shall be by counter service only.

5.2 INTERESTED PARTIES

The following interested parties have made relevant representations:

Mr & Mrs Silcock 57 Langdale Road Runcorn

Mr E Faulkner 53 Langdale Road Runcorn

Mrs K Bell 43 Langdale Road Runcorn

Mr P Brown 51 Langdale Road Runcorn

Mr & Mrs Foster 55 Langdale Road Runcorn

Mr & Mrs F Brown 77 Oxford Road Runcorn

Mr C M Palmer 49 Langdale Road Runcorn

The representations in the main relate to the matters set out below. Not all of these matters can constitute relevant representations since they do not relate to the licensing objectives.

- Langdale Road is a hot spot for anti-social behaviour residents suffer intimidating behaviour noise and public nuisance from the undesirables an off licence attracts.
- There are more off licences less than a mile away including easy access to supermarkets selling "cheap and cheerful" alcohol.
- The applicant has previously admitted the problems he encountered at his other store "dragging in undesirables" brought in by the selling of alcohol.

- Children buying sweets and drinks will be influenced by the fact that alcohol is being served in the same shop.
- Booze has always been the main cause of noise at nights by the “yobs” who congregate at night across the road outside the shops.
- If the application is granted not only will there be a lot of sweet papers chip cartons and plastic bottles littering the area but there will be more beer cans and bottles placed on garden walls and thrown into hedges and garden plants.
- The traffic situation will not be helped by longer hours of opening, delivery wagons parking on residents pavements completely blocking their view also destroying the pavement tarmac surface this also includes cars parking on double yellow lines straddling the pavements all day long
- There is a noticeable difference in the amount of traffic and people around in the evenings since the previous off licence closed.
- If a licence was granted to the business it would mean an increase in the opening hours of the newsagents and a return to the unsociable behaviour that is associated with the sale of alcohol.

The applicant Mr Dhillon has submitted a 260 signature petition in support of the application

6 OPTIONS

6.1 The Committee has the following options under section 17 of the 2003 Act:

- 6.1.1 It must Grant the application (where properly made) unless it considers that for the promotion of the licensing objectives it considers it necessary to take any of the following steps, namely -
- 6.1.2 Impose relevant conditions on the licence;
- 6.1.3 Reject the whole or part of the application.

7 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None.

8 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

9 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCILS PRIORITIES

9.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None

9.2 Employment Learning and Skills in Halton

N/A

9.3 A healthy Halton

N/A

- 9.4 **A Safer Halton**
None
- 9.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**
N/A
- 10 **RISK ANALYSIS**
N/A
- 11 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**
N/A
- 12 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Application Documents	Legal Services	John Tully/Kay Cleary