

Appendix F(a)

The Licensing Partnership
PO Box 182
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN13 1GP
08/04/2022

Dear Licensing Officer.

I wish to register a representation to the application for a new premises licence submitted for Swanley Locals, 31 Azalea Drive, Swanley, BR8 8HS.

I represent my client, Mr K Selvam, who owns the store at 37 Azalea Drive, and the representation is made with reference to the Prevention of Crime and Disorder, the Prevention of Public Nuisance and the Protection of Children From Harm Licensing Objectives.

Mr. Selvam has run the store at no 37 for many years, and has experienced many problems in the area over the years, in respect of crime and disorder.

The crime, and anti- social behaviour became so bad at one point that the police had to set up a surveillance operation by way of a CCTV cameras on the parade for a period of 6 months or so tackle the problem. At this time the youths involved were coming into the area by train committing crime/ anti -social behaviour and then leaving by train.

Due to work from the police and the cooperation from Mr Selvam, this problem was brought under control.

This does not mean that crime no longer takes place as the appendix1 shows, (a police report on a recent theft of items from a car in the car park), but the anti social behaviour, and attempts to purchase alcohol for the underage, either directly, or by proxy purchase has been eradicated by Mr. Selvam.

There is no mention in the application form as to how the applicant intends to prevent disorderly conduct and anti- social behaviour. Indeed the conditions offered are not specific to this store and are generalised conditions that could refer to any number of off sales premises. It appears that no account has been taken of the history of the area and the potential of crime and disorder at this specific location.

We are told in the application that signage will be in place to ask customers to take their alcohol home to drink it, and not consume it in the street. There is no mention of what will be done if this polite request is refused.

Due to the length of time Mr. Selvam has been operating in the area, he has come to know his customers, and can identify not only those who are underage and attempting to purchase alcohol, but he is also aware of the customers who attempt to make proxy purchases, and so is in a position to refuse these sales as well.

There is no mention of limiting the strength of beer, lager, cider and stout to fall within an agreed ABV % in the application. If the committee were minded to grant this application we would ask that this limit be set at 5.5%.

The risk of granting a new premises licence will mean the historical problems will begin again as a new premises selling alcohol will attract the current youths back to the area to again attempt to purchase alcohol. The store will become a focal point for these youths to congregate, which can only increase the potential for crime and anti- social behaviour to return to the area, and undo all the hard work carried out by Mr. Selvam, and the police in getting rid of the original problem.

The local community will not be inconvenienced by this application being refused, as they already have an outlet available, however if the application is granted it will mean an increase in the anti -social problems, and potential for crime increasing in the area.

The application takes no account of the specific location of these premises, but is merely a set of standard conditions that are readily available on the internet.


For these reasons I would ask that this application is refused.

I reserve the right to add to these arguments at the Licensing Sub Committee hearing.

Please do notify me of the hearing date before the licensing sub-committee.

Thank you for your consideration of these points.

Yours Sincerely



Stewart Gibson
Licence Agent
SG Licensing Ltd

