Cheshire East Council Licensing Section Westfields Middlewich Road Sandbach Cheshire CW11 1HZ

11<sup>th</sup> June 2012

**APPENDIX** -1

Re: Disley Service Station, 159 Buxton Road, Disley, SK12 2HG Application to Vary a Premises Licence [Application Ref. F021775]

Dear Sirs,

We are aware that our neighbour, has written objecting to this proposal. We fully support her case, so please take that objection as read.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> May 2012, we found a Blue Notice pinned to the electricity pole opposite the houses, a copy of which is appended hereto for reference: Whether by accident or design; that notice fails to disclose the item of most concern. [There is no more detail on the Cheshire East Council website.]

According to the Notice [Ref. F021775], there are three sections to Rontec's Application:

- (1) to extend the permitted hours for the Sale of Alcohol,
- (2) to permit the provision of Late Night Refreshment, and

(3) to "vary the terms of the licence".

Curious as to the meaning of that third item, we contacted Ms Amanda Hinton [Licensing Administration Officer] and she kindly supplied more detail, a copy of which is appended hereto.

From Ms Hinton's reply, it became evident just how far-reaching the proposal is, in fact. She quotes the actual third point as: "To remove the embedded restrictions set out in Annex 2 on the licence:"

The existing Annex 2 contains three major restrictions:

(1) concerning the permitted hours for the sale of Alcohol

- (2) some specific relaxations of restriction 1, and
- (3) the restriction that "Alcohol shall not be sold in an open container or be consumed in the licensed premises."

If the embedded restriction is removed, then the premises will effectively be licensed for 24 hours per day, for the sale and consumption of Alcohol. *i.e.* We could have a "Garage" which is serving Food and Alcohol, for consumption ON the premises, 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

We note that the proposed revision to Annex 2 would introduce specific conditions to section P of the operating schedule:

- THE PREVENTION OF CRIME & DISORDER:
  - Allegedly covered by the provision of a CCTV system.
- PUBLIC SAFETY:
  - Allegedly covered by "the provision of an adequate level of staff"
- THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE:
- Allegedly covered by the provision of "Adequate waste receptacles"
- THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM:
  - Allegedly covered by the application of an "age verification policy"

Addressing these headings in turn:

- THE PREVENTION OF CRIME & DISORDER:
  - o It is doubtful whether a CCTV system, covering the premises, would prevent Crime & Disorder in the surrounding area. The Garage is situated approximately mid-way between Disley and New Mills; and it seems almost inevitable that drinkers who have left Public Houses at normal closing time will "pop in for another" at this new venue ... and it might prove especially attractive to young drinkers, walking home. Of particular concern is that Greenshall Lane is a dark back road, leading in one direction to the Girl Guide Camp and in the other to the proposed residential development on the old Fibrestar site [Planning Ref. 08/2718P]
- PUBLIC SAFETY:
  - We do not consider that simply providing "adequate levels of staff" will ensure Public Safety: The Garage is situated on a blind bend, with poor traffic sight-lines at the Entrance and Exit [which currently appear to be used interchangeably]. Neither of these access points has a slip-road; therefore there are numerous minor accidents as vehicles stop to turn into the site. This situation would only be made worse by the approval of the current application. There is a Headroom Restriction of 3.8m on the Garage forecourt canopy, and therefore large vehicles, who cannot use the fuel pumps, frequently park on the road/footpath whilst drivers use the Shop; if the site is permitted to open for all night refreshment, this problem can only increase.
  - THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE:

Although we would welcome the provision [and emptying] of adequate waste receptacles; surely there more than this to The Prevention of Public Nuisance. A late night eating and drinking establishment will presumably attract customers, and the frequent slamming of cars doors etc. must be considered a Public Nuisance in a Residential Area. Also, with late night revellers travelling on foot, there is great likelihood of rowdy behaviour in the surrounding area.

### THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM:

 The applicant states that the children will be protected from harm simply by having an age verification policy for the purchase of Alcohol. [Strangely, that verification policy will be applied to any customer that appears to be under the age of 25 years, which actually includes many adults who are fully entitled to purchase Alcohol.] What is in fact required is the protection of Children from those "adults" who accompany them, or are just hangingaround the area. How does the applicant propose to protect such children? ... We should also point out that there is already evidence of under-age drinking and drug-taking in Greenshall Lane.

Given that the Public Notice does not disclose the full extent of the Application, and there is no more detail on the Council's website; we suggest that the Application be DISQUALIFIED. It seems highly unlikely that the majority of those who have read the Notice will appreciate the extent of what is actually being proposed.

If, as is apparently becoming common around the Country, the applicant is claiming that the premises are not a Garage with Convenience Store, but a Convenience Store that happens to sell Fuel for vehicles, then perhaps it is time to reconsider the "Use Class" of the site. If the Council accepts that the site is primarily a Convenience Store, then we would have little objection in principle to it being allowed to open <u>as such</u> for longer hours. BUT WE HAVE THE STRONGEST OBJECTION TO ANY PROPOSAL WHICH COULD TURN IT INTO AN ALL-NIGHT CAFE AND/OR BAR.

If the way forward is to have a 24 hour Convenience Store; then there <u>must</u> be adequate parking, and safe access to and from the site. This is unachievable with the present layout. Might it therefore be better to remove the Fuel facility entirely, so that a proper Shop could be provided?

In summary; we beg that the Council either rejects this Application outright, or severely restricts its extent. The existing "embedded restrictions" are based on the reasonable application of the Licensing Act 2003 and, in the case of this site:

A. Limit, to reasonable hours, the times for the sale of Alcohol.

- B. Prohibit the provision of late night refreshment in a Residential Area where such provision would be anti-social.
- C. Only permit Off-Sales of Alcohol.

These restrictions are entirely appropriate to the Residential Area in which we live, and Rontec must not be allowed to put the neighbourhood at risk, simply for its own profit. In our view, there is no present demand for these additional facilities, and we believe that the Licence Application is speculative ... presumably with the intention of increasing the resale value of the site.

# Licensing Act 2003 Application to Vary Premises Licence

# Name of Applicant:

Rontec Watford Limited.

Disley, Cheshire, SK12 2HG.

Address:

Licensing Authority:

Cheshire East Council.

Licensing Authority Address:

Licensing Department, Cheshire East Council. Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 1HZ, (where a record of the application may be inspected during normal office hours).

Disley Service Station, 159 Buxton Road.

Licensing Authority Website:

www.cheshireeast.gov.uk

The applicant has applied to the Licensing Authority to vary the penase etorine above premises as follows:

week. Week

2. To include late night refreshment between the hours of 2300 and 0500 days a week days a week. 3. To vary the licence conditions

Any person or responsible authority (as defined by the Licensing Act 2003) may make representee may make representations to the Licensing Autority (as defined by the Licensing Autority 2012)

Any representations made to the Licensing Authority must be in writing

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application or recklessly to make a false statement in fable on with this application The maximum fine for which a person is liable on entropy conviction for this offence is £5,000

In poor the two of the Montague Close

BPB

Dated: 22 May 2012

ed agents for the applicant.

Information as requested re. Disley Service Station - Vary Premise Licence Application - 'BT Yahoo! Mail



# Information as requested re. Disley Service Station - Vary Premise Licence Application

Wednesday, 30 May, 2012 15:45

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With reference to our telephone conversation earlier, please find below the information as requested:

The nature of the proposed variation:

- Extension of the hours for the sale of alcohol to 24 hours daily
- Provision of late night refreshment between the hours of 2300 and 0500 daily
- To remove the embedded restrictions set out in Annex 2 on the licence:

#### ANNEX 2:

1. Alcohol shall not be sold or supplied except during permitted hours.

In this condition, permitted hours means:

a. On weekdays, other than Christmas Day, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

b. On Sundays, other than Christmas Day, 10 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.

c. On Christmas Day, 12 noon to 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

d. On Good Friday, 8 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.

2. The above restrictions do not prohibit:

(a) during the first twenty minutes after the above hours, the taking of the alcohol from the premises, unless the alcohol is supplied or taken in an open vessel;

(b) the ordering of alcohol to be consumed off the premises, or the despatch by the vendor of the alcohol so ordered;

(c) the sale of alcohol to a trader or club for the purposes of the trade or club;

(d) the sale or supply of alcohol to any canteen or mess, being a canteen in which the sale or supply of alcohol is carried out under the authority of the Secretary of State or an authorised mess of members of Her Majesty's naval, military or air forces;

3. Alcohol shall not be sold in an open container or be consumed in the licensed premises.

• To include in Annex 2 the conditions in boxes b to e of section P of the operating schedule:

#### THE PREVENTION OF CRIME & DISORDER:

A CCTV system will be installed, or the existing system maintained, such system to be fit for the purpose.

The CCTV system shall be capable of producing immediate copies of recordings on site. Copies of recordings will be recorded or digitally onto CD/DVD or other equivalent media.

Any recording shall be retained and stored in a suitable and secure manner for a minimum of 28 days and shall be made available, subject to compliance with Data Protection legislation, to the police for inspection on request.

The CCTV system will incorporate a camera covering the entrance door and the alcohol display areas and will be capable of providing an image which is regarded as identification standard. The precise positions of the cameras may be agreed, subject to compliance with Data Protection legislation, with the police from time to time.

The system will display, on any recording, the correct time and date of the recording.

A system will be in place to maintain the quality of the recorded image.

The CCTV system will be maintained so as to be fully operational throughout the hours that the premises are open for any licensable activity.

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#### PUBLIC SAFETY:

The applicant will at all times maintain adequate levels of staff. Such staff levels will be disclosed, on request, to the licensing authority and police.

THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE: Adequate waste receptacles for use by customers shall be provided in and immediately outside the premises.

#### THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM:

The premises licence holder will ensure that an age verification policy will apply to the premises whereby all cashiers will be trained to ask any customer attempting to purchase alcohol, who appears to be under the age of 25 years (or older if the licence holder so elects) to produce, before being sold alcohol, identification being a passport or photocard driving licence bearing a holographic mark or other form of identification bearing the customer's photograph, date of birth and the Proof of Age Standards Scheme (or similarly accredited scheme) hologram.

To amend the opening hours of the premises to 24 hours daily

If you wish to make representation with regards to the licensing objectives, please do so by the close of business on **20**<sup>th</sup> **June 2012.** The reference number for the application is F021775.

#### Amanda Hinton

Licensing Administrative Officer Westfields Middlewich Road Sandbach Cheshire CW11 1HZ Tel: 01270 371116

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Licensing Dept – East Cheshire Council Westlands – Middlewich Road Sandbach Cheshire CW11 1HZ

**Dear Sirs** 

# Ref: Planning/Licence Application: RONTEC WALFORD LTD Disley Service Station, Seven Springs, Disley SK12 2HG

APPENDIX -2

# I would like to register my objection to the above Planning/ Licence Application for the following Reasons:

- 1. I understand application has been made to extend the Alcohol Licence to 24 hours at the above premises. At the moment alcohol can be sold whilst the shop is open 6 am to 11 pm, the application therefore covers the sale of alcohol between the hours of 11 pm and 6 pm. Two "studies" and "trial runs" were conducted a few years ago which indicated that the traffic flow between these hours made shop or garage opening not a viable proposition. So, unless the fact that these premises will be selling Alcohol will suddenly draw in traffic I cannot see a valid reason to pass this application.
- 2. There are already 24 hour Garage premises on the A6, with facilities, 4 miles West at Hazel Grove and 4 miles East at Tesco, Whaley Bridge. Why therefore would a further one be necessary, selling Alcohol to motorists, be needed in between?
- 3. The noise of the traffic on the A6 is already bad enough, especially in the summer when windows are open for air. The lack of traffic between these hours with the lull in noise means for a few hours sleep is possible.
- 4. There is also the question of security, these premises selling Alcohol etc. will draw in people wanting to consume this alcohol, if not on the premises or forecourt or possibly in their cars, then in the close environment, causing added noise and bad behaviour. These premises are within a few hundred yards of a Brownies and Guides Camping Site, will there be a police presence to ensure the security of this camp? More cost to the Taxpayer...not the Garage.
- 5. If there is to be a take-away or refreshment facility, this will mean added food related litter, which even with extra Litter Bins on site (if used) would created more Health and Safety issues regarding rats and vermin etc which do visit the site. Again added cost to the Taxpayer to keep the road and area clean.
- 6.. These premises are in Green Belt and such a change in planning and Licensing would not fit in with that ethos or with the excellent work being done by the Disley Parish Plan and PRIDE who are PEOPLE RESTORING and IMPROVING DISLEY ENVIRONMENT.

I would therefore urge you to deny this application and not let large companies ride rough shod over the needs of a small community.

12 June 2012 Dear Sirs, I would like to second the objections made by T , my neighbours, to the plans for Seven Springe garage. A further consideration to tose made in their letter regards the relatively recent habit of the large stone + trusstone lorries Stopping to pick up hot food + drinks, in both directions. They cannot park in the garage forecourt because of their size and consequently have taken to parking with their kerbside wheels on the pavement, sometimes bor & askes. I have seen mortere taking their children to school being forced to walk into the road because the gap between lorry + wallings too narwow for a prain or pushchair, obviously very dangerous on such a busy road Ratter tour increasing the voage of the garage facilities is it time to conspider some parking restrictions? Jours faithfully 

Cheshire East Council Licensing Section Westfields Middlewich Road Sandbach, Cheshire CW11 1HZ

11<sup>th</sup> June 2012

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Disley Service Station, 159 Buxton Road, Disley, SK12 2HG Application Ref. F021775 to Vary a Premises Licence

Dear Sirs,

Our neighbours,

already written to you, with detailed objections to this Application.

We agree with the objections that they have made, and we request that Application F021775 is rejected by the Council.

We understand that you can only consider Objections under four headings

- (1) THE PREVENTION OF CRIME & DISORDER:
- (2) PUBLIC SAFETY:
- (3) THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE:
- (4) THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM:

As already detailed in our neighbours' letters, this Application is objectionable under all four of those headings. We believe that any Licence that allows "Late Night Refreshment" and "24x7 Sales of Alcohol" would bring severe problems.

The premises have been a Garage for many years, and have only recently been licensed to sell Alcohol (strictly as a take-home purchase) from the small Shop.

Rontec's Application proposes to completely change that arrangement, by turning the premises into a licensed cafe. This would certainly increase the risk of Crime & Disorder, Public Nuisance, and Harm to Children. The increased traffic levels, and the implied acceptance of mixing Drink and Driving, can only reduce Public Safety.

Please reject the Application.

Yours faithfully

have

# 16<sup>th</sup> June 2012

# Dear Amanda Hinton,

It has come to our notice that an application, (F021775) has been entered for a change of licensing restrictions for the Total petrol station at Seven Springs Disley.

We would like express our concerns against this proposal for the following reasons,

- The premises are situated within a residential area, and any extension to the licensing hours will increase the noise levels within it during the night. (E.G. Vehicles arriving, doors opening & closing, car alarms going off and people talking etc.)
- 2. Whilst the people that own the premises have agreed to increase the number of waste receptacles on the premises and immediately outside the premises it is clear that most people will consume their purchases off site and will dispose of their litter in the residential area. As there are no rubbish bins available for this purpose away from the site this will mean that rubbish will be dumped in the street.
- 3. By allowing people to drink alcohol on the premises this will clearly encourage people to drink and drive and thus increase the risk to resident's safety.
- 4. Whilst the owner of the property has agreed to maintain adequate levels of staff for public
- safety, it is clear from their present business model, (only one person is on the premises at any one time) that this is not going to be the case.
- 5. Whilst the addition to the premises of a CCTV system may prevent any nuisance on site, it will not prevent it in the surrounding residential area.

Furthermore we are concerned that you failed to notify in writing of these proposed changes even though we only live about one hundred metres from the premises.

Would you please write to us at the address above to keep us updated about these proposals.

31<sup>st</sup> May 2012

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APPEN

Licensing Department Cheshire East Council Westfields Middlewich Road Sandbach Cheshire CW11 1HZ

Dear Sir/Madam

Application to extend the sale of alcohol and snacks facilities at the Total Petrol Station, 159 Buxton Road, Disley, Stockport SK12 2HG to 24/7 and removal of embedded restrictions set out in Annex 2 of the licensing laws. Reference Number-F021775

I would like to raise my objection to the increase in trading hours for the sale of alcohol and snack facilities at the above location. Rontec Investments LLP recently made an application to Cheshire East Planning in February this year to extend the operating hours of this site, which I strongly objected to, but unfortunately the planning application was classed as invalid due to the fact that when permission was originally granted for the shop and fuel that no operating hours were put in place! There are operating hours attached to the car and jet wash.

I have five main objections/concerns:-

- 1. Noise
- 2. Congestion
- 3. They are not being transparent about their objectives for the site, and using loopholes in planning regulations to change the primary use.
- 4. The duty of care and moral issues around the sale of alcohol at petrol stations.
- 5. Litter

## The concerns around the noise levels produced:-

Whilst we are unable to appeal against them selling fuel and opening the forecourt shop 24 hours a day due to old planning laws, any additional facilities are intended to try to increase the footflow of customers. This will inevitably have the potential to generate additional noise during daytime and nightime hours. I believe at present that our property is especially affected by unacceptable levels of noise especially from some of the facilities on offer. The main noise issues are:-

1. Cars/Lorries stopping and starting, especially the lorries who tend to bounce on and off the pavement.

2. Doors slamming.

- 3. Loud music
- Rowdy/Loud behaviour 4.
- Tyre Noise 5.
- Staff Tannoys are loud. 6.
- Car/Jet wash 7.
- Increase in deliveries 8.

### Our property

was a family home long

APPENDIX

before any permission was granted for a petrol station. When permission was granted the A6 was a quiet road, and the site was one single manned pump. Over the years it has gradually increased in facilities, and at present produces a considerable amount of noise which is more noticeable during evenings, weekends and bank holidays. Whilst we put up with a considerable amount of noise from the road during the day, in comparison it is relatively quiet during off peak hours.

The facility is on a site which has always been classified as a local amenity site, and local residents do purchase goods and facilities from the site. I find it hard to believe that there would be a large demand from local residents for alcohol or snacks during the hours of 23.00 and 5.00am. Extending the hours of the sales of alcohol and snacks has the potential to attract people from outside the area especially those travelling by car. There has already been a complaint made about cars congregating on the site in the early hours of the morning. Over the last couple of years the site has been attractive to youngsters who have congregated in their cars on the forecourt and have generally made a nuisance by playing loud music, shouting and more dangerously driving without any due care and attention around the petrol pumps.

# Noise during nightime hours is much more noticeable.

I have enclosed the letter I sent to Cheshire East relating to my concerns over the original application to extend operating hours.

# I have already raised concerns in 2010 about congestion on the forecourt which has a direct impact on the main A6 trunk road:-:

The site itself could be moving by default to becoming more of a fast food outlet and convenience store. Rontec was formed in 2011 to acquire Total UK and is a consortium of companies including Snax 24, Investec and Grovepoint Capital. I notice from the internet that Rontec and Shell have caused outrage in a number of areas, and have used their power to push through plans even though there has been considerable amount of objection at a number of their sites by reclassifying their petrol forecourt shops as convenience stores. The site in Disley itself has very little parking, there are only a few bays which from a health and safety point of view are in a very dangerous position for both cars and pedestrians. The bays are located near the exit to the car wash, entrance/exit to the site and the jet wash is located in this region aswell. It is a difficult site for cars to park up in, the pedestrian path across the forecourt must break all health and safety requirements..

Planning permission was initially granted for the prime purpose of providing local people with fuel supplies. a forecourt shop was then added where people can pick up a paper, milk and bread when paying for their fuel supplies, car wash facilities have also been added to the site.. The site is small,

but has a considerable amount of facilities on offer. I have raised my concerns about a number of minor bumps in this area on the A6 and the congestion at busy periods and felt the site needs to be looked at before any more additional facilities are added. At busy times the traffic is waiting on the A6 trunk road because of congestion on the forecourt.

Any increase in facilities whether that is during daytime or nightime hours is likely to cause more vehicles to stop on the A6 trunk road especially large vehicles who tend to park on the pavement. As in previous correspondence this restricts the visibility of traffic leaving the forecourt which is already difficult, it means customers are having to take chances by pulling out with limited visibility. Any parking on the road/pavement during nightime hours would be just as dangerous as during daytime hours because even though the road is quieter, traffic tends to be travelling faster. In my life time I have seen a substantial amount of accidents on this short stretch of road. In recent years a considerable amount of money has been put into making this stretch of road safer for motorists, this has mainly been measures to stop overtaking, speeding and parking. There are times when lorries are parked on both sides of the road while the drivers/passengers use the shop/cash machine facilities, making it extremely difficult for through traffic, motorist leaving the site and impossible for pedestrians to get a clear view when crossing the road. This stretch of road is extremely dangerous for children to cross because of the number of bends and restricted visibility.

I have enclosed copies of correspondence that I have submitted to Disley Parish Council/Cheshire East Council regarding this issue. At the time of writing there was an exceptional demand for both the car and jet wash due to the hosepipe ban. I understand that the garage itself is responsible for the forecourt. Since writing, I have noticed that there have been a number of occasion that staff have had to cone off the entrance to the forecourt because of traffic waiting on the main A6 trunk road, this was the result of congestion on the forecourt. As I have previously mentioned, when permission was granted originally it was a very different road, I wonder whether planning permission would be granted today! Not long after raising my concerns with Disley Parish Council/Cheshire East there was an accident involving a car pulling out of the petrol station site and a motorcyclist travelling along the A6. I don't know who was at fault and can only presumes that the limited visibility when leaving the petrol station was a contributing factor. The petrol station is also on a stretch of the A6 that is in a 40mph zone.

The predictions are that this stretch of road through Disley will only get worse with the construction of the new Hazel Grove/Poynton by-pass.

# The unclear plans for the site raise concerns about unfair competition.

Other business in Disley have to go through a lengthy consultation period with planning, highways, environmental agencies, local councils and residents in Disley and costs. Disley has tried to maintain the feel a rural village with a strong village community and somehow a 24hour service station does not seem to fit in with its objectives. Is this facility right for Disley? Any increase in facilities is bound to affect the already struggling shop keepers in Disley. Rontec quote that they sell an extensive convenience shop range and in the larger shops this includes the sale of fruit and vegetables, and Snax 24 speaks for itself. A recent case of interest involved Rontec who have now classified two of their petrol stations as convenience stores when challenged over the sale of alcohol at two of their Total petrol stations in Yorkshire! Are they trying to change the nature of their petrol stations before there in any change in the law? Are they not required to apply and submit a planning application for the primary change of use? Of course without knowing the full details it is difficult to understand, but is it not up to the planning authorities to decide and grant planning consent for the change of primary use of a site, not Rontec themselves? There must be different regulations surrounding petrol filling stations, fast food outlets and convenience stores, eg:- surely the average stop at a convenience store is longer, therefore requires proper parking facilities, while a petrol filling station has to accommodate customers who are only making a short stop and quite often find

themselves held up with large queues at the checkouts while the forecourt becomes congested!

# The moral issue of the sale of alcohol at petrol stations:-

The petrol station already has a license to sell alcohol within specified hours. Do we really want to encourage any more antisocial behaviour from the sale of alcohol or encourage people to drink and drive by selling it 24/7? The recent view regarding the sale of cigarettes could also be applied to alcohol-if it is not on show then people are less likely to buy it! The sale of alcohol at petrol stations is a real conflict of interest and raises moral issues, we all have a duty of care. There have been a lot of issues recently regarding the sale of alcohol at petrol stations and whether alcohol should be sold in petrol stations at all, these concerns have been raised by the police and safe driving campaigners. Whilst the site in question appears to be away from any local parks and the village centre, plans have been granted for a large business/residential development on the old Harcostar/Fibrestar site between Lower Greenshall Lane and Red House Lane. The petrol station is only a short walk from the proposed development site via Lower Greenshall Lane. I have enclosed plans showing how close the site will be, it is well known that antisocial behaviour appears to happen not far from the site where the alcohol was purchased!

### Litter:-

Over the years during Winter and Spring the litter behind both the Total Petrol Station and the Purple Pakora has become a blight on the area, and is unsightly from Lower Greenshall Lane, this is not as obvious when the trees put on leaves and there is some ground coverage. I understand that there has already been a complaint raised with the environmental office at Cheshire East in April 2011 regarding this area, and I understand that someone from Disley Parish Council has been out too observe the site themselves, so they will have noticed that there is a considerable amount of litter behind the petrol station. I can't criticise the forecourt as it is always kept tidy, the problem lies with what you can't see. The increase in snack facilities has the potential to increase the amount of litter and ultimately the amount of vermin aswell. Also, the grass verges along the A6 in this area contain a large amount of litter, (I don't think this has all come from the petrol station) this is just a result of any lack of respect for the environment. It is very easy the wind down the car window and throw out your litter. It is quite interesting that the government is looking at this problem at the moment. The sale of alcohol and especially snacks is probably only going to increase this eyesore. It would be impossible during the hours of darkness to monitor the responsible disposal of litter.

I object strongly to the removal of the conditions referred to in their application, as this has the the potential for Rontec to change to use of the site completely without applying for permission case by case for further facilities on the site or change of use. This is not in the spirit of a village environment. They are using the old planning laws where restrictions were not put in place to evolve the site as they have done in other areas. I would strongly recommend that any embedded restrictions are firmly kept in place, especially where the sale of alcohol is concerned, and the consumption of alcohol on site. Any removal of the embedded restrictions in Annex 2 sets a precedence and it is likely that other business in the area will also apply to sell alcohol 24/7. Only last week Disley saw first hand the effects of antisocial behaviour along the A6, this was at approx 21.30 and involved a group of young adults who were a little worse for wear, from what I assume would be from the effects of alcohol! After a dispute between themselves, one proceeded to push all the recycling bins over along the A6, while another walked up the middle of the A6 (I can only presume that they did live locally). When confronted by residents over their actions, one of them behaved in a very threatening manner.

It has become obvious from the recent cases that Rontec Investments have been involved in that they are using the Total brand to put profits above any moral responsibilities and local residents quality of life and enjoyment of their properties. I have great concerns for the staff who would have to man and manage the petrol station during nightime hours. It can be extremely difficult dealing with customers who have just been refused age related sales at 4 O'clock in the afternoon, it must be even harder at 4 O'clock in the morning. Disley has recently seen a case of three men in balaclavas entering the Co-op in Disley for their takings and local banks been held up over the last few years! Is it fair on staff to put them in such a vulnerable position and is it fair on local residents who also find themselves getting up in the early hours of the morning when disturbed by rowdy behaviour just to check on the situation.

Because of all the new European regulations coming in over the next few years regarding petrol stations, maybe a convenience store would be more appropriate on this site, but is that not up to the local authorities to decide?

I know this letter is a little lengthy, but it is unlikely that I will be able to attend any of the meetings regarding this issue so I thought that I had better put all my concerns in writing.

And to conclude:-I still believe that everybody deserves a respite from everyday noise especially during nightime hours, and have a right to the enjoyment of their lives and property (in fact, it is in the Human Rights Act 1998) and hope that this will be considered within this application.

Your sincerely

11<sup>th</sup> August 2010

APPENDIX

Disley Parish Council 19 Buxton Road Disley Stockport Cheshire SK12 2BB

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Buxton Road East, Disley.

I understand that yesterday there was another incident outside the Total Petrol Station in Disley, I have no details of the incident, but over the last few years there have been a number of minor bumps at this spot. The reason I felt the need to write to you is that over the last few months from the sound of the traffic there have been a number of near misses, this can be picked up because of the sounding of horns or the noise from traffic breaking hard.

This is an extremely busy stretch of road, and I would like to bring a couple of my concerns to your attention regarding safety issues:-

Quite often now, there is stationary or slow moving traffic on the A6 traffic as vehicles are waiting to move off the road onto the garage forecourt. This situation is made worse by the fact that the forecourt at times is very congested with people queuing to use the jet wash or larger vehicles maneuvering around the pumps. This stops the traffic from flowing freely off the A6 onto the garage forecourt. This is 'a particular problem if the traffic is coming from Disley towards Newtown as visibility is poor and traffic tends to speed up as it enters into a 40mph zone and is then faced with stopped or the slow moving traffic.

When leaving the petrol station visibility is limited with the bends in the road. Again this situation is made worse by traffic parked on the A6, especially larger vehicles making it very difficult to get a clear view and drivers having to take risk when pulling out.

I have not spent time observing the situation and I am no expert in road safety, but there are a few things that could be considered to make it safer for drivers and garage customers:-

Making the forecourt one way.

 Reducing the height of the hedge, making visibility better for traffic entering and leaving the forecourt, in the past the hedge had always been kept low.

APPENDIX

- 5

- Changing the speed limit to 30mph.
- Reducing the number of facilities and services on offer at the petrol station. At present there is
  obviously fuel on sale, but there is a car wash, jet wash, air, car vac, shop and soon there could
  be the re-installation of a cash point, all this in a very limited area, this would help in reducing
  the amount of congestion.

I hope you will find this useful as I am only writing as I do not wish to see anyone hurt, when simple measures could improve the safety. Over the years, this part of the A6 has seen its fair share of accidents and some fatalities.

I was not sure if I should send this to yourselves or the highways agency, but I am sure you will pass this on to the correct department for me as required.

Yours faithfully





Shifty and V Harcostar / Fibrestar site Disley Service Station. Lower Circonshall Lane



Human rights : Directgov - Government, citizens and rights

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Thursday, 7 June 2012

# Government, citizens and rights

kuman richts



Anyone who is in the UK for any reason has fundamental human rights which the government and public authorities are legally obliged to respect. These became law as part of the Human Rights Act 1998.

# **Human Rights Act**

The Human Rights Act 1998 gives further legal effect in the UK to the fundamental rights and freedoms contained in the European Convention on Human Rights. These rights not only impact matters of life and death, they also affect the rights you have in your everyday life: what you can say and do, your beliefs, your right to a fair trial and other similar basic entitlements.

Most rights have limits to ensure that they do not unfairly damage other people's rights. However, certain rights – such as the right not to be tortured – can never be limited by a court or anybody else.

You have the responsibility to respect other people's rights, and they must respect yours.

Your human rights are:

- the right to life
- freedom from torture and degrading treatment
- freedom from slavery and forced labour
- the right to liberty
- the right to a fair trial
- the right not to be punished for something that wasn't a crime when you did it
- the right to respect for private and family life
- freedom of thought, conscience and religion, and freedom to express your beliefs
- freedom of expression
- freedom of assembly and association
- the right to marry and to start a family
- the right not to be discriminated against in respect of these rights and freedoms
- the right to peaceful enjoyment of your property
- the right to an education
- the right to participate in free elections
- the right not to be subjected to the death penalty

If any of these rights and freedoms are breached, you have a right to an effective solution in law, even if the breach was by someone in authority, such as, for example, a police officer.

# **Exercising your human rights**

If you are in a situation in which you believe that your human rights are being violated, it's advisable to see if the problem can be resolved without going to court by using mediation or an internal complaints body.

...see if the problem can be resolved

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/governmentcitizensandrights/yourrightsandresponsibilitie... 07/06/2012

# Fuelling the problem? The sale of alcohol at petrol stations in Wales

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# Alcohol Concern Cymru Briefing

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APPENDIX -6



Alcohol Concern Making Sense of Alcohol



"Drink driving is still one of the major causes of death on our roads. We should avoid placing before motorists even the temptation to consume alcohol behind the wheel." Clive Wolfendale, Chief Executive of CAIS and former Deputy Chief Constable of North Wales, 2010<sup>5</sup>

# International comparisons

France has recently prohibited sales of alcohol from petrol stations,<sup>6</sup> although it is presently too early to assess how effective this measure has been in cutting alcohol-related driving accidents and deaths. Likewise, the licensing laws in Scotland prohibit the sale of alcohol from garage forecourts,7 but with a significant exemption, namely if it can be demonstrated that the local community is (or likely to become) reliant on the premises as a principal source of either fuel or groceries. This is intended to avoid unfairly disadvantaging local residents who would otherwise have to travel longer distances to purchase their goods. However, and similar to the position in England and Wales, ambiguity in the wording of the legislation has led to conflicting decisions from the courts on appeal.8

In the USA, whilst alcohol sales from petrol stations are permitted in some areas, many states have implemented laws that prohibit the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages in the passenger areas of motor vehicles. Commonly referred to as 'open container laws', these prohibit possession of any open alcoholic beverage container in areas of a motor vehicle that are readily accessible to the driver or passengers whilst in their seats, for example the glove compartment and footwell.<sup>9</sup> At least one study has shown that states without open container laws experience significantly greater numbers of alcohol-involved fatal crashes than states with such laws.<sup>10</sup> The Texas Department Fuelling the problem? The sale of alcohol at petrol stations in Wales

# Alcohol Concern Cymru Briefing

of Public Safety has observed that in the majority of alcohol-related crashes an open container is present.<sup>11</sup> Such laws have also served as an expression of a more general desire to disassociate alcohol completely from driving.<sup>12</sup>

"Alcohol and cars don't mix, period." Col. Thomas Davis Jr., Director, Texas Department of Public Safety, 2001<sup>13</sup>

# Alcohol sales from petrol stations in Wales

In May 2010, a snapshot telephone survey of sales staff at petrol stations in eight counties in Wales was commissioned by Alcohol Concern Cymru. Of the 49 respondents to the survey, 16 (33%) confirmed that they sold alcohol from their premises, two of which sold alcohol 24-hours a day. These figures correspond to previous survey research undertaken in England and Wales, which found 31% of petrol stations sold alcoholic drinks as well as fuel.<sup>14</sup>

Encouragingly, respondents at 15 of the 16 petrol stations in Wales selling alcohol said they had received specific training regarding selling alcohol to persons under 18-years-old, whilst 13 respondents had received training regarding selling alcohol to persons who are intoxicated. No details were captured about what this training comprises, and it is worth noting that if these figures are generalized to the wider population, this may mean as many as 20% of sales staff at petrol stations have not received training concerning dealing with attempts to purchase alcohol from customers who are intoxicated.

# Discussion

There has currently been little research undertaken examining whether, and to what extent, alcohol sales at petrol stations contribute to an increased incidence of drink-driving<sup>15</sup> and more work is

Fuelling the problem? The sale of alcohol at petrol stations in Wales

# Alcohol Concern Cymru Briefing

needed. There is, however, a growing body of evidence which demonstrates that the availability of alcohol contributes to increased levels of alcoholrelated harm.<sup>16</sup> It therefore follows that alcohol available to be purchased and then immediately consumed either prior to or when driving a motor vehicle, or indeed by passengers within the vehicle, is likely to increase the risk of harm.

"The literature has produced a clear scientific consensus... The most effective (and costeffective) policies involve controlling the price and availability of alcoholic beverages." **Professor Martin Plant, 2009**<sup>17</sup>

Petrol stations, by their very nature, are strongly associated with driving and attract significant trade from motorists. It is therefore reasonable to argue that sales of alcohol from such premises may increase the number of drink-related road injuries and deaths (although police data does not presently capture where alcohol has been purchased) and may also be potentially damaging to public campaigns that seek to highlight the risks of drinking and driving. The Welsh Assembly Government (WAG), in its substance misuse strategy Working together to reduce harm,18 has identified banning the sale of alcohol at petrol stations in Wales as an effective measure to tackle the inappropriate availability of alcohol, and has also called for a reduction in the current drink-drive limit.19

Of course, motorists have many opportunities to purchase alcohol from premises other than petrol stations, for example from off licenses and supermarkets. There are also practical difficulties, such as those highlighted above regarding the England and Wales and Scottish legislation, of implementing consistent and effective restriction and bans on such sales. Consideration therefore should also be made to alternative or complimentary measures, such as open container legislation, in order to further reduce rates of drink driving.



# Recommendations

Alcohol Concern Cymru makes the following recommendations:

- It should be a mandatory requirement that drink-drive warnings be displayed at the point of sale at all petrol stations where alcohol is also available for purchase. Such warnings would serve to support ongoing awarenessraising campaigns concerning the dangers of drinking and driving.
- It should be a condition that any petrol station applying for an alcohol licence must be able to demonstrate that it will either buy-in, or provide themselves, thorough training for staff on responsible alcohol sales practices for its staff.
- 3. A review of the effectiveness of bans on alcohol sales from petrol stations, and alternative measures undertaken in other countries, should be undertaken to inform discussions about the appropriateness of an equivalent measures being implemented in England and Wales.
- 4. In recognition of the growth of alcohol as a public health issue, and in order to enable licensing authorities to properly address this, the protection and improvement of public health must be established as a fifth criterion within the Licensing Act 2003 for assessing license applications, including those from petrol stations.
- 5. The drink-driving blood alcohol limit in England and Wales should be reduced from 80mg/100ml to 50mg/100ml, in line with the North Review,<sup>20</sup> on the grounds that drivers are more likely to be involved in an accident the higher their blood alcohol level. This should be accompanied by greater publicity on penalties and highly visible enforcement.

# Fuelling the problem? The sale of alcohol at petrol stations in Wales



# Introduction

Drink-drive accidents can affect all types of road users, including drivers, passengers and pedestrians. A combination of law enforcement and sustained publicity campaigns has substantially reduced the number of these accidents over the last twenty years. Despite this, as many as one in six deaths on roads in the UK are caused by drivers over the legal alcohol limit.<sup>1</sup> In 2008, there were 5,183 positive or refused breath tests in Wales.<sup>2</sup>

Driving whilst under the influence of alcohol can impair an individual's judgement and therefore their ability to drive safely.<sup>9</sup> Some countries have banned sales of alcohol from garages/petrol stations,<sup>4</sup> largely as a consequence of the correlation between alcohol consumption and motor vehicle accidents. In England and Wales, however, it remains legal for petrol stations to sell alcoholic drinks, provided they have been granted the appropriate licence.

This briefing paper examines the issue of alcohol sales at petrol stations and makes proposals for future action. It is intended to stimulate and inform a greater public debate on this important issue.

# The current legal position

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In England and Wales, the Licensing Act 1988 introduced a provision, section 9(4), which disqualified certain premises from obtaining a licence to sell alcohol, namely motorway service areas and premises 'used primarily as a garage'. For motorway service areas, this represented in effect an absolute prohibition, but for garages (i.e. premises that retail fuel or premises either selling or maintaining motor vehicles) the decision on whether to grant a licence depended on the interpretation of 'primary use'. In order to demonstrate that the primary use was other than that of a garage, the applicant would usually present foctfall figures or sales figures classified according to purchases.

Section 176 of the Licensing Act 2003 has largely maintained the situation from the previous legislation, with guidance from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport accompanying the Act stating that the licensing authorities must decide whether or not any premises is 'used primarily as a garage'. Again, the expectation is that the applicants provide evidence to establish the primary use of the garage is not fuel sales.

In practice it appears that the licensing authorities generally will not apply a restriction on the sale of alcohol at petrol stations that also offer a substantial range of groceries for sale. Each individual application is considered on its own merits, and licences may be refused where concerns have been raised by interested parties such as the police. However, as one licensing authority in Wales has informed Alcohol Concern Cymru, frequently such refusals are overtumed on appeal to the courts. Clearly, there remain concerns and ambiguity regarding the effectiveness of this particular part of the legislation, particularly around the issue of primary use.



Alcohol Concern Cymru Briefing

Alcohol Concern Making Sense of Alcohol

# David Quinn - Burntwood Blogger Thoughts & Rants of a Burntwood Blogger

# Petrol Station Or Shop?

October 20th, 2011 by dquinn



I've had some interest this week here and on Twitter regarding the apparent nationwide side-stepping by Shell of Section 176 of the licensing act which is designed to prevent petrol stations from selling alcohol. It seems that Shell are applying for premises licenses at a number of UK sites using the argument that their petrol stations are actually shops which happen to sell petrol. A recent application in Lichfield was granted, as was one in Portsmouth [http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/politics/anger\_as\_rowlands\_castle\_petrol\_station\_gets\_alcohol\_licence\_1\_3151240] and an application in Pool-in-Wharfedale, is being opposed

Leave a reoly

[http://www.wharfedaleobserver.co.uk/news/news\_local/9304428.Pool\_petrol\_station\_alcohol\_plan\_under\_fire/] by police.

Shell are arguing, using Barristers at the committee meetings that their petrol stations are actually primarily convenience stores where sales, measured either by turnover or profit (whichever suits the situation it seems) are higher on non-fuel than they are on fuel. The committees are then reminded that in the event of a refusal, Shell will appeal to a Magistrates Court and then, if necessary, to the high court, all at the potential cost to the council and hence the taxpayer.

A case in the high court, Murco Petroleum Limited v Bristol City Council clarified [http://www.walkermorris.co.uk/content.aspx?id=1231] the fact that regardless of these sales figures and calculations, the decision regarding the primary business of the premises still rests with the Licensing Committee.

What Shell are doing is not illegal under the current legislation as "As a matter of law, trading figures can be used to determine the issue of primary use under Section 176 (Green v the Justices for Inner London)." (Quoted from the Walker Morris article linked to above), however it appears, in my opinion at least, to be bullying councils with the threat of huge legal costs if they don't get their way.

On a side note, if the sale of fuel is so unprofitable for Shell, and selling booze is so important to them, perhaps they'd be better off running a chain of corner shops instead?

I've posted a couple of press cuttings after the break for anyone who's interested in the coverage of the Lichfield application.

h

APPENDIX

# **Council grants Shell licence** to sell alcohol until midnight

By Airs Keller Mrss Reporter

[http://www.davidquinn.me.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Shell\_Lichfield\_Mercury\_2011\_07\_14.pdf]

Lichfield Mercury 14th July 2011

# **Cash-strapped** protesters drop 'garage' legal appeal

## By Alex Kelle

[http://www.davidquinn.me.uk/wp-

content/uploads/2011/10/Shell\_Lichfield\_Mercury\_2011\_09\_08.pdf]

Lichfield Mercury 9th September 2011

[http://twitter.com/intent/tweet?text=Petrol+ Station+Or+ Shop%3F+ http%3A%2F%2Fis.gd%2FDRiJVC] [http://www.bebo.com/c/share?Url=http://www.davidquinn.me.uk/?p=297&Title=Petrol+Station+Or+Shop%3F] [6] [http://buzz.yahoo.com/buzz?targetUrl=http://www.davidquinn.me.uk/?p=297&headline=Petrol+Station+Or+Shop%3F] 😢 [http://digg.com/submit?url=http://www.davidquinn.me.uk/?p=297&title=Petrol+ Station+ Or+ Shop%3F] 🛍 [http://www.diigo.com/post?url=http://www.davidquinn.me.uk/?p=297&title=Petrol+Station+Or+Shop%

http://www.davidquinn.me.uk/?p=297

09/06/2012

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Previous Entry: Twitter Weekly Updates for 2011-10-08

Next Entry: Twitter Weekly Updates for 2011-10-22

#### Posted in Licensing

You can follow any responses to this entry through the RSS 2.0 Feed. You can leave a response , or trackback from your own site. Tags: alcohol booze licensing Shell

# 1 comment

December 20, 2011 at 9:03 am dave

Hi, Well, as a local resident, what as my family done about it? Voted with our feet and we no longer use, or purchase anything from this or any other Shell Garage.

regards,

Dave.

# Leave a Reply

Name (required)

Mail (will not be published) (required)

Website

Submit Comment

4

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# Pool-in-Wharfedale e-news

Pool in Wharfedale a kistoric village on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales.

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 Local Business Directory
 Contact Pool E-News

Application for licence for sale of alcohol at Shell Garage, Pool-in-Wharfedale

...... The issues raised by Councillor Barry Anderson on behalf of residents of Pool-in-Wharfedale

...... a) Prevention of crime and disorder

 Given constant initiatives to reduce accidents through alcohol related driving it seems unwise to allow alcohol to be sold at an outlet that primarily serves passing motorists.

· It is proven that crime and disorder is a by-product of alcohol, usually occurring around the premise of sale.

· Drink drive figures are on the increase, the UK has an ever increasing drink problem at every level.

- Society means and groans about the problems connected to driving and drink, then we allow petrol stations to sell the
  product that is causing a major problem in the very place all drivers have to visit.
- The sale of alcohol from a petrol station is ironic and contrary to the promotion of safe driving and the government's anti-drink driving campaigns.

b) Prevention of public nuisance

- Residents of Pool are able to obtain alcohol from many establishments in the village and the granting of a license would adversely affect their livelihood in these difficult time.
- Residents feel the village is relatively quiet during the evening despite being bisected by an extremely busy, noisy and dangerous major road. They doubt that most Pool residents' lives will be made more pleasant if this application is approved.
- We live in a society where drinking and driving are no longer acceptable the idea of filling one's car up and then buying alcohol at say 10pm

is unnecessary.

- The sale of alcohol and the influence that alcohol has is and should be a major concern around public safety. The
  recent release of the NHS figures concerning drink related incidents should be enough to concern any decent member
  of the public.
- The Shell Garage in Pool frequently causes traffic hold-ups on the adjacent major roads. This is because demand exceeds the availability of pumps. Delays at the pumps are increased by drivers who purchase food and newspapers at the garage. The sale of alcohol would exacerbate this problem.
- This could be the thin end of the wedge in that a lot of garages nowadays convert to small convenience stores which this site could have potential for, leading to even greater highways, road safety, noise nuisance, drinking etc. etc.

#### c) Public Safety

Loss of revenue to the Village Post Office - many older residents rely heavily on this amenity. Already under threat with
Post Office closures, they do not need further threats to their viability - we need to support villages and their residents
against large multi-nationals.

# http://www.pool-enews.btck.co.uk/SaleofAlcoholatShellGarage

- The junction is very dangerous and the forecourt is at times overloaded and spilling out on to the highway to
  encourage other drivers to stop here to purchase alcohol will only increase the problem.
- This junction is also very dangerous for pedestrians and if this encourages further people to seek access to the filling station to top up on alcohol during an evening - this too could prove to be a bad move.
- It takes some time to get served in the garage at times. Residents feel this lack of service is already unacceptable without them adding further lines to entice people in. The place is already choked to the ginnels so there is no room to move when there is a big queue of just 6 to 8 people. In truth the place feels utterly claustrophobic at these times.
- Selling alcohol from 6 in the morning appears a bit unnecessary.
- There are constant long queues for petrol and traffic problems, already exacerbated by non petrol purchases. This
  would worsen were additional folk to be "dropping in" for alcoholic drinks.
- d) Protection of children from harm
  - The garage is directly opposite to the skate park and playground. Many younger members of the community gather here of an evening - this can only encourage the possible sale to the underage members of our community.
  - The pricing structure and type of alcohol being sold as part of the cross-selling of products may entice young adults and children who want to experiment.
  - · Why should a village petrol station sell liquor at all, given that the binge drinking culture is being discouraged.
  - In spite of the law regarding the sale of alcohol to under age drinkers, it is not unusual for adults to be persuaded to
    purchase drink on their behalf. This would be much easier at an impersonal outlet where it would be much less likely
    for the shopkeeper to recognise who should or should not be served. The inevitable result would be under age drinking
    across the road in the skate park and surrounding areas. This observation would be even more relevant if alcohol were
    to be on sale until 10pm. Local residents adjacent to the garage would not welcome further antisocial and rowdy
    behaviour fuelled by drink.
  - It has been widely publicised that young children are becoming addicted to alcoholic drinks at an early age and as yet there is no evidence to suggest this is occurring at present but it could be beneath the surface awaiting a catalyst that this could prove to be.
  - I fear that such a license would give rise to an opportunity to purchase alcoholic drinks especially as it is opposite the children's play area and skate board park with access to fields by the river. If it gets known that young people are buying drinks from the garage drug dealers may target the area and things may get out of hand.
  - · Recent domestic abuse and physical assault figures put alcohol as a major contributing factor.
  - Sales of alcohol from the existing sources are strictly controlled and under age drinking rules vigorously applied. There
    is no confidence amongst residents that the same conditions will be applied to the Shell Garage where there is a
    continuous flow of customers. The risk of alcohol for the use of young vulnerable people is self evident.

Designed and maintained by Pool E-News Group

is happy with garage alcohol sale decision (From Wharfedale Observer)

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# Wharfedale Observer

# Villagers happy with garage alcohol sale decision

7:00am Monday 24th October 2011 By Jim Jack

A plan to sell alcohol from a garage in Pool-in-Wharfedale has been thrown out by licensing watchdogs.

Shell had wanted to sell drink from its petrol station on Pool Road from 6am to 10pm, seven days a week.

The proposal was opposed by many residents, the Parish Council, ward councillor Barry Anderson and West Yorkshire Police – who feared it could lead to potentially dangerous congestion at an already busy site.

Coun Anderson praised the decision, taken by Leeds City Council's licensing sub-committee, to turn down the application.

He said: "The application received strong objections from many local people, along with the inspector of the Neighbourhood Policing Team, amid concerns about the detrimental effect it could have on the village.

"I'm delighted this application has been turned down.

"The strength of local feeling against it was very strong, so local residents will be pleased with this outcome.

"There were compelling reasons to refuse this application. The petrol station is just that – a petrol station, not a convenience store.

"If alcohol were sold here it would encourage more use of the site, putting pressure on adjacent roads which already get backed up by cars entering and leaving the forecourt.

"There have been a large number of road accidents outside the station this year, one of them fatal.

"Allowing the garage to sell alcohol would just make the situation worse.

"Furthermore, the garage is also very close to a skate park and playground.

"The last thing we need is somewhere close by selling alcohol that could easily fall into the hands of young people, especially near the busy roads."

A Parish Council spokesman said: "We are pleased the application was refused and support the view of the committee that the garage is primarily used for the sale of fuel.

"There is little use of the facility as a convenience store.

"Our primary concern remains that of public safety, as the garage is located at such a dangerous and busy junction."

The issue may yet resurface, however, as Shell have yet to decide whether or not to lodge an appeal.

http://www.wharfedaleobserver.co.uk/news/9316527.print/

# Are petrol stations allowed to sell alcohol? West Yorkshire Police say no

by Barry Gibson, Huddersfield Daily Examiner Mar 17 2012



Apollo service station, Huddersfield Road, Ravensthorpe

POLICE are pursuing a test case against two Huddersfield petrol stations which could have "national implications".

West Yorkshire Police believe it is illegal for any garage to sell alcohol.

Now Kirklees Council will review the licences of the Total petrol stations on Leeds Road in Bradley and Huddersfield Road in Ravensthorpe in a hearing which could have an impact on every garage in the country.

"We're testing the waters with this," Pc Richard Farrand told the Examiner yesterday.

"This has got the potential to go national."

Pc Farrand believes Section 176 of the 2003 Licensing Act bans petrol stations from selling alcohol.

"It prohibits the sale or supply of alcohol from premises that are used primarily as a garage. The thing we want to know is what the primary use is of the Totals at Bradley and Ravensthorpe," he said.



"We've asked the company for the sales figures to show what the primary  $\beta = 0$  They've not provided the figures but the council can adjourn the hearing until they are produced."

Pc Farrand believes both garages could be trading illegally – even though they each have 24-hour alcohol licences.

"Under Section 176, no licence can be in place so any alcohol sales would be unauthorised," he said.

Pc Farrand and his colleague Pc Richard Woodhead stumbled across the legal issue after receiving unconfirmed reports that the Total in Bradley was selling alcohol to under 18s.

"We had a complaint from a concerned parent and we carried out a test purchase operation, which they passed. It's fair to say there's no evidence of under-age sales there," he said.

"That was the initial reason that we looked at the Total stations, it made us look at the legislation."

Pc Farrand said he had taken the unusual step of asking for expert legal help at the March 26 hearing.

"Pc Woodhead and I will be there as normal but we've appointed a barrister to put the police case," he said.

Comments (23)

http://www.examiner.co.uk/news/local-west-yorkshire-news/2012/03/17/are-petrol-sta... 09/06/2012

# When is a petrol station not a petrol station? Police apply to Kirklees to PENDIX - 6 ban booze sales at garages

by Barry Gibson, Huddersfield Daily Examiner Mar 27 2012



Apollo service station, Huddersfield Road, Ravensthorpe

COUNCILLORS have ruled that two petrol stations are not petrol stations.

In a national test case, Kirklees Council yesterday decided that garages in Huddersfield and Dewsbury are not garages – and can continue selling alcohol.

West Yorkshire Police had asked councillors to review the licences of the Total petrol stations on Leeds Road in Bradley and Huddersfield Road in Ravensthorpe.

Both business are permitted to sell alcohol 24-hours-a-day.

But officers believe that garages are banned from selling drink under Section 176 of the Licensing Act 2003.

Barrister Oliver Thorn put the case for the police at yesterday's meeting of the council's Licensing Panel at Huddersfield Town Hall.

"The aim of Section 176 is to keep people who are driving vehicles as far away from the temptation of purchasing alcohol as possible," he told councillors.



"Parliament saw fit to limit the sales of alcohol from garage premises to prevent crime."

http://www.examiner.co.uk/news/local-west-yorkshire-news/2012/03/27/when-is-a-pe... 09/06/2012

th is a petrol station not a petrol station? Police apply to Kirklees to ban booze sal... Page 2 of 2

# APPENDIX - 6

Mr Thorn added that the businesses at Bradley and Ravensthorpe were garages.

"An analysis of the cashflow and footfall shows they are garages. That means the businesses are excluded premises," he said.

Mr Thorn told the three-strong panel that the hearing could have wide implications. "This is a test to see if the police's view of all garages is correct," he said.

"The police have their concerns about other premises. Once something has been allowed to develop in the way that it has, any attempt to deal with it has to start somewhere."

Police carried out three surveys of customers arriving at the petrol stations.

From 2.30pm to 3.30pm on December 6, 2011, officers found 37 drivers buying fuel from the Bradley station, seven motorists using either the shop or the cash machine and two pedestrians going to the convenience store.

Comments (9)

#### News

# STRETFORD PETROL STATION'S 24/7 BOOZE BID IS WITHDRAWN



VICTORY... Councillors Steve Adshead, Dolores O'Sullivan and Tom Ross outside New Wolfe Service Station. They campaigned against the station's bid for a 24/7 alcohol licence.

Mecca Bingo: Free Bingo for New Players [Javascript:Respond.OnOverlayClick(844,2018,374,932,994,'http%3A% 2F%2Fmenmedia.co.uk%2Ftrafford%2Fnews%2Fs% 2F1470344\_stretford-petrol-stations-247-booze-bid-is-withdrawn',",",0,'http://promo.meccabingo.com/media/newbie-room.html? AFF\_ID=2978&SUB\_ID=MEC4',4)]

The police have stepped in to halt a garage's bid to sell alcohol round the clock over fears about anti-social behaviour.

An application was submitted to the council by New Wolfe Service Station, in Stretford, for a 24-hour licence, seven days a week.

The bid also included the sale of hot snacks and refreshments from 11pm until 5pm Monday to Sunday.

But police feared the round the clock sale of alcohol would fuel trouble in what is already a problem area.

They negotiated with the Chester Road garage's solicitors and came to an agreement for the application to be revised to sell alcohol between 8am and 11pm.

Neighbourhood Inspector Andy Sutcliffe said: "The area round Lacy Street has had no end of problems, though we have resolved those to a certain degree recently.

E Lloyds TSB

Just one of the smart things about our current accounts. The garage's proposal was put out for consultation and was met with objections by councillors and residents. **TRAFFORD NEWS** 

They also teared the late night opening times would attract troublemakers and a petition was organised by the Meadows Tenants and Residents Association

Coun Steve Adshead praised the residents for lobbying the council and said it stopped a worrying precedent.

He said: "This is a great result because the proposals were worrying a lot of people.

"The residents had been outraged by plans to effectively have a takeaway open until 5am and alcohol served 24/7.

"It would have been a magnet for anti-social behaviour, attracting the wrong sorts, mindless idiots and we do not want these people hanging around till all hours.

"It was in the wrong location, it may be a main road but it backs into residents streets.

"But our lobbying has paid off and these plans have been scrapped.

"I think without the police's concerns we may not have been successful.

"It is a result for people power. By getting the idea scrapped in our area it could also stop ideas being pursued in other areas which could have seen similar schemes roiled out across the borough."

The council confirmed an licence application was submitted but following police objections has now been revised.

Rontec, which manages the service station, declined to comment.

Just one of the smart things

about our current accounts.

Lloyds TSB

Mecca Bingo: Free Bingo for New Players 2F1470344\_stretford-petrol-stations-247-booze-bid-is-withdrawn',",",0,"http://promo.meccabingo.com/media/newbie-room.html? AFF\_ID=2978&SUB\_ID=MEC4',4)]

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In Brief		
Description		
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We operate over 500 service stat quality fuels, extensive convenier	tions across the United Kingdom delivering high nce shop ranges and top quality car washes.	
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Rontec Investments LLP was fou is a consortium of companies cor	nded in 2011 to acquire the assets of Total UK and nprising Snax 24, Investec and Grovepoint Capital.	
Our service station network delive ranges and offers top quality car	ers high quality fuels, extensive convenience shop washes.	
sandwiches and newspapers so need it. Larger stores also stock	everyday essentials such as fresh bread, milk, you can find whatever you need – whenever you fresh fruit and vegetables, a comprehensive range id alcohol at a selection of sites.	
What Will I Do?	,	
As a Commission Operator you v your own service station and stor	vill be responsible for the day-to-day operation of e. This includes:	
<ul> <li>Managing staff and stock</li> <li>Ensuring standards of exceller</li> <li>Maintaining cash flow</li> <li>Being a point-of-reference for</li> <li>Arranging deliveries</li> </ul>		

anchise Details .: Franchise Direct 2102/90/71 +pləysəloog gageu//dily

Presenting a positive image of the brand

# APPENDIX - 6

Rontec will source suppliers, as well as setting up organisational systems, so you always have a point of reference. Reporting to the area manager, ultimately you will be responsible for the success of your Rontec service station and the profits generated.

## What do I get for my investment?

- Comprehensive logistical support from Rontec
- Nationwide brand marketing
- A well known trademarked brand to trade under
- Constant support from local area manager and head office
- £15,000 stock

Working capital of at least £20,000 to £25,000 will also be required to fund your business and purchase initial shop stock.

### What training will I receive?

As part of our rigorous training programme, you will spend three weeks on an intensive training course. This is a mixture of classroom based and practical store based training, making sure that you get the best start possible.

### What can I earn?

Earnings start from £25-30K per annum, although you can earn more.

News

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# **DISLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Mrs M D Webb Clerk of the Council Tel/Fax: 01663 762726 E-Mail: <u>disley.pc@btconnect.com</u> Council Office 19 Buxton Old Road Disley Cheshire SK12 2BB

13 June 2012 Licensing Department, Cheshire East Council, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, Cheshire CW11 1HZ

### Re: Application to Vary a Premises Licence – F021775 Disley Service Station, 159 Buxton Road, Disley SK12 2HG

Dear Sirs,

Disley Parish Council strongly objects to this application to extend the sale of alcohol to twenty four hours a day, seven days a week and to the removal of embedded restrictions.

Disley is a rural village which already has eight licenced public houses, four licenced restaurants and a licensed Co-op late shop and the Parish Council sees no need for any business to provide the sale of alcohol in the village beyond the hours that it is currently available.

Disley Parish Council has worked very hard and at considerable expense to reduce the incidence of anti-social behaviour and underage drinking in the village over the past few years. This includes employing two Police Community Support Officers who have implemented several initiatives including two 'No drinking in public' zones. The Parish Council believes this application represents a retrograde step which does not fit with the government's current alcohol strategy of 'Safe, Sensible, Social'.

### Prevention of Crime and Disorder

Disley Parish Council has serious concerns about the potential for further issues of crime and disorder in this area. Recent reports from residents to Cheshire Police and the Parish Council include cars driving around the forecourt at speed late at night, consumption of alcohol in cars parked at the rear of the petrol station with bottles, cans and food wrappings being thrown on the ground or over the fence into a field where horses are grazed. The garage is very close to the Arnold Rhodes playing field which was previously a location where under-age drinkers gathered and caused disruption and criminal damage. As reported above, much work has been done to alleviate alcohol related problems in the village and the Parish Council would not wish this good work to be undone.



# QUALITY PARISH COUNCEL

# **DISLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

### Public safety

There have always been safety concerns at this location in relation to the entrance and exit which are both on a sharp bend and there have been numerous road traffic accidents of varying severity outside the garage over the years.

Also, Disley Parish Council does not consider that the twenty four hour sale of alcohol is conducive to the promotion of public health and safety. In view of the growth of alcohol as a public health issue the protection and improvement of public health should be taken into consideration together with the more random and immediate effects on residents living in the vicinity of the garage.

The garage is in a rural and somewhat isolated location which could leave staff vulnerable and at risk of robbery. There have been several such attacks at the Co-op late shop in Disley in the recent past including an armed robbery and two ram raids in which the cash machine has been stolen. This is despite there being CCTV covering the centre of the village. (See enclosed press articles).

### Prevention of Nuisance

The availability of alcohol 24/7 and the fact that the garage will be trading through the night will undoubtedly result in noise nuisance and disturbance for residents living opposite and in the vicinity of the garage.

It is likely to encourage the congregation of young people at this location which again may result in late night nuisance and intimidation for residents.

### Protection of Children

The garage is in close proximity to a children's play area and a camping site for Brownies & Girl Guides and the Parish Council believes it to be totally inappropriate and unnecessary that the garage is open beyond the times of other licensed premises in the village.

As previously stated, Disley used to have quite a severe problem with under-age drinking in the village, which gave cause for concern, and has now been addressed. The Parish Council is anxious that this good work should not be overturned.

### Licensing legislation

Section 176 of the Licensing Act 2003 states that the licensing authority must decide whether or not the premises are used primarily as a garage.

Disley Parish Council request that the applicant presents footfall or sales figures, classified according to type of purchases, so that 'primary' use may be determined.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Webb, Clerk of Disley Parish Council ders target Disley Co-op | Macclesfield Express - menmed ... http://menmedia.co.uk/macclesfieldexpress/news/s/1493488\_masked ...

APPENDIX -7

### MACCLESFIELD EXPRESS

News

# MASKED RAIDERS TARGET DISLEY CO-OP

May 10, 2012

Chat, Make Friends & Play Bingo at Mecca [Javascript:Respond.OnOverlayClick(844,2018,374,931,994, http://3A%2F %2Fmenmedia.co.uk%2Fmacclesfieldexpress%2Fnews%2Fs%2F1493488\_masked-raiders-target-disleyco-op', ",", 0, 'http://promo.meccabingo.com/media/newbie-room.htm?AFF\_ID=2978&SUB\_ID=MEC3',1)] Masked men threatened shop staff with hammers in a terrifying raid.

The Co-op store in Market Street, Disley, was hit at 9.40pm on Tuesday May 8.

Three robbers wearing balaclavas entered the store and threatened a staff.

They demanded access to the safe then made off with a quantity of cash and cigarettes towards Stockport.

The two women who were working were left shaken but unharmed.

The gang were white and wore dark clothing and a black balaclavas.

One of the men was 5ft 7-8ins tall and had a freckly face. Another of the gang was 6ft tall.

Anyone with information should contact DC Sarah Newton at Wilmslow CID on 101 quoting incident number 950 of 8 May 2012. Alternatively information can be given anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Chat, Make Friends & Play Bingo at Mecca [Javascript:Respond.OnOverlayClick(844,2018,374,931,994,'http%3A%2F %2Fmenmedia.co.uk%2Fmacclesfieldexpress%2Fnews%2Fs%2F1493488\_masked-raiders-target-disleyco-op',",",0,'http://promo.meccabingo.com/media/newbie-room.html?AFF\_ID=2978&SUB\_ID=MEC3',1)]

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1 of 1

### MACCLESFIELD EXPRESS

# CASH MACHINE STOLEN IN RAM-RAID ON DISLEY STORE

Chris Morris

July 21, 2011



The raid caused extensive damage to the front of the store

Get Your FREE Equifax Credit Report [Javascript:Respond.OnOverlayClick(844,2101,330,1008,994, http://3A%2F %2Fmenmedia.co.uk%2Fmacches/fieldexpress%2Fnews%2Fs%2F1441545\_cash-machine-stolen-in-ram-raid-on-diskystore`," " 0, http://ad.doubleclick.ne//ck/258448707.82648881;d',1)] A cash machine was stolen from a Co-op shop in Disley after crooks ram-raided the store in the early hours of the morning.

Officers were called to the shop on Market Street at 2.54am today (July 21) after two vehicles rammed into the wall of the premises.

The crooks then made off with the cash machine, a free-standing machine from inside the store, and were spotted heading towards Marple.

It is believed two vehicles, a turquoise Toyota 4Runner and a blue Suzuki panel van, were stolen from the Greater Manchester area for the theft.

The Toyota was later found dumped on Jackson Edge Road in Disley at its junction with Homestead Road, with damage to its front.

Police have been carrying out house-to-house enquiries and want to speak to anyone who could help with the investigation.

Detective Inspector Iain Goodwin said: "Anyone in the area at the time will have been alerted by the sound of the raid. We would urge anyone who may have seen the offence taking place or who saw the vehicles matching the description given, to contact police on 0845 458 0000 quoting incident number 115 of 21 July, 2011.

"Alternatively information can be given anonymously on the independent charity

aine stolen in ram-raid on Disley store | Macclesfield Expre... http://menmedia.co.uk/macclesfieldexpress/news/s/1441545\_cash-m.

Crimestoppers number 0800 555 111."

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APPENDIX -7

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### **Premises Licence Summary**

Premises Licence Number:

PR/0346

Post Code: SK12 2HG

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### Premises Details

Postal address of Premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description:

Disley Service Station 159 Buxton Road Disley Stockport, Cheshire

Post Town: Disley

Telephone Number: 01663 763343

Where the Licence is time limited, the dates:

Not applicable

Licensable activities authorised by the Licence:

Sale and Supply of Alcohol

The times the Licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities:

Sale and Supply of Alcohol

 Monday to Saturday
 08.00 to 23.00

 Sunday
 10.00 to 22.30

 Christmas Day
 12.00 to 15.00 and 19.00 to 22.30

 Good Friday
 08.00 to 22.30

From the end of permitted hours on New Years Eve to the commencement of hours on New Years Day

The opening hours of the Premises:

Not known

Where the Licence authorises supplies of alcohol, whether these are on and/or off supplies:

For consumption off the premises only

Name, (registered) address and telephone number of holder of Premises Licence:

Rontec Watford Ltd 13-14 Esplanade St Helier Jersey JE1 1BD

Registered number of holder, for example company number, charity number (where applicable):

Registered company number: 108486

Name of designated Premises Supervisor where the Premises Licence authorises for the supply of alcohol:

Miss Joanne Louise Bradley

State whether access to the Premises by children is restricted or prohibited:

No

Licence issued on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2012



Signed by Amanda Hinton on behalf of Cheshire East Borough Council

#### Annex 1 - Mandatory Conditions

1. No supply of alcohol may be made under this Premises Licence -

- (a) at a time when there is no designated premises supervisor in respect of the Premises Licence, or
- (b) at a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a Personal Licence or his Personal Licence is suspended.

2. Every supply of alcohol under this Premises Licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a Personal Licence.

#### LICENSING ACT 2003 (MANDATORY LICENSING CONDITIONS) ORDER 2010

#### MANDATORY CONDITIONS

### **Condition 4**

(1) The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder shall ensure that an age verification policy applies to the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.

(2) The policy must require individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under 18 years of age (or such older age as may be specified in the policy) to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification bearing their photograph, date of birth and a holographic mark.

#### Annex 2 - Conditions consistent with the Operating Schedule

1. Alcohol shall not be sold or supplied except during permitted hours.

In this condition, permitted hours means:

a. On weekdays, other than Christmas Day, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

b. On Sundays, other than Christmas Day, 10 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.

c. On Christmas Day, 12 noon to 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

d. On Good Friday, 8 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.

2. The above restrictions do not prohibit:

(a) during the first twenty minutes after the above hours, the taking of the alcohol from the premises, unless the alcohol is supplied or taken in an open vessel;

(b) the ordering of alcohol to be consumed off the premises, or the despatch by the vendor of the alcohol so ordered;

(c) the sale of alcohol to a trader or club for the purposes of the trade or club;

(d) the sale or supply of alcohol to any canteen or mess, being a canteen in which the sale or supply of alcohol is carried out under the authority of the Secretary of State or an authorised mess of members of Her Majesty's naval, military or air forces;

3. Alcohol shall not be sold in an open container or be consumed in the licensed premises.

#### Annex 3 - Conditions attached after a hearing by the Licensing Authority

None

Annex 4 - Plans

Please see attached



