

APPENDIX C

From: clare mccormack
Sent: Saturday, December 28, 2024 1:20 PM
To: Licensing <licensing@gravesham.gov.uk>
Cc: licensing.north.division@kent.police.uk
Subject: Tesco alcohol licence application Napier Road Gillingham Kent me7 4hd

Subject: Objection to Tesco Stores Ltd Alcohol Licence Application

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to formally object to the alcohol licence application submitted by Tesco Stores Ltd under the Licensing Act 2003. My objection is based on concerns related to the four licensing objectives:

1. Prevention of Crime and Disorder

An increase in theft and shoplifting is highly likely, given that alcohol-related items are often a target.

The rise in alcohol availability will contribute to drink-driving incidents, posing serious risks to public safety.

Congregation of individuals near the premises could lead to anti-social behaviour, drunkenness, and public disorder, which are already prevalent in our area.

Increased alcohol-related violence and a strain on police resources will further exacerbate local issues.

Previous issues in the area have included drug use and smoking outside properties, contributing to an intimidating and unsafe environment.

2. Public Safety

The proposed operating hours (6 am to midnight) would see deliveries and customer activity during school times, endangering pedestrians, particularly young children walking to and from the nearby primary school.

The area is already congested, and the added traffic and pollution would heighten risks to public safety.

Cars left idling with music blaring, alongside noisy customers and workers, create an unsafe environment for residents and passersby.

3. Prevention of Public Nuisance

Late-night noise, loud conversations, and disruptive behaviours from customers and staff will severely impact local families.

Workmen noise on Christmas Eve from the premises was particularly distressing. Even with our windows shut, we could hear all the activity clearly.

The layout of the property amplifies noise into homes and gardens, and the acoustics of the area cause sound to echo, intensifying the disruption. For some reason, the noise is amplified right throughout our house and into our garden.

We do not have air conditioning in our property and, therefore, need to have our windows open. Even with the windows closed, we can hear voices very clearly, as well as cars idling.

At the last hearing for Gabriela's alcohol licence application, the committee raised concerns about noise from car doors banging. While this is an issue, I must emphasise that this is not our greatest concern. From experience, the biggest issue is persistent noise combined with intimidating and anti-social behaviour. Perhaps the committee may not be fully familiar with Gillingham and its prevalent alcohol-related problems, but these are significant challenges for local families.

From the back bedroom of our house, I was frequently awoken by restaurant staff arriving and opening up in the morning. The noise continued throughout the day and night, even with the lower footfall of a restaurant compared to what I expect Tesco would draw.

Residents have endured parking issues, littering, disturbances caused by similar establishments, and inappropriate behaviours such as shouting, swearing, and smoking drugs.

Currently, the two nearest shops selling alcohol in the area operate between 8 AM and 9 PM. These hours are more reasonable for a residential area but also involve smaller shops, which create less footfall and ensure minimal disruption to residents. In comparison, the Tesco store at 29 Grosvenor Road in Tunbridge Wells operates with similar hours to the above stores and 10 AM to 4 PM on Sundays, despite being situated in a parade of shops, which is a more commercial setting. It would be fair and appropriate to adjust the proposed hours for this residential area to align with these examples.

4. Protection of Children from Harm

The premises' proximity to a primary school raises serious concerns, as increased alcohol availability contributes to an environment unsuitable for young children.

Deliveries and customer activity during peak school times create hazards for children walking to school.

Families, including mine, with children preparing for GCSEs and A-levels, will suffer from noise and disruption, affecting their studies and well-being.

Proposed Conditions to Mitigate Concerns

If the licensing authority decides to grant the licence, I respectfully request the following conditions to be imposed:

Significantly reduced opening hours, avoiding early mornings and late nights.

Deliveries restricted to daytime hours, excluding school times, to protect pedestrians and reduce noise.

Installation of soundproof fencing and landscaping (e.g., trees) to minimize noise disturbances, especially in residential gardens.

Relocation of the ATM inside the premises to prevent 24-hour access and reduce loitering.

Security measures, including cameras and personnel, to address anti-social behaviour and prevent driveways from being blocked.

Clear parking enforcement to stop customers from parking over residents' drives.

I understand Tesco's commitment to being a good neighbour, but the realities of such a business operating in a residential area undermine this ethos. Local families did not choose to live near a commercial hub, and the proposed hours, activities, and risks are incompatible with this community.

Thank you for considering my representations. I trust that the licensing authority will give due weight to the concerns of residents and act in the best interests of public safety, family life, and community well-being.

Yours sincerely,
Clare Osborn

From: Sheya Sharma
Sent: Friday, January 3, 2025 9:50 PM
To: Licensing <licensing@gravesham.gov.uk>
Subject: Objection to Tesco Stores Ltd Alcohol Licence Application for 48 to 52 Napier Road

I am writing to object to Tesco Stores Ltd's application for an alcohol licence at 48 to 52 Napier Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 4HD. As a nurse at the local hospital and a mother to a toddler daughter, I am very concerned about the negative impact this proposal will have on our area and my family's well-being.

Key Concerns

1. Impact on a Residential Area with Families:

Napier Road is a quiet residential area full of families, including young children. The noise and disruption from this store will directly affect our homes.

Since the store is so close to our houses, the noise from customers, deliveries, and cars will be unavoidable, making it impossible for us to have peace and quiet in our own homes.

2. Noise and Disturbance:

Noise from cars, deliveries, and customers will disturb us, especially late at night and early in the morning.

In the past, similar businesses have caused loud noise from people shouting, swearing, and playing music in cars.

The noise has been so bad that it's hard to keep windows open, and it affects our comfort and sleep.

Additionally, rubbish collection noise is another concern, especially early in the morning when it disrupts our peace and quiet.

3. Public Nuisance and Safety:

Loitering and drinking alcohol near our home is a real problem, as we already see it happening at nearby shops.

With alcohol being sold at the proposed store, there is an increased risk of drink-driving, especially with the convenience of purchasing alcohol late at night or early in the morning.

More cars and foot traffic will bring more noise, litter, and anti-social behaviour.

I am worried for my daughter's safety and exposure to this behaviour.

4. Pollution and Safety for Children:

More cars on the road will increase air pollution and make it less safe for children walking to the nearby primary school.

5. Unsuitability of the Site:

The area already has enough shops, and we don't need another one. This space could be better used for housing, which is badly needed in the area.

6. Proposed Shop Location:

The shop being at the front of the premises is concerning, as people may park across our drives or leave their cars running outside our homes.

Having the shop directly opposite our front door feels intimidating, with people seeing when we come and go.

Questions for Tesco:

How will Tesco make sure that the noise, disruption, and behaviour we're worried about will not happen? Will they be able to ensure that customers arrive and leave quietly? I think it will be impossible for Tesco to manage this properly, and as a result, the disruption and stress for all the families living nearby is inevitable.

Proposed Adjustments

If this licence is approved, I strongly urge the following conditions:

Shorter opening hours, such as 8 am to 8 pm, to limit disruption in the mornings and evenings.

Deliveries restricted to daytime hours to minimize noise.

Removal of the external ATM to discourage loitering and late-night gatherings.

Conclusion

This is a residential area where families live, and we need peace and quiet. The noise and disruption from this proposal will make our lives harder. I don't want to feel intimidated in my own home, and I believe Tesco cannot guarantee that the issues we are worried about won't happen. I urge the committee to reject this application for the sake of the local families.

I am aware that my representations will be forwarded to the applicant with my name and address, however please remove these details from any public domain

Thank you for your time.

Yours sincerely,
Shikshya Acharya

From: Chantelle Macgregor
Sent: Thursday, January 9, 2025 7:15 PM
To: Licensing <licensing@gravesham.gov.uk>
Subject: licence at 48 to 52 Napier Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 4HD.

Subject: Objection to Tesco Stores Ltd Alcohol Licence Application for 48 to 52 Napier Road

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to formally object to Tesco Stores Ltd's application for an alcohol licence at 48 to 52 Napier Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 4HD. This proposal is unsuitable for a residential area and will cause significant harm to local families and the community.

Crime and Disorder

Increasing alcohol sales in an area already struggling with alcohol-related issues will only contribute to more theft, shoplifting, and public disorder vandalism & litter.

Anti-social behaviour, including shouting, swearing, and drug use, is already a problem and will worsen with the presence of this store.

The increased footfall will likely lead to more congregations of disruptive individuals, particularly at night, exacerbating violence and anti-social behaviour.

Public Safety

Deliveries and car parking at the rear of the property, adjacent to residential gardens, will cause constant noise disturbances, disrupting sleep and peaceful living.

Increased vehicle traffic during school times will create a dangerous environment for children walking to the nearby primary school.

The parking and delivery area behind the store will cause further noise and disturbances for residents, particularly those working from home or enjoying their gardens.

My back garden is directly where the large bin will be stored, literally it will be the otherside of my wall, can this be placed elsewhere in the yard?

I'm concerned with the amount of noise, smell and rats this will attract. I also have 2 dogs, they will start barking at the coming and going at back of my garden, this will then cause a nuisance to neighbours.

Also other residents who have dogs will cause excess barking.

The car park is also at the back garden of my property, the noise at the back is the only peace we get from the constant noise and traffic from the front of the house.

This will disrupt sleep, with the constant noise of the car park, with a lot of proposed parking

spaces, doors closing, car engines, music, smoking weed and anti social behaviour.

Public Nuisance

Noise from both the front and rear of the premises is a serious concern. Sound travels easily in this area, meaning disturbances will affect the entire surrounding area.

This is mainly a resident area which can be viewed on google.

Ive already been enduring a significant amount of noise/disruption whilst the building was taken down at points the vibrations and shaking my house, whilst working from home, as everything been ripped out of the premises and the removal of an outbuilding.

Whilst working from home has been unbearable!

Residents should receive compensation for the disruption caused.

Deliveries, customer parking, and general activity at the back of the premises have already caused problems, and increased traffic from the Tesco store will make this much worse.

Bins stored at the rear of the property will contribute to unpleasant smells, especially in hot weather.

The bin is directly behind my back garden wall and will run along the back of mine and my neighbours gardens.

Noise from idling vehicles, loud conversations, and people talking on their car phones with the volume turned up will add to the disruption.

Late-night activity and anti-social behaviour will interfere with the peace and quiet of the area, making it unbearable for residents, also effecting mental health.

Littering, blocked driveways, and general loitering have been ongoing problems and will worsen with the increased activity from Tesco.

Protection of Children from Harm

The proximity of this store to a primary school is a major concern. Increased alcohol availability in the area will make it unsuitable for children and families.

Families with children will suffer from noise, anti-social behaviour, and general disturbances in the area.

Pollution

The additional traffic, deliveries, and late-night activity will increase pollution in the area, negatively affecting residents' health and quality of life.

Car congestion and idling vehicles will worsen the existing pollution problems in this residential area.

Stress area –

Napier Road is the next road from Nelson road, one road outside of the stress area for Gillingham South, the opposed hours for selling alcohol dont align with the nearest shops. The same conditions should apply for a stress area I've attached the stress area as a screenshot.



Proposed Adjustments

If the licence is granted, I request the following conditions to reduce the negative impact on the community:

- 1. Reduced Hours:** The proposed hours of 6 am to midnight are excessive and disruptive for a residential area. More appropriate hours, such as 8 am to 8 pm, would be more suitable given the residential nature of the location.
- 2. Delivery Restrictions:** Deliveries should be limited to daytime hours, avoiding school drop-off and pick-up times to ensure pedestrian safety and reduce noise.
- 3. Soundproofing:** The premises should implement soundproofing measures, including soundproof fencing and landscaping, to minimize noise for residents.
- 4. Security Measures:** Install security cameras and enforce measures to prevent anti-social behaviour and ensure vehicles do not block driveways.
- 5. Bin Management:** Bins should be kept away from residents back gardens as its proposed to run along 3 gardens, stored and managed properly to prevent smells, particularly in warmer months, and not stored directly behind my garden when there is ample space to put it somewhere else. It's inconsiderate on the plan no one wants an industrial bin behind their garden.
- 6. ATM Removal:** The ATM should be moved inside the store to prevent loitering and noise disturbances at all hours.

As outside people will be using at all hours of the day and night.

Conclusion

This proposal is not appropriate for a residential area. The noise, traffic, anti-social behaviour, and general disruption caused by the store will negatively affect local families and residents. The previous business in this location already caused significant disruption, and the addition of a Tesco store will only make matters worse.

There is already a tesco express 0.4 miles away Sturdee Avenue, Gillingham &
Tesco express 0.8 miles
Tesco 1.7 miles Courtney road
There're so many shops nearby already :-

P and B Convenience Store Ltd - 170 yards away
Premier 0.2 miles
Aldi 0.2 miles
Corner shop 0.2 miles
Ruby mini mart 0.2 miles
Ans supermarket 0.2 miles
Sainsbury's local 0.2 miles The old bakery
Gillingham
Twin Stars 0.3 miles
Corner shop 0.4 miles

Co-op 0.4 miles
The Shell 0.5 miles
Best one 0.6 miles

Sainsburys 1.2 Chatham

Also attached heres the armoured cable that hangs across the back of my garden, will they be removing this or fixing to the wall?



I strongly urge the committee to reject this application and consider the long-term impact on the community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,
Chantelle MacGregor
