

From:

Sent: 14 June 2022 16:53

To: ANDREWS, Amanda

Subject: Re: [OFFICIAL] Notice of Hearing - Porters Service Station

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Amanda,

Apologies for the late reply but we have been out for the day as my husband is taking annual leave at the moment and will be for the next two weeks.

We have discussed at length the proposal from the applicant to have further talks regarding their application.

We both feel that if necessary a Council or Committee representative would be welcome to visit our home. They could see for themselves the proximity of the premises and its facilities to our home and how this affects us. They would also be able to see the view from our windows of the site and its maintenance.

As far as we are concerned the applicant has been advised, via your office and their agent, of our concerns, the history of the site and recent experiences and how it has affected and continues to affect our lives. We do not feel that we can add anything further and therefore we do not wish to enter into any further discussion.

We are still of the opinion that the whole site could be managed and maintained to a higher standard and the need for profit should not be at the expense of our health and well-being.

We request therefore that the case is dealt with by the licensing department at the hearing on 23rd of June. We can only hope that they look at the application from our point of view and how they would feel in our situation.

Many thanks for all your efforts in this matter Amanda. We thank you for your time and excellent service.

Best regards.

From:

Sent: 14 June 2022 07:39

To: ANDREWS, Amanda

Subject: Re: [OFFICIAL] Notice of Hearing - Porters Service Station

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Amanda.

Thank you for your email.

Unfortunately we will be unable to attend the hearing. As there are errors in the agent's email and other issues to consider we request that the hearing continues in our absence.

Hours of opening previously were 6.30am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 7.30am to 7.30pm at weekends.

The current opening hours according to their website BP Porters Service Station (and updated 8 weeks ago) are 6am to 8pm seven days a week. Opening hours have been increased now.

The agent states that current opening hours are 6am to 11pm this is totally false. The service station is fully illuminated and operational at 5.30/5.40 am on many occasions. There have been fuel deliveries after 8pm so they are operating outside these hours now.

With this in mind we do not feel licensed opening hours will be adhered to and who is going to supervise this. The Police if they have time/ resources? The Council if they have the money or resources? or are residents going to be living with more unwanted issues.

We object strongly to the premises being licenced until midnight to allow for events. What type of events are they contemplating will require them to be open. If they are looking at Sundays into a Bank Holiday then not everyone benefits from not working on a Bank Holiday. They have to bear in mind that residents do not solely work Monday to Friday 9 to 5 in current times. There are many residents who work unsocial hours and have very responsible jobs which can be severely affected by sleep .

There have been occasions when the large totem pole sign has been illuminated all night after closing time since the new management have been at the premises . The lights displayed and their intensity has been very intrusive.

There have been occasions recently and in the past of the petrol pumps being illuminated all night and this has been witnessed by other residents. This is despite the claim that there are safety procedures in place.

There have been complaints in the past regarding noise from delivery vehicles, loud music from cars and noisy exhausts, light intrusion from floodlights and use of the jet wash by taxi drivers/ mini bus drivers during the night even on Christmas Day. At one time the forecourt was utilised as a newspaper distribution centre for a local delivery company. This involved vans being loaded and unloaded at 4am. All these complaints are documented with the Environmental Health Department at Cheshire East Council.

The new owners have refurbished the canopy which now has illumination installed contrary to a planning decision and subsequent correspondence in 2008. We have documentation to support this. The canopy is not illuminated currently as copy of Council letters were sent to the owners to advise of the restriction and they have upheld this. However this could be switched on at any time and left on all night. Has the means of illuminating this been removed ?

When the new housing development (planning refs 13/4216C and 16/2189C) was advertised it was said ,locally , that there was an objection to the housing from the Service Station owners as they said the new residents, close to the facility, would complain about noise from the service station. We cannot substantiate this as planning comments cannot be viewed on line post decision made. We cannot ask questions regarding planning matters as they are not being answered verbally. You can only make written enquiries or submit a contravention of planning which would not be answered in

the timescales for response to this matter. They should be available at CEC planning department. This may be worth investigating as this could become a reality and more residents will be affected once the development is completed.

We feel that these premises need to be subject to strict licensing hours no longer than the present hours. We are entitled to sit out in our gardens and have windows open as required and not be disturbed by noise, light intrusion and fumes from fuel and the obvious risk of antisocial behaviour.

There should be stricter conditions regarding delivery times, opening times, closing times and ensuring that all facilities are switched off and made safe and not operated outside opening hours as now. The jet wash car vacuum and tyre pressure machines remain available all night. The laundrette is used in the night also. Has planning permission been sought or gained? We hear vehicles moving on and off the premises 24/7.

The site is becoming more untidy than ever with rubbish overflowing from commercial skips, wooden pallets (growing in number), old advertising signs, broken down fencing and building debris to the side and until recently there was a huge pile of building debris left on the grass verge at the front for at least 3 months after work was completed. The business is not operated well in this respect. The site landlord has had complaints regarding site maintenance. This is one of the most untidy commercial premises in Congleton which points to poor operational standards overall.

We feel that the current opening hours are more than sufficient. There are other facilities open in Congleton Town centre to fulfil any requirements for food, alcohol and fuel.

Padgbury Lane is described as a leafy country road by the nearby housing developers, Seddons, on their Elmwood website. Let us keep it that way and not allow unwanted development to occur, purely for business profit, to ruin this. Everyone is entitled to peace and quiet, quality sleep and no stress more so after enduring the pandemic and its ongoing aftermath.

We hope you look favourably at the points raised. Thank you.

Regards

From:

Sent: 14 June 2022 13:12

To: LICENSING (Cheshire East)

Subject: Re: Variation - Porters Service Station, Congleton

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your communication regarding the application of Porter's Garage to extend their opening hours. Whilst I appreciate that they have withdrawn their application to remain open 24/7, I have no intention of withdrawing my objection to their proposed longer opening hours.. The letter of mitigation they have forwarded to you does not make any sense to me. I have lived here for almost 40 years and the garage has never ever remained open until 11.30pm. For many years now the garage has been open from 6.30am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 7.30am to 7.30pm Saturday and Sunday as shown on their website, so where does this 11.30pm closure originate from? The new owners have already started opening up at 6am meaning that cars start arriving anytime after

5.30am so this has been an extension of some 30mins which as far as I am aware had never been sanctioned. Bearing in mind that the garage is situated in close (and I mean close) proximity to nearby houses I feel that their opening hours are quite adequate. For myself and I know my nearest neighbours are of the same opinion, we would like at least a few hours during the summer evenings to sit in our gardens in peace and quiet. I do not feel that this is a lot to ask.

I trust that the Licencing Committee will bear my comments in mind before reaching their final decision.

Yours faithfully,

From:

Sent: 15 June 2022 11:13

To: LICENSING (Cheshire East)

Subject: Re: Variation - Porters Service Station, Congleton

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

We feel opening hours at present are adequate for the local community and are unwilling to withdraw our objections, any longer would disrupt lives with lights shining into bedrooms and noise late at night