

From:
To: [Licensing Ia2003](#)
Subject: Objection to the Application for a Premises Licence for 168-170 Ashfield Rd, Blackpool
Date: 12 May 2015 18:31:39

Dear Sirs

I wish to object to the grant of a Premises Licence for 168-170 Ashfield Road, Bispham, Blackpool.

I was previously a joint licensee for the Off Licence at 156 Ashfield Rd and know this area well and I am currently a director of the company that owns 156-158 Ashfield Road.

At one time I ran a number of Off Licences and our shop at 156 Ashfield Rd was particularly targeted by under aged customers attempting to purchase alcohol. This might have been because of the local proximity of a nearby school and college. The bus stop in front of the property may have also contributed to this and on regular occasions gangs of youths would congregate outside. These youths would often intimidate and pester regular customers, asking them to purchase alcohol on their behalf.

There are already quite sufficient shops selling alcohol in the Bispham area to satisfy any legitimate demand and the addition of a further licensed outlet, doors away from a specialist Off Licence would simply exaggerate the problems of public nuisance and the risk of children obtaining alcohol. It has always been my belief that a general store selling a range of products is more likely to attract under aged customers, than a strictly controlled pure Off Licence.

Although not of immediate concern to the Licensing Committee, this block of shops and the houses around the area were developed by Fieldings a local building company in it's day. Fieldings saw the sense of the six shops offering a range of different products to the local community and not directly competing with each other, consequently in the deeds of sale for these shops they put restrictive covenants to ensure a separation of trades. The applicant's store is restricted to selling grocery items only, which does not include alcoholic products, as this was to be the preserve of 156 Ashfield Rd. I am aware that this is not strictly a matter that will concern your deliberations but I feel it is something you should consider when looking at the broader picture, when considering this matter.

Yours faithfully

Andrew S Airey

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