

To whom it may concern,

I am emailing with regards to the recent license application proposal for Chapel Lane, Longton PR4 5EB. Please note this has also been forwarded in writing to the relevant department. I am led to believe the proposed application is for 2-4 Chapel Lane which is just the first unit however I am under the impression that it's going to be the 2 adjoining units which means it's 2-4a and the sign displayed in only one of the units and the application is incorrect.

Before I start with my representation regarding the application I would like it to be made known that I have no issues with the unit becoming a licensed premises. My concern is my right to reside peacefully in my own home being impacted. Myself and my Wife live directly behind the property (8A Chapel Lane) and have done for circa 9.5 years. Up until recently the the unit 2-4 Chapel Lane has only ever been a single business. This has now been altered to 14 individual units (not including the unit in which the license is proposed) without any warning or planning application. This has resulted in an overwhelming amount of traffic down such a small carpark/cul de sac (I will attach pictures to give a clearer indication of where the house is in relation to the building). On more occasions than I can count we have been blocked in and had to access the building to try and establish whose vehicle or vehicles are causing this. We have had our garden wall knocked down, our car damaged and even had to get a customers car out of our drive way after hitting the wall and wedging their own car after using our drive to turn around. The carpark can hold approx 8-10 cars which clearly isn't enough for the businesses already trading there.

Below I will only list the concerns that fall under the licensing objectives that directly affects us as I explained previously this representation is not to prevent the premises from opening completely.

1. THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER

I obviously don't need to explain that often alcohol and crime and disorder go hand in hand but unfortunately that is the reality. I am aware that the owners had an affiliation with a "pop up" establishment over the festive period directly over the road from this unit. Unfortunately it attracted a young crowd and brought with it obvious signs of drug use. Whilst I'm sure the owners will not want this in their business it is difficult to police unless there's relevant enforcements in place. My concern is the rear of the property (adjacent to our home/garden) will become an escape to carry out these activities undetected as the units have no rear exit to monitor what's going on.

The same principle also applies for any altercations that may take place between customers. We also don't want to incur any further damage to the property or vehicle which we feel may occur due to the very nature of a late night drinking establishment. I propose maybe an older age limit on drinkers for example 25 may reduce this issue. One of the things the current owners (Strettles) did when changing the building into individual units was remove the gates at the top of the carpark allowing access to everyone. I believe that if these gates were replaced and closed at a certain time (ie 8pm) this would prevent the above concerns from occurring

2. PUBLIC SAFETY

My concern here is the amount of more cars being brought to that one area is already dangerous with cars coming and going often at speed that some will eventually get injured. Especially if those getting into vehicles have consumed alcohol. Whilst I'm aware this is illegal it doesn't mean it doesn't happen

3. THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE

As outlined above we already encounter constant issues regarding entering and regress of our home due to the vast number of vehicles along with the damages that we have sustained that additional vehicles will only elevate this issue. Litter has also become an issue since the building has been altered. An issue we find ourselves trying to rectify by cleaning it ourselves. As I'm sure you can appreciate we don't want to be greeted each day with empty or broken glasses & bottles in our garden or on our wall. Like wise with cigarettes or vaping paraphernalia. We have even had people use our garden as a thoroughfare to access the street beyond despite the fact it's private property. I refer back to my previous recommendation of the gates being reinstated to counteract this issue.

Our garden is only a few feet away from the side of the premises and the house not much further. Although music isn't stated on the proposal we believe that a combination of live music, DJs and background music will be a part of the business strategy to entice customers. My concern is the noise this omits. We were quite clearly able to hear the "pop up" bar in December and that was further away. I put forward that time limitations of such activities are imposed along with a method to reduce noise projecting from the area such as sound proofing.

Although there is no mention of the use of the outside area if this is going to form part of the business we ask that a sensible time cap is placed on the use of this area as the noise from it will be clearly audible to not just ourselves but many of the local residents.

The proposed times of operation will obvious bring about comings and goings until around midnight. This will disturb ourselves and local residents. Customers leaving, staff finishing work and packing away outside. It's also unclear as to the where any refuse bins and bottle bins maybe placed as there is room on the carpark or would it be appropriate so this will create further noise related issues.

4. THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM

With the patrons possibly being able to use the rear of the building any children that maybe in our home or garden as well as the other homes (3/4 others) will be subjected to seeing them consume alcohol, smoking or having conversations not suitable for children to hear. Again I believe the gates with a clear sign mounted on them will prevent this issue.

Thank you for considering the representation made and hope it is apparent that my main objective is to not have any more of our privacy impacted on or the right to dwell in the residence peacefully and not to prevent the business from opening.

Please find attached photographs in relation to the representation

Picture 1 shows the entrance to our home (a private road for access) it gives you a clear picture of how narrow it is, and is clearly not meant for heavy traffic

Picture 2 shows just how close we are to the said building and how it will affect our privacy even more

Picture 3 shows the limited space we have already to enter and exit our drive, I have had to put the cones there to try and stop inconsiderate people blocking us in or out of our Drive

Picture 4 shows how congested it gets at the moment with out any new businesses and how little space we have to get by the parked cars, as mentioned above sometimes not enough space is left for us to get in or out at all.

Picture 5 again just gives an indication of the little space we are dealing with now and how close the house is to the parking area

I Hope these pictures help give a clear understanding of the problems we already face

Regards

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