

Austin Young
Senior Licensing Officer

Received
12 MAY 2020
Post Room

██████████ Ridge Lane
Watford
██████████
7 May 2020

Dear Sir

132 Ridge Lane, Watford, WD174SY
Notice of Application Sale of Alcohol by Retail (for consumption off the premises only)

We are writing in response to your letter dated 22 April.

We were very surprised that this application has been made.

We believe this application should be firmly rejected for the following reasons:-

Ridge Lane is a purely residential road and is a completely inappropriate location to have a retail outlet selling alcohol.

Ridge Lane is very busy especially between 0900 and 2000 any day of the week, being a major route to Watford for locals and from much further afield, for example Hemel Hempstead, St Albans and Hatfield.

The location is near a dangerous blind bend in the road with little facility for extra customer parking.

Extra customer parking in Ridge Lane, especially if it is bad, for example blocking access to resident driveways and footpaths. This would probably lead to an increase in road accidents and make it difficult for the elderly and children to use the footpaths. Bare in mind Orchard Primary School and Orchard Park are close to the location.

There is a real danger of customer anti-social, drunken & disorderly behaviour, excessive noise, littering the area with discarded bottles & drink cans, rubbish and damage to property. This is exacerbated by the close vicinity to Orchard Park and surrounding woods only some 106m away where groups of people (mainly the younger ones I am afraid to say), are likely to congregate and consume drink purchased from the location.

It would appear that the Application takes advantage of the lack of public houses and off-licenses being open during the COVID19 lockdown.

There appears to have been little consideration of the overall impact on nearby residents, many of whom are elderly or forced to stay at home during the lockdown.

Our concerns for the above are increased by the fact that 'That the licence-holder cannot be responsible for the conduct of individuals once they leave the premises'.

All the above is likely to put an extra burden on the Police who will have to check and monitor the situation and respond to resident concerns and incidents regarding the above.

Yours faithfully

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