

Oaks Wine Mart, 153 High Street, Sevenoaks TN13 1XJ

Dear Licensing Committee

In support of numerous residents who have written regarding this application, please may I take the opportunity to lend my weight to their concerns.

Against the Councils Licensing Objectives

Public Safety

The location of a business of this type is wholly inappropriate, the store opens onto a narrow pavement and is located on a busy road near several junctions, due to the nature of the store we are already seeing vehicles parking, all be it for a short period of time, causing significant traffic issues.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

Unfortunately, we have seen a rise in the amount of alcohol related ASB at locations close to this store, with The Vine Gardens particularly suffering from significant vandalism. Opening this store in this location has the potential to further exacerbate the problem with alcohol related crime in the nearby area.

The Protection of Children from Harm

A cursory glance inside this store shows the prominent display of drinks (non-alcoholic) and sweets targeted at tweens and teens (PRIME, Haribo etc) alongside large amounts of alcoholic beverages.

The Prevention of Public Nuisance

Clearly this is a long-established parade of shops, however the opening of a business with non-traditional opening hours doesn't fit with what is a quite densely populated area in terms of flats in particular, the parking issues already being experienced set out above, with the possibility of delivery drivers coming and going to this location for up to 17 hours a day will clearly lead to a public nuisance.

Beyond the licensing objectives I have already raised separate issues regarding parking and trading standards.

Unfortunately, this is a situation which the planning process can no longer protect residents and therefore the decisions regarding the future operation of this business sit solely with the Licensing Committee.

Kind regards

Cllr Peter Fleming