

Mr John Davies  
Planning & Environment Services  
Bromsgrove District Council  
The Council House  
Burcot Lane  
BROMSGROVE  
B60 1AA

31st March 2010

Dear Mr Davies

LICENCE APPLICATION - MARTINS, 65/67 BROAD STREET, BROMSGROVE

I refer to the recent application by Martins to sell alcohol, and would raise objections on the following basis:

Having lived, [REDACTED] the business for the last 27 years, the premises have not been well maintained over the last 20 years or so, and the business seems to have been in a state of decline. The frontage is not cleared, and the building generally has a poor appearance - this is equally the case inside the shop. I do not believe that selling additional goods and opening extra hours will change this. I assume that Martins would have to install steel shutters for security, and this would also spoil the appearance of the area.

Also, if CCTV is to be used will this cover the outside area? When there was an off-licence further down Broad Street, we often found that cans/bottles etc were left at the rear of our premises in our car parking area, as young people would use this to hide from the road and consume their purchases. I am concerned that we would suffer from increased disorder in the area as well as more litter.

Car parking in the area is now limited as there are double yellow lines outside the premises, and in the evening the residents park their own cars on the road, as they do not have off-street parking. There could therefore be a problem with traffic flow and access.

When we purchased the premises in 1983, the frontage was protected by a fence around the perimeter, and we took this down to give our clients easy access. The frontage has since also been used by the general public as they pass along the street. If permission is given to change the use of 65/67, we will reinstate the fence to protect our property from damage and litter, and the public will have to use the narrow footpath. We will also have to install security lighting to the rear (and possibly CCTV), and would seek compensation for the extra expense.

I hope that you will take these points into account when making your decision, but please contact me if you have any queries or require further information.

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1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 10

Dear Mr Davies,

We note with some trepidation that our local newsagent, MARTINS 65-67 Broad Street, has made an application to become a licensed premises.

It worries us. We have lived for 15 years [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Since living here we have frequently had nuisance noise back to the front and rear, where bottles and tins are thrown over the fence. The noise we sometimes find frightening.

This type of nuisance increased when the 'out-door' licensed shop opened down the road. I feel that selling alcohol almost on our doorstep can only worsen the points outlined below:-

### Rubbish

Some years ago, I approached the then manager of Dillons, now Martins, regarding the possibility of replacing the burnt out bin outside their

shop, pointing out that outside his shop<sup>2</sup> was not a good site due to the rubbish and would he consider sweeping his frontage at the end of the day. It would present a better picture of Sidemere and alot of this rubbish blows up our drive daily - paper packets from crisps, sweets, cigarettes etc and sometimes soft drink cans.

I had a negative response so I contacted head office. The verbal response was positive but unfortunately only promises and no action.

When I again approached the manager, my request was overheard by one of the younger staff who told me where to go!

The manager stood there quiet.

It's put me off approaching anymore.

### Nuisance factor

When there was a licensed shop down the road we frequently had people congregating behind Tukes, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] with cans which were thrown or left on our drive and surround.

I started putting on my security light till I found my drive and caravan littered with broken eggs and the usual cans around.

My wife was frightened when this<sup>③</sup> happened and told her to leave them to it.

His nuisance has stopped since the local supplier of alcohol closed.

### Regarding Parking

The footpath in front of Martins is a short term car park after blocking the pedestrian way completely, even when there is space in the roadside 20yds up.

Our shared drive is also used for short term parking by people visiting Martins. I have asked people, nicely, not to block the drive, but no longer request this having had a very angry motorist drive at speed towards me, following such a request and abuse from him, I don't know how he did it, but he stopped with his bumper touching my trousers.

This was witnessed, by my wife, through the kitchen window.

Can you imagine the shock!?

In the last two years I have twice been close to being knocked off my bike as I approached the road from my drive

by motorists, coincidentally arriving<sup>(4)</sup>  
at the same time, using our drive  
ramp from the roadside to run up  
onto the path in front of Martens.

The first time it happened my  
front wheel was hit sideways although  
I was stopping at the road edge still  
in my drive.

Why?

We constantly hear of the bad  
effects of consuming x s alcohol  
in the media and coming into contact  
with it in Broomsgrove centre has  
put us off going out at night,  
especially in the dark. Why would  
I want it local? I don't,

as we see the future should this  
happen: -

- Rubbish on the local street. ↑
- Rubbish on our drive and garden. ↑
- likelihood of nuisance noise. ↑
- likelihood of people congregating  
local. ↑
- Cars blocking the path and drive. ↑

STRESS, ↑

FEAR, ↑

GOING OUT EVENINGS, ↓

Please, please, give consideration  
to the local folk and the elderly  
people [REDACTED]

We are requesting you to reject  
this application to allow alcohol  
to be sold at Martins.

# APPENDIX B

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**From:** David Pardoe  
**Sent:** 01 April 2010 18:35  
**To:** John Davies  
**Subject:** FW: Licensing Application for Martins 65-67 Broad Street  
**Importance:** High

Dear John

I am writing with reference to the licensing applications for Martins 65-67 Broad Street. In line with the 4 licensing objectives I have the following points that I wish to raise:

## Prevention of crime and Disorder

- Previously there has been a licensed premise in Sidemoor and it proved problematic. It was a magnet for young people and often led to vandalism and low levels of anti social behaviour in the area.
- The proposal states there will be CCTV inside the store, however nothing outside to monitor the immediate location
- Presumably as they are intending to sell alcohol from the premises, stock will be stored on site. What security proposals do they have for the store security? i.e. Roller shutters etc.

## Prevention of public nuisance

- Historically when the previous wine store was on Broad Street we had frequent issues with antisocial behaviour. All businesses in Sidemoor are located in this area. I will be very surprised if some of the proprietors of these businesses do not make their own personal representations expressing concern over security and previous experience.

## Public Safety

- Directly opposite the store are residential properties without any off street parking facility. At present there is only 2 on carriageway spaces for people to use when at the shop. The current parking restrictions are already often ignored with people parking on the yellow lines frequently.
- The shop has traditionally closed at 5.30pm, , however with later opening times and the dark nights I believe there could be a danger for people trying to cross the road.
- Broad street is recognised as a very busy road, it is a bus route and traffic speeds are in some cases excessive. This could potentially present an accident risk.
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## Protection of children from harm



- It is accepted that there is a recognisable degree of social deprivation in Sidemoor including concerns around young people with regards to tobacco, alcohol, and teenage pregnancy. Although we are making every effort to improve this situation, another ready source of alcohol in Sidemoor will not help our efforts.

In conclusion, having spoken to a lot of the residents in the area I can confidently say that the area is a quieter area, with less vandalism lower levels of anti social behaviour since the old wine store closed and therefore I wish to object to the granting of this.

Yours Sincerely  
Cllr D L Pardoe