

Ref: 7/11 – 335 Lincoln Road - License Applications

Thursday 05th July 2012

Darren Dolby
Regulatory Officer (Licensing)
Peterborough City Council
Bridge House
Peterborough
PE1 1HU



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

Dear Darren,

Re: New Premises License Application – 7/11, 335 Lincoln Road, Peterborough – Police Representation.

On 15th June 2012 Cambridgeshire Constabulary received notification from the Licensing Officers at Peterborough County Council of an application for a new premises license for Seven Eleven, 335 Lincoln Road, Peterborough, PE1 2PF (Application No: 064478). A duplicate copy of that license application has been received by Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

The applicant Monika Borkowska wishes to apply for a new premises license for the supply of alcohol Monday to Saturday between the hours of 09:00am and 21:00pm, and between 10:00am and 20:00pm each Sunday. The registered business No: 07663131 will be the expressed license holder and detailed as being Seven Eleven PL Ltd, 335 Lincoln Road, Peterborough, PE1 2PF. It is understood that the designated premises supervisor will be Monika Borkowska.

As the Licensing Officer for Cambridgeshire Constabulary I would like to make representation in relation to this application concerning the prevention of crime and disorder.

The premise is a mid terrace property situated centrally within the **Operation CAN-DO area**. It is located within a densely occupied retail area with residential properties nearby. Operation CAN-DO is designed to develop, implement, evidence and measure a transformational, whole systems approach to improve the quality of life of people living and working in the Gladstone area of Central Ward, Millfield and New England.

The operation has support from Peterborough City Council, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, the National Health Service, Fire Service and many more organisations / agencies. Each partner has committed dedicated resources to Operation CAN-DO over its 10 year duration (for example the police have a team of 9 dedicated officers). This is testament (especially in the current economic climate) to how crucial the area is to the aims / objectives for each organisation / agency.

The area has been specifically identified as having disproportionately high levels of community tension, crime, anti social behaviour, dissatisfaction from all communities, and in particular, alcohol and licensing issues. There is a direct correlation between the location of

licensed premises and reports of noise, littering, violence and other forms of anti social behaviour. This is not surprising when you consider that the Operation CAN-DO area is densely populated with families from a large variety of nationalities and backgrounds, living and working in housing stock which comprises mainly of Victorian style terracing. It is important to add that the licensed premises have grown up rapidly around people's homes in the last few years – not the other way round.

The area is a hotspot for alcohol related anti social behaviour, litter and is associated with street drinkers and drunks hanging around on the streets. Local residents have been subjected on many occasions to having street drinkers and drunks - linked to alcohol sales from this area - in their front gardens and having to clean up the litter they have left, and deal / live with their anti social attitude and crimes.

The area immediately around 335 Lincoln Road is already saturated with alcohol retail premises and as stated above these licensed premises have grown up rapidly around people's homes in the last few years – not the other way round. There are 7 'Off-License' premises and 6 other licensed premises including two large supermarkets, which have significantly in their own right contributed towards the anti social and criminal issues which blight the local residents. We now find Op CAN-DO partners particularly Police Officers attempting to clear up the mess, making the area a better area to live and give back the community a better quality of life. The addition of another licensed premises will undoubtedly hinder this effort and will contribute to the already every present issues.

I wish to draw attention to Section 13 sub-para 32 under S.182 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Guidance). It states “ The absence of a special policy does not prevent any responsible authority or interested party making representation on a new application for the grant, or variation, of a license on the grounds that the premises will give rise to a negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives”. A Cumulative Impact Assessment is currently being assessed and considered for this area.

In the period between the 01st JUNE 2011 and 01st JULY 2012 the following issues have been dealt with, primarily by Police and supported by partner agencies. The area under scrutiny covers PARK WARD and CENTRAL NORTH WARD.

- Alcohol related incidents:

Park Ward - 238 Central North Ward - 513

- Violent Crime:

Park Ward - 223 Central North Ward – 425

- Between 01st January 2012 and 05th July 2012, within the Postcode locality of PE1 2PF there have been 73 incidents reported to the Police. A total of 35 incidents were of a violent / rowdy nuisance or drug related issue. Within the same time scale and postcode location there have been 28 documented crimes.
- Numerous intelligence items relating to the area relating to drug use and drug dealing.
- Street drinking was a Neighbourhood Panel Priority requested by the community for that area from August 2011 until February 2012 and is still an ongoing Action Plan for Operation CAN-DO due to the severity of the situation.
- Op CAN-DO officers are constantly on a daily basis confiscating alcohol from people

drinking in the Lincoln Road area despite the area being under a Designated Public Place Order (DPPO).

- In the majority of cases people are found first thing in the morning and last thing in the evening worse for wear in possession of single cans or bottles of alcohol which have been purchased from the nearest shop.

Evidence shows that if this application is granted in its current guise it could contribute considerably towards the impact street drinkers currently have within the area mainly in the early morning and late at night. The licensing authority have encouraged new premises license applicants to amend and reduce their hours of sale of alcohol and adopted other measures to assist the local community and Operation Can-do to impact against problematic drinking practices, particularly the restriction on the sale of individual high abv alcoholic vessels of beer, lager and cider. This has been positively adopted by all recent applicants. I would urge Monika Borkowska to follow suite and seriously consider the following conditions and apply them to the Premises License application with immediate effect. Current licensees with longer hours are being monitored and will ultimately be dealt with in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 should their activity have a detrimental impact on the community. Under today's current climate of recession I believe licensees feel pressured into applying for longer hours on their licenses in an effort to maximize profits and sales. This I suspect could prove detrimental to upholding the licensing principles in particular risking increased alcohol related ASB / violence and harm to children.

The applied licensable hours of 09:00am to 21:00pm Monday to Saturday and 10:00am to 20:00pm on Sunday (as per application) to be reduced to 09:00am to 18:00pm – Monday to Saturday and 10:00 to 18:00pm on Sundays.

Aside from those conditions already offered by the applicant Mrs. Borkowska is encouraged to adopt the following conditions in addition:

1. Staff training in relation to identifying and preventing sales of alcohol to any person who is, or appears to be drunk should be undertaken on a monthly basis. This training, together with ongoing training to prevent underage sales, such as challenge 21 or challenge 25, should be recorded in a written format and be available to an authorised officer upon demand.
2. No alcoholic drinks will be purchased by the store owners or staff from sellers calling at the store.
3. All invoices (originals or copies) for all alcoholic goods for retail sale on the premises will be kept at the shop and made available to Police, Council and HMRC Officers upon request.
4. A strict stock control system will be introduced so that the licensee can quickly identify where and when alcoholic drinks have been purchased.
5. A ultra-violet light will be available and maintained at the store for the purpose of checking the UK Duty Stamp on all spirits as soon as practical after they have been purchased.
6. If any spirits bought by the company have UK Duty Stamps that do not fluoresce under ultra-violet light, or are otherwise suspicious, the licensee shall identify the supplier to the Trading Standards department and HMRC as soon as possible.
7. CCTV recording equipment shall be installed and associated cameras will be

maintained once a week, and will record and store digital images for a period not less than 28 days. A record of maintenance is to be kept and made available to an authorised officer upon demand.

8. CCTV cameras will be positioned so that they cover the front aspect / entrance of the property in addition to internal public rooms and the customer service area.
9. Notices advising that CCTV has been installed on the premises shall be posted so that they are clearly visible to the public within the licensed premises.
10. A means of two way communication will be maintained between the premises and the local Police or CCTV monitoring centre to report incidents.
11. No customers will be admitted, or permitted to leave with open vessels or bottles of alcohol.
12. No alcohol shall be consumed on the premises.
13. The premises license holder will be responsible for prevention and disposal of waste on the frontage of the premises and make provision for the emptying of litter bins in the vicinity of the premises.
14. No single vessel of beer, lager or cider to be offered for sale.
15. No beer, lager or cider beverage above 6.5% abv to be displayed or offered for sale.

These conditions are considered necessary to assist the licensee maintain the principles of licensing in particular not to become a public nuisance within the community and contributing to the already present alcohol related crime and disorder.

Yours faithfully,

Grahame Robinson
Police Constable 1572
Licensing Officer
Thorpewood Police Station
Peterborough, PE3 6SD
Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Tel: 101 Ext:4438
Email: grahame.robinson@cambs.pnn.police.uk
Mobile: 07921095030