

Objections to 24 hour alcohol licence and light refreshments to 5 a.m.at Hurst Park Filling Station

The grounds for objection are as follows:

1. prevention of crime and disorder
2. public safety
3. prevention of public nuisance and/or
4. protection of children from harm

Discussion with the police officer responsible for licensing suggests the strongest grounds for objection are 3. prevention of public nuisance.

The LIKELIHOOD of crime can be mentioned and it would help if there was any evidence.

It helps to relate the objection to one or more of the grounds laid down by the council.

Prevention of Public Nuisance - must relate to the garage

We can say THERE IS A STRONG LIKELIHOOD of

Noise

Rowdy behaviour

Anti-social behaviour

Crime and disorder

The police have no significant record of recent crime relating to the garage other than some people driving off without paying so the police have no evidence to put forward.

Evidence I mentioned :

Alcohol security tags have been found by our homes and returned to Tesco's but they did not report this as a crime. However we can mention it. Tesco's manager said it was a big problem costing the store thousands of pounds a month and alcohol is stolen to order on an organised basis. With 24 hours of opportunity there is a strong likelihood that this will continue and/or increase.

Cars have been damaged by rowdy youths in Linkfield in the past. There is a strong likelihood that youths with alcohol will cause damage to vehicles.

Tesco shuts at 10p.m. But 24 hour alcohol sales raises the likelihood of crime.

We knew our houses were opposite a garage BUT we did not expect 24 hour off-sales.

Car parking is a public nuisance. Our driveways are often blocked.

Our slip road will be used 24 hours causing public nuisance

Noise will make back bedrooms unusable and is a public nuisance.

There is fear of a likelihood of assault /harassment when returning home late at night.

An increased likelihood of burglary.

Likelihood of accidents with the proximity of the river/youths gathering to drink.

The police licensing officer Sam Bate visited today and tells me he has spoken to the new owner. If there is a likelihood of crime the police can suggest conditions on the licence e.g. CCTV, increased staffing, keeping spirits behind the counter and using a service hatch. The shop may be rebuilt or refurbished. In their application Motor Fuels Ltd say their food sales are greater than their fuel sales which is significantly in their favour when applying.

If the new owner decides to close at say, 11p.m, prior to the hearing, in the face of objections, there will be no hearing.

Residents Associations need to be informed and put objections forward.

It helps if a significant number of people attend the hearing as it shows the strength of feeling. Objectors get 4 minutes to talk in relation to the stated grounds for objection. So maybe there will be representation from e.g. the police, a neighbour, an association.

I am told we cannot canvass or distribute a model letter to be signed and posted. Email objections are not allowed. So please post your objections or maybe we can collect them and post them recorded delivery. The closing date is 3rd September. Using the prescribed objection form on the Elmbridge website is recommended but not obligatory.

Properties on the other side of the road might be activated to object as some overlook the garage.

I have contacted Councillor Mike Axton of Molesey Residents Association who was aware of the application and will be resisting it and has asked to be kept informed of the meeting with Simon Bate the licensing officer.

The more people who object the better and examples of public disorder you have experienced are helpful.

We need to report such incidents to the police in order for them to be logged.

Contacts

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I am happy for this information to be disseminated.
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