

The Licensing Clerk
Environmental Health & Trading Standards
South Derbyshire District Council
Civic Offices
Civic Way
Swadlincote
DE11 0AH

Fax (01332) 613087

(01332) 613036

Pc 1073 Bounds. Licensing Officer
LA03/D 1910

Dear Sirs,

Wednesday 14th September 2005

POLICE REPRESENTATIONS TO LICENSING ACT 2003 APPLICATION.

RE: THORN TREE, NEWHALL, SWADLINCOTE.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

PLEASE NOTE:

The information contained in this letter does not form part of the 'Notice of Police representation'.

Please disclose to the Licensing Authority/ Licensing Committee and Applicants only at this stage.

Disclosure to other parties prior to hearing may prejudice any alternative dispute resolution process and subsequent committee hearing / court appeal.

The Thorn Tree, Newhall, Swadlincote have submitted an application for a new premises license, and have asked to serve alcohol until 1am (01:00hrs), Sunday – Thursday and 2am Friday and Saturday. The police feel that the hours proposed for the service of alcohol are excessive, especially when taking into account the current concerns over the UK's "Binge Drinking" culture, and are making representations with regard to this application for the following reasons:

- Given the residential location of the Thorn Tree, there is likelihood of increased complaints regarding noise and anti social behaviour as people make their way home at a later time. The streets are quieter at this time of night, so any noise tends to be amplified.
- The Swadlincote Police Section Inspector fears a rise in crime (Assaults, Public Order, Criminal Damage and Domestic Violence), that may come about as a result of longer drinking hours. This is a genuine concern, based upon the fact that traditionally crime and calls for service tend to rise around the extended drinking times on Bank Holidays. This would mean that the issue of police resources would have to be considered, and may mean that officers have to be diverted from other key policing objectives such as Community Beat Teams.
- We oppose the 20 discretionary days per annum that are asked for if the proposed hours are not granted, and we oppose the premises being able to open for licensable activities to show the broadcasts of televised sporting events. Instead these two points should be amalgamated and treated as discretionary or event days. The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) recommends that only 12 "discretionary" events should be permitted per annum, with 14 days written notice given to the police, and the police to have right of veto if they feel that any of the four key licensing objectives have been compromised. (The following wording has been used on other premises applications from John Gaunts solicitors; "The non specific sporting extensions in Box M shall be restricted to 12 occasions per annum, on 14 days written notice to the Police, and the Police shall have a right of veto on the grounds of contravention of one or more of the licensing objectives, such right of veto not to be unreasonably exercised").

Also this premises application is woefully short of key information for the police to consider the new times proposed, for instance:

- What is the capacity of these premises? This is important for us when considering any resource issues and likely impact on crime and disorder.
- In section "P" it mentions that the licensee has undertaken his own risk assessment. Is it possible to have a copy of this forwarded to us?
- I appreciate that any door supervisors employed at the premises will be SIA registered, but will the premises use door supervisors? If so what number, and under what conditions? Will a record of door supervisors who have worked at the premises be retained for a period of 12 months and will this record be able to be produced at the reasonable request of a police officer or the licensing authority?
- What measures will be employed to reduce disorder?
- Is there a CCTV system installed at the premises?
- Would the Licensee / Premises owner be willing to comply with the reasonable recommendations of the crime reduction officer?

Until this information becomes available the police will not be willing to consider any variation of the premises license, and recommend to the committee that there should be no change to the current permitted licensing hour's i.e.

Monday to Saturday: 10:00 – 23:00

Sundays and Good Friday: 12:00 – 22:30

New Years Eve: 10:00 – New Years Day – Terminal hour as existing.

Christmas Day: 12:00 – 15:00 and 19:00 – 22:30.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, should you wish to discuss the above.

Yours faithfully,

Shaun Bounds

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

57. Bretby Road
Newhall
Swoodlineale
DE11 0LL

Dear Sir / madam.

with reference to the recent application for extended license hours for the Thorn tree 59, Bretby Rd Newhall.

I strongly oppose the proposed hours. I have lived at the property next to Thorn tree for 26 years up until last year when the previous tenants occupied the pub. I on several occasions last summer along with others on Bretby Rd and Thorn tree lane Rose tree lane, had cause to complain. Eventually the problems were sorted out.

The current tenants of the Thorn tree have been in the pub for a few months and in that time I have experienced more trouble than I have in the last 26 years.

In August I was at home recovering from an operation. My husband noticed a gang of young children and teenagers making a lot of noise and jumping in my front garden sitting on the wall and down the top of it. He opened

And it would also make it impossible
for my Grandchildren to stay with me
at weekends as I feel it would be
unwise due to the noise and behavior
from the people leaving the pub

yours faithfully.

Julia D.R.