

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN. REF ; OURS CAFE, THE OLD FIRE STATION, FAVERSHAM ME137AL  
(situated in Court Street)

I understand the above has applied for a liquor license. I am writing to object on several grounds.

1. I have resided directly across the street from The Old Fire Station at [REDACTED] Court St for some years and also own the shop at [REDACTED] Court St below my home at [REDACTED]. My objection is solely to do with disturbance at my home with probably little or no impact to the shop's business which is a children's toy and clothes outlet.
2. The cafe is very small, therefore the majority of their customers sit outside spreading into the road itself by up to 3 metres. Their trade is predominantly young people and are predictably noisy. I have noticed this to the point where I have to close our windows in good weather and even then I no longer have quiet enjoyment of our Court St facing sitting room and upstairs main bedroom during much of their trading hours. The freeholder of the cafe lives very close to the cafe and has clearly refused the cafe management the option to use the outside space near their property, but has directed them into the road and thereby invading my privacy.
3. There is now an all too regular smell of cannabis since the cafe opened. I make no accusation as I have no evidence, but it is quite a coincidence, nonetheless.
4. To introduce a liquor license would increase greatly the street noise, increase the number of people in the outside/road area and over a longer period of each day.
5. Toilets. I have already seen young mothers allowing their small children to relieve themselves in the street outside the cafe, because there is only one unisex toilet crammed into the seating area of the cafe which is going to be completely inadequate and distressing if alcohol is being sold there. It doesn't take any imagination at all to work out the issues caused by this situation.
6. As a cafe, they would not face the same operating costs as do local public houses. It follows that it will allow the cafe to sell alcohol cheaply, thus attracting a certain type of customer that will adversely affect this historic part of town, that all of us here cherish.

I am a retired publican in this town and I am not by nature a killjoy and obviously not any part of the anti alcohol brigade. With my experience of the licence trade, I would be astonished to learn that the cafe is deemed suitable for an alcohol license. Just the toilet arrangements alone should preclude them from achieving as much. To say nothing of the alcohol induced disturbance from the ever increasing outside/road area in Court St that will disturb my home on a daily basis.

I wish to state that although a retired publican, I have absolutely no vested interest in this matter whatsoever and neither do I represent the views or opinions of anyone else. This is exclusively relating to my personal quality of life at [REDACTED] Court Street.

Regards  
M. Hatchard

M. HATCHARD, [REDACTED] COURT ST, FAVERSHAM ME13 [REDACTED]  
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