

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 August 2015 14:27
To: Licence All
Subject: Ref LN/200500287 - Application to vary premises licence

Dear Sirs,

I refer to the 20th July letter from Charlie Fletcher in relation to the application by Motor Fuels Limited to vary the premises licence at 78-82 Binfield Road and I would like to make the following representations and comments.

My address and contact details are noted below but I would add at the outset that my wife and I live at Bevan Gate which is directly opposite the filling station and we have a full view of the station and therefore trust you will accept these comments are from direct first hand experience.

1. The letter states that the closing hours now and proposed in future will be 23:00. In fact the filling station actually closes at 22:00 at weekends which seems sensible and avoids what otherwise might be very late traffic flow at the weekend when there is clearly a higher population of people out enjoying themselves. You may wish to clarify the existing licencing hours to ensure the closing time has not been inadvertently included incorrectly.

2. There is already a daily procession of various delivery vans and trucks at the station all making deliveries of non-petrol goods which tend to park on the Entrance side of the station. The Entrance and Exit points are relatively narrow given the number of pumps at the station and quite often there is a queue of vehicles down the Binfield Road waiting to enter the station. Where drivers are also "shopping" inside the station the waiting time for other vehicles to be able to pull in to a pump is lengthened and exacerbates the situation. If the hours for selling alcohol increase then clearly there will be a knock on effect on queuing traffic.

Ironically when petrol is delivered the station is shut down and bollards placed at the Entrance. Whilst presumably a health and safety issue this has zero effect on traffic and most drivers simply drive on to an alternative station or shop.

3. There is also a cash machine at the station and the majority of people who visit the machine are in cars parked at the filling station at a pump or elsewhere. Quite often those people are not purchasing fuel or visiting the shop and again add to the traffic congestion.

4. The introduction of double yellow lines seems to have had very little effect on people parking on the kerb either on the filling station side or Bevan Gate side of the Binfield Road. The vast majority of the vehicles parking on the double yellow lines are commercial vehicles and clearly are not purchasing fuel. The drivers quite often will turn off the engine and lock the cab and then saunter to the filling station to shop, get food or drink (and possibly alcohol) and return to their vehicle and pull away.

There appears to be absolutely no enforcement of the double yellow lines. In addition those parking on the Bevan Gate side pull up over the kerb onto the grass verge and purely from the sheer weight of the vehicle make large deep ruts in the grass verge which then fill with rain and litter.

5. There is a considerable amount of rubbish discarded by shoppers at the filling station. This is predominantly from food and other wrapping, cans, plastic bottles etc. and whilst the operators of the station appear to clean their forecourt from time to time I have never seen anyone venture out onto the road or pavements to clear the assorted debris that is accumulated and blown around by passing cars. Is it not possible please to request more effort from the operator in this and/or providing more rubbish bins inside and/or outside at the pumps.

6. Finally whilst I believe very much in competition and am partial to a tipple myself I do feel there is little reason for expansion of alcohol availability during 2 extra hours in the early morning when there is already a "dedicated" Londis off licence less than 100 yards up the Binfield Road which has it's own dedicated pull-in.

I trust you will take these comments on board in your deliberations.

Yours faithfully,

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