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**CADMAN, Nikki**

**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 12 February 2013 14:36  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW: Objection of the Licence for the ST Lounge

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12 February 2013 14:24  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East); makewilmslowmatter@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Objection of the Licence for the ST Lounge

**To The Licensing Authority, Cheshire East Borough Council**

*Dear Councillors*

12 Feb 2013

*Re: ST Club, 16 Grove Street, Wilmslow*

*I request that you give very serious consideration to refusing to renew the SEV Licence to the GroveSt Club*

*The ST Lounge has become an eyesore and during daytime hours looks like a garage and not in keeping with the prestige shops one would expect in an area like Wilmslow*

*I quite often walk by the ST lounge on my way home from either a restaurant or pub and have seen girls in bra and pants stood in the doorway ( not a very good advert for Wilmslow )*

*My main objection however is the number of underage children that frequent the place . Not only should they not be visiting licensed premises but to visit a "strip club " at the age of 15 / 16 years old is beyond belief. ( I have had many reports of this over the last few years ). How is it possible for the ST management to say that they are complying with the terms of their licence*

*In your 'Discretionary Grounds for Refusal' of an SEV licence, it is stated that the Sexual Entertainment license is " generally considered inappropriate "where there are schools, places of worship, leisure centres and residential areas. On the Council's own website it says that Wilmslow is a residential town. That means that it is located in an inappropriate area according to the Councils own policy. I would ask you to refuse grant on the grounds that it is "inappropriate to the relevant locality". The policy also states that:*

*Under s.3.7 of the Council's SEV policy, the Committee" is able to determine the appropriate number of Sexual Entertainment Venues suitable for a locality and is able to determine that the appropriate number for a locality is nil". In light of the sensitive uses in the locality I would ask the Council to determine that the appropriate number of SEV's in the locality is nil. The fact that the Committee granted the SEV licence for ST Lounge in 2012 should not have a bearing on the outcome of the application for renewal. The Committee must consider the application afresh and is entitled to determine on renewal that the grant would be inappropriate having regard to the character of the relevant locality or the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put.*

Grove Street is an area used by all the locals, young and old. They may be making their way to and from school, they may be shopping or just sitting on the benches, or even making their way to the churches in close proximity. Saint Teresa's Church is very close by, in Green Lane; the Methodist Church and St Bartholomew's Church are close by, as is the Leisure Centre and Wilmslow Prep School, which is in Grove Avenue. Many teenagers from Wilmslow High School are very often to be seen walking through town, after school and the many sporting events available at this prestigious sporting academy.

Before his election at the full Council meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>, Michael Jones stated that he would "maintain the quality of Wilmslow for the people there," as he considered Wilmslow to be "a key town". How, exactly, does a lap dancing club maintain the quality of Wilmslow?

I feel that there are other issues you should be considering, too. The future of Wilmslow town centre is at stake here; we have two betting shops and a strip club in a very small area. Economists' projections show that this kind of development leads to the decline of a town. Shouldn't we all be doing our utmost to protect and enhance our town centre?

### **Conclusion**

Would you please take my views in to account when you make your decision, for the good of Wilmslow?

As it's such an important issue, we would ask that the matter be dealt with by the full Licensing Committee.

Surely a lap-dancing club is inappropriate in any small town centre, but, particularly in Wilmslow, where so many residents live close by? We urge you to accept my views, which are held by the great majority of Wilmslow residents and refuse to grant the licence renewal.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

To The Licensing Authority, Cheshire East Borough Council

Dear Sirs

Re: ST Club, 16 Grove Street, Wilmslow

I'm writing to object to the renewal of the licence for the lap dancing club application submit for ST Club.

I request that you give very serious consideration to refusing to renew the SEV Licence to the St Club in Grove Street, Wilmslow.

Before you decide to renew the SEV Licence, for the ST Club, I ask you to consider in detail the effect the existence of such a club is having on Wilmslow's town centre.

I consider that a main family shopping area is the wrong location for a lap dancing club. There is a lovely shoe shop for children next door, a children's accessory shop nearly opposite, monsoon children's shop very near and even an exclusive teddy bear shop, so it does not fit in with the local businesses.

The Wilmslow Vision document, which was endorsed by the Council, wishes to foster "a vibrant, welcoming and accessible town-centre, with a high-quality environment, to draw people into Wilmslow"; it talks of "a community that is safe and welcoming". The stated purpose of the ST Club is to sexually excite its audience, and that does not draw me into Wilmslow, and therefore, contradicts what the Council is seeking to provide for the people of Wilmslow.

In your 'Discretionary Grounds for Refusal' of an SEV licence, it is stated that the Sexual Entertainment license is "generally considered inappropriate "where there are schools, places of worship, leisure centres and residential areas. On the Council's own website it says that Wilmslow is a residential town. That means that it is located in an inappropriate area according to the Councils own policy. We would ask you to refuse grant on the grounds that it is "inappropriate to the relevant locality". The policy also states that:

Under s.3.7 of the Council's SEV policy, the Committee" is able to determine the appropriate number of Sexual Entertainment Venues suitable for a locality and is able to determine that the appropriate number for a locality is nil". In light of the sensitive uses in the locality I would ask the Council to determine that the appropriate number of SEV's in the locality is nil. The fact that the Committee granted the SEV licence for ST Lounge in 2012 should not have a bearing on the outcome of the application for renewal. The Committee must consider the application afresh and is entitled to determine on renewal that the grant would be inappropriate having regard to the character of the relevant locality or the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put.

In my opinion, the Council needs to be sensitive to the uses to which Grove Street is principally put; it is the centre of Wilmslow, surrounded by residential streets and facilities for the community in general, including children and young adults. Every day, huge numbers of schoolchildren walk past the club, which is adjacent to coffee shops, clothes shops, shoe shops, charity shops and banks. The ST Club is in a very inappropriate location, in the middle of a family shopping area round the corner from the prestigious Wilmslow preparatory school for Girls and around the other corner is ST Theresa's Church. Two more churches with large congregations are very close by. I thought that strip clubs were not supposed to be near Churches, and this is offensive to me? The Churches were here first.

The bus stops to Schools, universities and colleges are situated metres away on Green lane. Many women and children use these services, to travel from the many social, and sporting events held in Cheshire, Macclesfield and Manchester.

To me and my family, this is definitely NOT an appropriate area for a fully nude lap dancing/strip club. In your policy document, it is stated that the aim of the "relevant entertainment" must reasonably be assumed to be "solely for the purpose of 'sexually stimulating' its audience. Is it appropriate to have sexually stimulated people in a busy central area of our town, near houses and their families, schools and their pupils, and churches and their congregations?

The premises next to the ST Club have been vacant for over a year; so is the shop opposite vacant. This seems to indicate that the proximity of a lap-dancing club is off-putting to businesses. With shutters closed during the day, the ST Club presents it's self as another failed business.

The council and local businesses have undertaken significant activities to make Grove Street an attractive and vibrant family shopping area, with market stalls, coffee shops and on street programmes. This is out of character with the purpose and activities of a late evening into the early hours lap dancing /strip club in the centre of Wilmslow family shopping zone.

Please refuse to renew the License to Sexually Entertain and decline the license application for ST Lounge on Grove Street.

I believe that the ST Club is in the wrong location, in the heart of the main street of a small town, close to residents, schools, shops and churches; we feel that it is completely out of character in the area. We ask you to consider this most carefully, when you are making your decision about whether to grant the licence renewal.

Yours faithfully,



The Licensing Authority,  
Cheshire East Borough Council

10 February 2013

By email : [licensing@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

Dear Sirs,

**Re: ST Lounge, Wilmslow**

We wish to register our strong objection to the granting of a renewed Sexual Entertainment Licence to the lap dancing club in Grove Street, Wilmslow.

We have lived in Wilmslow for all of 68 years. We are local shop keepers in Wilmslow and have been for 45 years. We have never seen the economy in Wilmslow as bad as it is now. It is our view that establishments, such as this, destroy the heart of the village by promoting entirely the wrong image of what Wilmslow is all about. This type of late night sex club brings totally the wrong type of people into Wilmslow causing the local villagers to stay away which in turn is having a negative effect on the whole of the community and economy.

Our parents were also local retailers in Wilmslow as Wilmslow used to be, the place to have a business, the place where quality was assured. The presence of this Club on our high street has lowered the tone and image of the village and created an unsafe, threatening environment.

The main family shopping area is completely the wrong location for a lap dancing club.

The Council have destroyed the heart and soul of Wilmslow by adopting the "cafe culture". Don't make the same mistake again by allowing this Club; whose purpose is to sexually excite its audience, a continued Sexual Entertainment Licence. Don't wait until there is nothing else in the village but a Sex Club, Tattoo parlours, Betting Shops and Charity Shops.

That does not draw business into Wilmslow and therefore, contradicts what the Council is seeking to provide for the people of Wilmslow and is preventing the economy of those trying to run other businesses in Wilmslow centre.

The Council is asked to consider if the ST Club is "appropriate to the relevant locality"?

**The Council should be striving to make the town as safe and as prestigious as possible.**

Please do not renew the License to Sexually Entertain on Grove Street and invest your energies in bringing Wilmslow back to the fantastic thriving economy it has been.

Yours faithfully,



**CADMAN, Nikki**

**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 12 February 2013 15:27  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW: ST Club, 16 Grove Street, Wilmslow - Please refuse the license application

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12 February 2013 14:55  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Cc:** FITZGERALD, Wesley (Councillor); BARTON, Gary (Councillor); [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** ST Club, 16 Grove Street, Wilmslow - Please refuse the license application

My wife and I are writing to object to the renewal of the licence for the ST lap dancing club in Wilmslow. We are asking you to refuse to renew their licence in Grove Street for the following reasons:-

1. We have lived in Wilmslow for over twenty years and have largely felt safe here; now, with the lap-dancing club, we feel much more vulnerable and are reluctant to walk along Grove Street in the evening. We are especially concerned for our teenage daughter who effectively has to walk past the club if she wishes to get from the station to our house. This can be particularly intimidating for a teenage girl;
2. The ST Lounge is an eyesore. It has had a broken window on the first floor for months. There was a white mark on the front where the previous application for a Sex license was placed in December 2011. There are always cigarette ends and cigarette packets in the doorway. The shutters down all day makes it look like it is a failed business.
3. Very few people saw the original advert, placed just once, in the Manchester Evening News the day before New Years Eve! Many people, including ourselves were unable to object, as we did not even know that an application had been made.
4. We consider that a main family shopping area is the wrong location for a lap dancing club. In your 'Discretionary Grounds for Refusal' of a Sexual Entertainment Venue ("SEV") licence, it is stated that the license is "generally considered inappropriate" where there are schools, places of worship, leisure centres and residential areas. On the Council's own website it says that Wilmslow is a residential town. That means that it is located in an inappropriate area according to the Councils own policy.
5. We ask that you refuse to grant the licence on the grounds that it is "inappropriate to the relevant locality". Around corner from the Club is Saint Teresa's Church in Green Lane; two more churches with large congregations, the Methodist Church and St Bartholomew's, are very close by. The churches were In Wilmslow before the club.
6. The SEV policy also states that under s.3.7, the Committee "is able to determine the appropriate number of Sexual Entertainment Venues suitable for a locality and is able to determine that the appropriate number for a locality is nil". In light of the sensitive uses in the locality I would ask the Council to determine that the appropriate number of SEV's in the centre of Wilmslow is nil. The fact that the Committee granted the SEV licence for ST Lounge in 2012 should not have a bearing on the outcome of the application for renewal. The Committee must consider the application afresh and is

entitled to determine on renewal that the grant would be inappropriate having regard to the character of the relevant locality or the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put.

7. Residents such as ourselves in Hawthorn Park and our fellow residents from Hawthorn Lane, Hawthorn Grove and Grove way would normally have to pass in front of the ST Club, to go to restaurants or just to meet friends. Many now purposely avoid the centre of town and do not walk to friends houses, but drive instead.
8. According to Home Office guidelines, in the ministerial foreword, the new regulations are to empower local authorities and local communities, and give people a voice; the people of Wilmslow do not want a lap-dancing club in the middle of the main street!

Please refuse to renew the License to Sexually Entertain on Grove Street.

Kind regards.

[REDACTED]



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**CADMAN, Nikki**

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**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 08:41  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW: Grove Street Lap Dancing Club

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[REDACTED]  
Licensing Administrative Officer  
Westfields  
Middlewich Road  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1HZ  
Te [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12 February 2013 18:05  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:** Grove Street Lap Dancing Club

As a resident of East Cheshire I strongly urge you to deny the licence renewal for the lap dancing club on Grove St.

I would like my children to grow up with healthy attitudes towards sex and not assume that it is a commodity to be bought or sold.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

9<sup>th</sup> February 2013

To Cheshire East Council

Dear Councillors

Re: ST Lounge Grove Street Wilmslow

I am writing to express my strong objections to granting renewal of the Licence enabling the ST Lounge on Grove Street, Wilmslow to offer sexual entertainment. I urge you to refuse to renew the SEV Licence to the ST Lounge on the following grounds.

- 1 **The ST Lounge is situated on the main pedestrianized street of Wilmslow, Grove Street, which is in the middle of a retail and residential area. This is a totally unsuitable location for premises licensed to offer sexual entertainment.**
- 2 **By day the premises, with their shuttered appearance and black styling, detract from the sense of Grove Street as an attractive pedestrianized street, furnished with benches, and with a healthy mixture of shops, family-friendly cafes, banks, building societies, and a cheerful flower stall. Children enjoy walking along this safe street and are puzzled by the obvious incongruity of the ST Lounge. Furthermore, the area outside the doorway is littered with cigarette ends.**
- 3 **In the evening, during the ST Lounge opening hours, it is impossible to be unaware of the use to which the premises is put, and hard to feel unaffected by this. When I walk through Grove Street in the evening, I feel vulnerable as a woman on my own. I am a resident of Wilmslow who enjoys being within walking distance of the amenities of the town, am a frequent user of public transport, and someone who participates in local activities, and enjoys meeting friends in the cafes of the town. My sense of vulnerability in walking along Grove Street in the evening was certainly heightened by the incident of the performer from the club who was attacked.**
- 4 **There are several churches and schools in the vicinity of the ST Lounge, the leisure centre and railway station are nearby, and the main bus routes all pass along Green Lane, one of the roads adjacent to Grove Street. I am very concerned that young people especially should feel safe as they walk through Grove Street in the evening, and I believe that the presence of the ST Lounge compromises their sense of safety.**

In your 'Discretionary Grounds for Refusal' of an SEV licence, it is stated that the Sexual Entertainment licence is generally considered inappropriate where there are schools, places of worship, leisure centres and residential areas. I therefore urge that you refuse to renew the SEV licence of the ST Lounge on the grounds that it is totally inappropriate to its locality on Grove Street. In doing so, you will be showing respect for the views of huge numbers of residents in Wilmslow who are strongly opposed to allowing the ST Lounge to renew its licence for sexual entertainment.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]



The Licensing Department  
Cheshire East Council  
Westfields  
Middlewich Road  
Sandbach  
CW11 1H2

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Renewal of Sexual Entertainment Licence at ST Lounge, Wilmslow**

I am writing to express my objection to the above application. As a resident of Wilmslow for the past 25 years I was appalled when the Council deemed it appropriate to grant a licence to the ST Lounge in the first place.

As a mother of two teenage daughters who frequently visit Wilmslow in the evenings, I am very concerned for their welfare. They frequently walk via Grove Street to visit the various restaurants/public houses in the vicinity and I object strongly to the possibility that they may be accosted by males who have been 'sexually excited' by clients of the ST Lounge – sadly they and the women of Wilmslow are very much at risk of abuse and at worst an attack.

I understand that the management at the ST Lounge, insist that female employees of the ST Lounge are escorted to their vehicles at the end of their shift to ensure their safety. It goes without saying, then, that the women of Wilmslow who are quite innocently and honestly going about their own business are deemed to be in a dangerous predicament if they happen to be in the vicinity of the ST Lounge, due to the fact that the clientele who have been aroused by what they have seen and experienced in this sordid establishment, may take things further when they come across members of the opposite sex!

I am not ashamed to say that I am a 'Christian' with a strong moral ethic, something that appears to be 'sniggered' or 'jeered' at these days – yes it is 'unfashionable' to be a Christian, it is unfashionable to have 'moral' values – but that does not mean to say that as a result, those of us, who follow such values should not have a voice. As a resident of Wilmslow I do have a voice and whether it is fashionable or not it deserves to be heard.

I would urge, therefore, that all those in a position to consider the renewal of the Sexual Entertainments Licence to the ST Lounge, should consider first and foremost the views of residents like myself and refuse this application.

Yours faithfully



To The Licensing Authority, Cheshire East Borough Council

Dear Sir/Sirs/Councillors/

Re: ST Lounge Wilmslow

I am writing to object to the renewal of the licence for the lap dancing club/ST Club.

When I heard about the performer who was attacked by a client from the St Lounge, I decided that the centre of Wilmslow should be avoided, in fact I think it is a no go area for women and children. We now visit other areas to go to restaurants and to meet our friends.

As a lone female, whenever I attend an evening event in Wilmslow, I feel more vulnerable and at risk walking along Grove Street past the lap-dancing club, as the majority of shoppers have gone home.

Grove Street is an area used by all the locals, young and old. They may be making their way to and from school, they may be shopping or just sitting on the benches, or even making their way to the churches in close proximity. Saint Teresa's Church is very close by, in Green Lane; the Methodist Church and St Bartholomew's Church are close by, as is the Leisure Centre and Wilmslow Prep School, which is in Grove Avenue. Many teenagers from Wilmslow High School are very often to be seen walking through town, after school and the many sporting events available at this prestigious sporting academy.

Grove Street should not be a no-go area, which residents avoid; this would be totally against the legislation brought in by the government to give residents a say in the way that their town is run.

The premises next to the ST Club have been vacant for over a year; so is the shop opposite vacant. This seems to indicate that the proximity of a lap-dancing club is off-putting to businesses.

Do not give this License to the ST Lounge.

I absolutely believe that the ST Club is in the wrong location, in the heart of the main street of a small town, close to residents, schools, shops and churches; I feel that it is completely out of character in the area. We ask you to consider this most carefully, when you are making your decision about whether to grant the licence renewal.

Yours sincerely,



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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
13 February 2013

To The Licensing Authority, Cheshire East Borough Council

Re: ST Club, 16 Grove Street, Wilmslow

I request that you give very serious consideration to refusing to renew the SEV Licence to the St Club in Grove Street, Wilmslow.

Very few people saw the original advert, placed just once, in the Manchester Evening News the day before New Years Eve! Not surprisingly few people objected, as they did not even know that an application had been made I consider that a main family shopping area is the wrong location for a lap dancing club.

In your 'Discretionary Grounds for Refusal' of an SEV licence, it is stated that the Sexual Entertainment license is "generally considered inappropriate "where there are schools, places of worship, leisure centres and residential areas. On the Council's own website it says that Wilmslow is a residential town. That means that it is located in an inappropriate area according to the Council's own policy. I lived in Wilmslow for many years until recently and raised my children there and ask you to refuse grant on the grounds that it is "inappropriate to the relevant locality".

In my opinion, the Council needs to be sensitive to the uses to which Grove Street is principally put; it is surrounded by residential streets and facilities for the community in general, including children and young adults. Every day, huge numbers of schoolchildren walk past the club, which is adjacent to coffee shops, clothes shops, shoe shops, charity shops and banks. my own children attended Wilmslow High School and still occasionally have nights out in the town. The ST Club is in a very inappropriate location, in the middle of a family shopping area round the corner from the prestigious Wilmslow preparatory school for Girls and around the other corner is ST Theresa's Church. Two more churches with large congregations are very close by. I thought that strip clubs were not supposed to be near Churches, as it could be seen as being offensive? The Leisure Centre is a popular and well-used venue, open till 10.15 some nights and later when they are host to the many school and theatre events throughout the year.

I look forward to your co-operation and understanding and ask you to refuse to renew the ST Club's licence for its outlet in Wilmslow. To the owners, it seems to be just a means of making money, no matter what the depths of degradation of the women involved. To me, it is a travesty of what Wilmslow represents.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**CADMAN, Nikki**

**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 11:26  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW: Objection to Wilmslow Sex/lap top club

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[REDACTED]  
Licensing Administrative Officer  
Westfields  
Middlewich Road  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1HZ  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 10:39  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East); [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Objection to Wilmslow Sex/lap top club

PLEASE COPY AND PASTE A:

1, GREETINGS, 2, OBJECTION, 3/4, EXPLANATIONS, AND 5, A CONCLUSION THAT IS RELEVANT TO YOU,  
THEN SIGN OFF AND EMAIL TO: [licensing@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

ALSO, PLEASE FORWARD A COPY TO: [makewilmslowmatter@gmail.com](mailto:makewilmslowmatter@gmail.com)

THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF WILMSLOW FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

To The Licensing Authority, Cheshire East Borough Council

1.

Dear Sir/Sirs/Councillors/

Re: ST Club, 16 Grove Street, Wilmslow

My family and I are writing to object to the renewal of the licence for the lap dancing club/ST Club.

We are writing to ask you to refuse to renew the licence for the ST Club in Grove Street.

We are writing to express our strong objections to the granting of a licence for the strip club in Grove Street.

We are very concerned that the ST Club in Wilmslow has applied to have its licence renewed and we request that you deny the renewal of the SEV Licence to Wilmslow's ST Club. We ask you to consider in detail the effect the existence of such a club is having on Wilmslow's town centre.

We ask that the Licensing Committee reconsider the issue of granting a licence to the ST Club; very few people saw the original advert, placed just once, in the Manchester Evening News the day before New Years Eve! Many people did not object, as they did not even know that an application had been made.

**The ST Lounge on Grove Street has become an eyesore. It has had a broken window on the first floor for months. There was a white mark on the front where the previous application for a Sex license was placed in December 2011. There are always cigarette ends and cigarette packets in the doorway. It does not seem very clean on the outside, what is it like on the inside? The shutters down all day makes it look like it is a failed business.**

We have been living in Wilmslow for many years and consider that a main family shopping area is the wrong location for a lap dancing club. There is a lovely shoe shop for children next door, a children's accessory shop nearly opposite, monsoon children's shop very near and even an exclusive teddy bear shop, so it does not fit in with the local businesses.

When my wife and daughter attend an evening event in Wilmslow, they feel more vulnerable and at risk walking along Grove Street past the lap-dancing club, as the majority of shoppers have gone home.

We understand that the club are offering "free tickets" for the ST Lounge strip club. This sounds quite seedy and desperate. Their web site offers an "escort girls" and "up to 50 lap dancers" to a venue of your choice. The web site has s and m photographs but it really concerns me that they state they can open for private groups "when they are closed to the public". They are already stating they are open at different times to their license application!

The Wilmslow Vision document, which was endorsed by the Council, wishes to foster "a vibrant, welcoming and accessible town-centre, with a high-quality environment, to draw people into Wilmslow"; it talks of "a community that is safe and welcoming". The stated purpose of the ST Club is to sexually excite its audience, That does not draw me into Wilmslow, and therefore, contradicts what the Council is seeking to provide for the people of Wilmslow. In total contrast this kind of club draws in the wrong type of characters to the area!

According to your policy document on the licensing of SEVs, we understand that "relevant entertainment", even "live strip shows" can be provided for the "financial gain of the organiser". Whilst we accept that such "entertainment" takes place, why does the Council feel that such a venue is acceptable in the main street of a small market town? How can this be justified in our local area?

In your 'Discretionary Grounds for Refusal' of an SEV licence, it is stated that the Sexual Entertainment license is "generally considered inappropriate "where there are schools, places of worship, leisure centres and residential areas. On the Council's own website it says that Wilmslow is a residential town. That means that it is located in an inappropriate area according to the Councils own policy. We would ask you to refuse grant on the grounds that it is "inappropriate to the relevant locality". The policy also states that:

Under s.3.7 of the Council's SEV policy, the Committee" is able to determine the appropriate number of Sexual Entertainment Venues suitable for a locality and is able to determine that the appropriate number for a locality is nil". In light of the sensitive uses in the locality I would ask the Council to determine that the appropriate number of SEV's in the locality is nil. The fact that the Committee granted the SEV licence for ST Lounge in 2012 should not have a bearing on the outcome of the application for renewal. The Committee must consider the application afresh and is entitled to determine on renewal that the grant would be inappropriate having regard to the character of the relevant locality or the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put.

Does the Council actually believe that the ST Club is "appropriate to the relevant locality"? That is to say, situated in the main street of a small local town, where the adjacent buildings house clothes and shoe shops, building societies, banks and cafés? In what way do they provide a relevant locality for a strip club?

In my/our opinion, the Council needs to be sensitive to the uses to which Grove Street is principally put; it is surrounded by residential streets and facilities for the community in general, including children and young adults. Every day, huge numbers of schoolchildren walk past the club, which is adjacent to coffee shops, clothes shops, shoe shops, charity shops and banks. The ST Club is in a very inappropriate location, in the middle of a family shopping area round the corner from the prestigious Wilmslow preparatory school for Girls and around the other corner is ST Theresa's Church. Two more churches with large congregations are very close by. I thought that strip clubs were not supposed to be near Churches, as it could be seen as being offensive? The Churches were here first.

The Leisure Centre is a popular and well-used venue, open till 10.15 some nights and later when they are host to the many school and theatre events throughout the year.

Grove Street is an area used by all the locals, young and old. They may be making their way to and from school, they may be shopping or just sitting on the benches, or even making their way to the churches in close proximity. Saint Teresa's Church is very close by, in Green Lane; the Methodist Church and St Bartholomew's Church are close by, as is the Leisure Centre and Wilmslow Prep School, which is in Grove Avenue. Many teenagers from Wilmslow High School are very often to be seen walking through town, after school and the many sporting events available at this prestigious sporting academy.

The bus stops to Schools, universities and colleges are situated metres away on Green lane. Many thousands of women and children use these services, to travel from the many social, and sporting events held in Cheshire, Macclesfield and Manchester. Nearby, the train station transports a million passengers from the Wilmslow area a year, at all times of the day and night.

To me and my family, this is definitely NOT an appropriate area for a fully nude lap dancing/strip club. In your policy document, it is stated that the aim of the "relevant entertainment" must reasonably be assumed to be "solely for the purpose of 'sexually stimulating' its audience. Is it appropriate to have sexually stimulated people in a busy central area of our town, near houses and their families, schools and their pupils, and churches and their congregations?

Residents really dread that another awful crime, like the serious assault that occurred to a performer on Racecourse Road will be committed. The club has advertised on its website all 2012 that it gives free entry for stag nights and groups, "drinks for a pound" or 99 pence with a voucher from the web site. I thought that cheap drinks like this, places them in breach of the Arcangel initiative that the club signed up to together with the Cheshire Police. What have the police done about this?

According to Home Office guidelines, in the ministerial foreword, the new regulations are to empower local authorities and local communities, and give people a voice; the people of Wilmslow do not want a lap-dancing club in the middle of the main street!

Before his election at the full Council meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>, Michael Jones stated that he would "maintain the quality of Wilmslow for the people there," as he considered Wilmslow to be "a key town". How, exactly, does a lap dancing club maintain the quality of Wilmslow?

We do not want Wilmslow to have a blighted zone, which residents seek to avoid. Walking past the ST Club makes many of us feel uncomfortable and a little frightened. There are many elderly residents in Canterbury Grange, just off Grove Street. Why should they have to go the long way round, to get home in the evening?



Grove Street should not be a no-go area, which residents avoid; this would be totally against the legislation brought in by the government to give residents a say in the way that their town is run.

We feel that there are other issues you should be considering, too. The future of Wilmslow town centre is at stake here; we have two betting shops and a strip club in a very small area. Economists' projections show that this kind of development leads to the decline of a town. Shouldn't we all be doing our utmost to protect and enhance our town centre?

The premises next to the ST Club have been vacant for over a year; so is the shop opposite vacant. This seems to indicate that the proximity of a lap-dancing club is off-putting to businesses.

### **Conclusion**

Please refuse to renew the License to Sexually Entertain on Grove Street.

Do not give this License to the ST Lounge.

Would you please take our views in to account when you make your decision, for the good of Wilmslow? and we hope that you will realise the depth of feeling and reconsider your decision to allow a strip club to operate on Wilmslow's main street.

We look forward to your co-operation and understanding and ask you to refuse to renew the ST Club's licence for its outlet in Wilmslow. To the owners, it seems to be just a means of making money, no matter what the depths of degradation of the women involved. To us, it is a travesty of what Wilmslow represents.

As it's such an important issue, we would ask that the matter be dealt with by the full Licensing Committee.

Surely a lap-dancing club is inappropriate in any small town centre, but, particularly in Wilmslow, where so many residents live close by? We urge you to accept our views, which are held by the great majority of Wilmslow residents.

Yours faithfully,

On behalf of the [REDACTED] which has been resident in Wilmslow for 25 years,

111

**CADMAN, Nikki**

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**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 11:28  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW: Objection to ST Lounge Sexual Entertainment License Application

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[REDACTED]  
Licensing Administrative Officer  
Westfields  
Middlewich Road  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1HZ  
Tel: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 11:24  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:** Objection to ST Lounge Sexual Entertainment License Application

### **Objection to the ST Lounge, Wilmslow application to renew a 'Sexual Entertainment Licence'**

A 'sexual entertainment venue' for the purposes of the 1982 Act is "any premises at which relevant entertainment is provided before an audience for the financial gain of the organiser or the entertainer." 'Relevant entertainment' means "any live performance or any live display of nudity which is of such a nature that, ignoring financial gain, it must reasonably be assumed solely or principally for the purpose of sexually stimulating any member of the audience (whether by verbal or other means)." (Cheshire East website)

For further information, the Cheshire East website refers us to Home Office Guidance on Sexual Entertainment Venues (PDF, 137KB). The guidance (Section 3.34) states that 'A license may be refused where: the grant or renewal of the licence would be inappropriate, having regard - to the character of the relevant locality'. The guidance goes on to state that 'a local authority's view on what constitutes a locality could be open to challenge if they took a completely unreasonable view of the area covered' (Section 3.36). Section 3.46 outlines 'A licensing policy for sex establishments might include statements about where local authorities are likely to consider to be appropriate locations for such venues. This could be set out in general terms by reference to a particular type of premises, such as a school or place of worship.'

Cheshire East outlines 5 conditions in which a license will be considered inappropriate where the characteristics of the locality include the following sensitive issues (all of which apply to the proposed STs Lounge in Wilmslow)

- A) an area predominantly comprising residential accommodation;
- B) parks and children's play areas;
- C) schools and youth centres;
- D) places of worship; and
- E) community facilities

Other councils such as Basingstoke and Dean Borough Council identify up to 12 areas in which applications would be unlikely to be successful, the overwhelming majority of which apply to this venue.

Additional criteria include:

- A pre-school facility
- A market
- A public building open to the general public
- A community meeting place
- A community leisure facility
- A location where children may be at risk
- A conservation area

Cornwall Council's Sex Establishment Policy includes:

- Parks and children's play areas
- Residential and sheltered accommodation
- Alcohol or entertainment licensed premises
- Other retail units

In May 2012 (BBC News Cornwall) Inspector Ian Drummond-Smith from Devon and Cornwall Police stated in relation to application for a sex establishment club in Newquay that he was not linking the 14 rapes and 30 sexual assaults directly to the clubs, but their presence "could have been a contributing factor". Tracy Earnshaw (Newquay residents' group said in relation to Newquay's sexual establishments "We have seen an increase in low-level sexual harassment and offensive comments and that's not just at night after nine o'clock, 10 or 11 - this is during the day,"

As a mother of three daughters ranging in age from 18 to 10 years of age I am strongly opposed to the application. I hope that we are never in the position of reflecting on the inappropriateness of or the lack of 'reasonable view of the area covered'. On countless grounds this venue is highly inappropriate and puts the people of Wilmslow, young and old at risk.

112

**CADMAN, Nikki**

**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 14:19  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW: ST Lounge Licensing Renewal Application

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[REDACTED]  
Licensing Administrative Officer  
Westfields  
Middlewich Road  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1HZ  
Tel: 01273 [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 14:13  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:** ST Lounge Licensing Renewal Application

Dear Sir/Madam

I very much object to the renewal of the ST Lounge's licence renewal as a lapdancing venue and hope that this will be denied. Lapdancing clubs have been shown to increase harassment and sex attacks on women. Indeed, I myself have been harassed as a direct result of the lapdancing club in Altrincham precinct. Since then I have not visited Altrincham, and since I discovered there was a lapdancing club on Grove Street in Wilmslow I have not visited there either. I have no desire to suffer similar harassment and verbal abuse.

While having an enjoyable shopping trip in Altrincham a few years ago my sister, my niece and I took a welcome break in a bar near to the Totties club. A group of men came in and they started joking about the fact they were going to the lapdancing club. They then suggested (in front of my seven year old niece) that my sister and I should go topless for them to save them the cost of going to the club. We were mortified and, for our own and my niece's sake, we felt forced to leave the bar, our lovely family day ruined.

Such venues cause problems for local people and visitors to the town, giving a sleazy air which definitely does not belong in a place like Wilmslow. The detritus left by the club's patrons is unacceptable and the club's presence is most off-putting to shoppers. Women and children should not have to be subject to a sexual entertainment venue in a family shopping area. It demeans women, is often associated and encourages sexual harassment and potentially violence.

Please do not renew the ST Lounge's licence.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



113

# Wilmslow Town Council

Wilmslow Parish Hall, Cliff Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 4AA  
[townclerk@wilmslow-tc.org.uk](mailto:townclerk@wilmslow-tc.org.uk)  
[www.wilmslow-tc.org.uk](http://www.wilmslow-tc.org.uk)

The Licensing Section  
Cheshire East Borough Council  
Town Hall  
Market Place  
Macclesfield  
SK10 1DX

13 February 2013

## **ST Lounge Gentlemen's Club and Champagne Bar** **Sexual Entertainment Venue License.**

Wilmslow Town Council in response to the renewal application referred to above would repeat its earlier comments sent to the Chief Executive of Cheshire East Council in August 2013.

The Town Council consider that Wilmslow Town Centre is an inappropriate location as a sexual entertainment venue and that a 'zero' or 'nil' quota for sexual entertainment premises should apply.

This request for refusal of the application relates to the provisions set out in the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, as amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2009, and other appropriate legislation and Government guidance.

**Matthew Jackson**

**Town Clerk**  
**Wilmslow Town Council**

114

**CADMAN, Nikki**

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**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 15:28  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW: re-licensing of ST Lounge

[REDACTED]  
Licensing Administrative Officer  
Westfields  
Middlewich Road  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1HZ  
T [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 15:04  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:** re-licensing of ST Lounge

We are writing to add our weight to what surely must be an enormous amount of objections to the current location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow. How councillors can support the existence of such a venue close to residences, schools, churches and parks is beyond our comprehension. Especially when it is ourselves the residents who vote these councillors in to make responsible decisions on our behalf. Quite what relevance or benefit this particular business has in relation to other local businesses has never been explained or justified.

We also think that the location of this club must be having a negative effect on the local area in general and that crime is more likely to occur as a result of its presence. What possible positive benefits it brings to the community are hard to see. Please see commonsense and refuse the renewal of this licence and save the integrity of Wilmslow and its community.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

The Licensing Section  
Cheshire East Council  
Town Hall  
Market Place  
Macclesfield  
SK10 1DX

February 9, 2013

Dear Councillors,

Re: ST Lounge, Grove Street, Wilmslow

I write to object to the renewal of license for the above.

It is inappropriate to continue with a "gentlemen's club" in Grove Street for the following reasons:

- If we hope to maintain the quality of the "high street" we need businesses that are open and thriving during daytime trading.
- Many residents hope to see a return to a mixed residential / trade environment in Grove Street and the ST Lounge does not "fit in" with that concept.
- The ST Lounge is proximate to Churches and a major primary school.
- The ST Lounge has a generally negative effect on the locality as it is totally out of character with other local businesses.

I trust you will give due consideration to rejecting the application.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East Council

10th February 2013

Dear Councillors,

ST Lounge, Wilmslow

I am writing to object to the renewal of the SEV licence for the ST Lounge in Wilmslow.

The ST Lounge is totally inappropriate for its location in Grove Street being close to residences, schools, churches and parks and has nothing in character with other businesses in the area. The club is having a negative effect on the local area and anti-social behaviour is likely to result.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted signature]





12th February 2013

Licensing Dept  
Town Hall  
Market Place  
Macclesfield  
SK10 1DX

Dear Councillors,

I am writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; I feel that its location is totally inappropriate being so close to schools, churches and parks and has nothing in character with other local businesses.

The location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours sincerely



WILMSLOW

COMMUNITY

WILMSLOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
100, WILMSLOW ROAD, WILMSLOW, CHESHIRE, SK9 4LJ

WILMSLOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
100, WILMSLOW ROAD, WILMSLOW, CHESHIRE, SK9 4LJ

WILMSLOW

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

[REDACTED]

10 February 2013

Dear Councillors,

I am writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow. I believe that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

I also believe that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

119

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

A large black rectangular redaction mark covering the signature of the sender.

[Redacted]

09.02.13

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Name]

[Redacted Address]

(21)

17th Feb. '13.

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

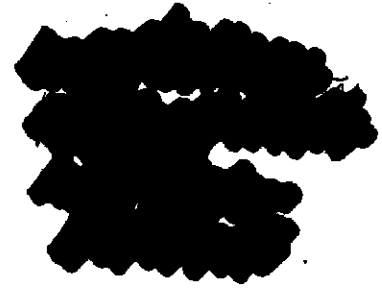
We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

A large area of the document is redacted with black ink, covering the signature and the full address of the sender.

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

05/FEB/2013



Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,



123

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

[Redacted]

08/02/2013

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted]

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

\_\_\_\_\_



125

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
4.2.13

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

6th February, 2013

126

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature and address block]

[Redacted signature and address block]

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

6.2.2013

127

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted address]

128

[Redacted]

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

8th Feb. 2013

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

-----

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature block]

8/2/13

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

[REDACTED] (130)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

RE: ST LOUNGE,  
WILMSLOW

131

8/2/2013

Dear Sirs

I am writing to express my strong objection to the granting of a licence for this strip club in Grove Street, Wilmslow.

I ask that the Licensing Committee reconsider the issue of granting a licence to this Club. Very few people saw the original advert. I believe it was placed just once, in the MEN Newspaper on Dec 30th! Many people did not object, as they did not even know that an application had been made. They may indeed have followed the Letter of the Law, but the way they did this suggests a wish to avoid public knowledge & their rightful input.

We have lived in Wilmslow for 30 years and have always felt safe here; but now, with the lap-dancing club, we feel much more vulnerable and consequently quite reluctant to walk along Grove Street in the evening. We have heard about the 'dancer' who was attacked by a 'client' from this ST Lounge.

In our opinion a main family shopping area is the wrong location for a lap dancing club. There is a lovely shoe shop for children next door, a children's accessory shop nearly opposite, monsoon children's shop very near and even an exclusive teddy bear shop, so it absolutely does not fit in with the local businesses.

If my daughters ever go to an evening event in Wilmslow, they say they feel more vulnerable and at risk walking along Grove Street past the lap-dancing club; especially as the majority of shoppers have gone home. On our way home from Strada we always avoid Grove Street nowadays because we feel quite uncomfortable walking past this seedy site. In fact we now go to other places altogether.

I read on their FaceBook site that they are at times on the streets of Wilmslow offering "free tickets" for the ST Lounge strip club. They are already stating they are open at different times to their license application!

The Wilmslow Vision document, which was endorsed by many in the Council—even if by not all members... apparently -- wishes to foster "a vibrant, welcoming and accessible town-centre, with a high-quality environment, to draw people into Wilmslow"; it even talks of "a community that is safe and welcoming".

The stated purpose of the ST Club is to sexually excite its audience, that does not draw me into Wilmslow, and therefore, contradicts what the Council is claiming to seek to provide for the people of Wilmslow.

According to your policy document on the licensing of such sexual entertainment premises, my family and I understand that "relevant entertainment", even "live strip shows" can be provided for the "financial gain of the organiser". Whilst we accept that such "entertainment" takes place in this liberal society we live in, why does the Council feel that such a venue is acceptable in the main street of a small market town?  
How can this be justified in our local area?

The premises next to the ST Club have been vacant for over a year; so is the shop opposite vacant. This seems to indicate that the proximity of a lap-dancing club is off-putting to businesses.

As it's such an important issue, we would ask that the matter be dealt with by the full Licensing Committee.

Surely a lap-dancing club is inappropriate in any small town centre, but, particularly in Wilmslow, where so many residents live close by?

We urge you to accept our views, which I believe are held by the great majority of Wilmslow residents.

On behalf of a family with 4 children & which has been resident in Wilmslow for 30 years

yours concernedly

[Redacted signature]

7th February 2013

The Councillors  
Licensing Department  
Town Hall  
Market Place  
Macclesfield  
SK10 1DX

Dear Sirs

ST LOUNGE, GROVE ST, WILMSLOW

I am writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge, Grove St, Wilmslow. I feel that it is inappropriate in location - close to residences, churches, schools and parks and is totally out of character with other local businesses.

The club's location has a negative impact on the local area. Please refuse the renewal of the licence.

Yours faithfully







[Redacted]

The Licensing Council

Dear Sirs,

27 JAN 2013

I am writing to object to the application for a sexual entertainment venue in Grove Street, Wilmslow.

I object on the following grounds:

- 1. The proposed venue is in the centre of our main street.
- 2. Wilmslow is too small for this type of business.
- 3. Such a business is unsuitable within a main shopping area.
- 4. Such a business is unsuitable in a residential area.
- 5. Youngster under the age of 16 gather in Wilmslow in the evenings, particularly at weekends.
- 6. Such a business will devalue our town.
- 7. It will make groups of women or women on their own feel vulnerable, which they will be!
- 8. It may encourage illegal behaviour such as prostitution in the town.

I feel that Wilmslow is completely unsuitable for this type of business. What we want to encourage is a good, safe family spirit and community!

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted Signature]

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

[REDACTED]

6 February 2013

Dear Councillors,

I am writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow. I believe that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

I also believe that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

To: The Licensing  
Section  
Cheshire East Council

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: The ST Lounge in Wilmslow's main street.

We are writing to object to the renewal of the licence for the lap dancing club. We have been living in Wilmslow for quite a while and have always felt safe here; now, with the lap-dancing club, we dislike having to walk along Grove Street in the evening.

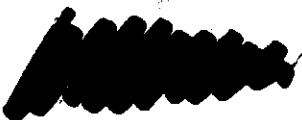



Why does the Council feel that such a venue is acceptable in the main street of a small market town, when it is surrounded by shops, cafes, restaurants, bakers, jewellers, opticians etc? It is completely at odds with the rest of the town. This club is not justified in our local area, with its many residential streets.

We feel that there are other issues you should be considering, too. The future of Wilmslow town centre is at risk here; we have two betting shops and a strip club in a very small area.

Economists' projections show that this kind of development leads to the decline of a town. We must all do whatever we can to make Wilmslow town centre as good and prosperous as it can possibly be!

We hope for your understanding and ask you to refuse to renew the ST Lounge's licence in Wilmslow.

Yours sincerely,

The Licensing Section  
At Cheshire East Council

15.2.13

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: The ST Lounge**

We are writing to ask that the Licensing Committee should refuse to grant an SEV licence to the ST Lounge. I, like many people, did not object last time, as I did not even know that an application had been made!

Grove Street is surrounded by residential streets and facilities for the whole community, including children and young adults. Every day, schoolchildren walk past the club, which is next to coffee shops, clothes shops, shoe shops, charity shops and banks. The ST Lounge is in a very inappropriate location, in the middle of a family shopping area. Its very name seems to suggest that it is a strip club!

The police have stated that performers from the club should be safely escorted to their cars; presumably to avoid the attentions of sexually-stimulated customers. It is worrying to think what could happen to young women who might be nearby. Are they going to fall victim to the sexually-stimulated customers from the ST Lounge?

We totally believe that the ST Lounge is in the wrong location, in the heart of the main street of a small town, close to a large number of residents, schools, shops and churches; we feel that it is completely out of character in the area.

Please consider this very carefully. We ask you to refuse the request for a renewal of the ST Lounge's SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

To: The Licensing Department  
Cheshire East Council

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: The ST Lounge.

I am writing to object to the application for the renewal of the licence for the ST Lounge. As far as I am concerned, it is appalling that such a place exists in a small town, quite contrary to the ministerial forward, written when the legislation was introduced!

Cheshire East Council has granted a licence to the strip club, situated as it is in Wilmslow's main shopping street, close to several churches, schools and nurseries, the Leisure Centre, the train station and surrounded by family shops, very close to several residential roads where hundreds of people live. It is completely in the wrong location!

Are you not fearful of the consequences? Your decision to grant the application could lead to a very serious attack on local residents by one of the customers from the ST Lounge.

I urge you to think again, carefully, and refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]

# Wilmslow High School

Headteacher: [REDACTED]

Holly Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 1LZ

Tel: [REDACTED] • Fax: [REDACTED] • Email: [REDACTED]

136



Cheshire East Council  
Macclesfield Licensing Office  
Town Hall  
Market Place  
Macclesfield  
Cheshire  
SK10 1DX

5<sup>th</sup> February 2013

To whom it may concern

Please find attached a letter we wrote in 2012 concerning 'The ST Lounge' in Wilmslow: we understand that the owners have re-applied for a license.

We would like to repeat our concerns about such a facility in Wilmslow.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

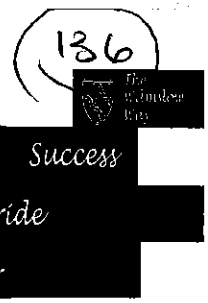
Headteacher

# Wilmslow High School

Headteacher: [REDACTED]

Holly Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 1LZ

Tel: [REDACTED] • Fax: [REDACTED] • Email: [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
Wilmslow Prep School  
Grove Avenue  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5EG

13th June 2012

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012 and the 'Make Wilmslow Matter' mission statement regarding 'The ST Lounge'.

I am happy to support your objections particularly on the grounds that 'this facility is inappropriate to the character of the relevant locality'. Although the school is not adjacent to this club students do live in the community and frequent the centre with family and friends outside school hours.

If nothing else many students do walk to and from school via Grove Street and the values and attitudes, standards and expectations we promote in school are not reflected in this type of activity.

I wish you well in your campaign.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
Headteacher

137

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

A large, dark, scribbled-out area representing a redacted signature.A long, thin, curved line representing a redacted signature or name.



*Dear Wilmslow Council*

*I am over 60, and live in a retirement apartment in Wilmslow centre. Because you have granted a Sex Licence to a club in the centre of Wilmslow, I now feel uncomfortable walking in this area.*

*I read in the paper that Wilmslow Town Council are unhappy with this venue and voted unanimously that Wilmslow is the wrong location for any type of sex club.*

*I urge you to do the same.*

*Many thanks,*

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

A large, solid black rectangular redaction covering the signature of the sender.

[Redacted]

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

7th February 2013

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]



The Licensing Section,  
Cheshire East Borough Council  
Town Hall,  
Market Place,  
Macclesfield SK10 1DX

13<sup>th</sup> February 2013

Dear Sirs

**ST Lounge Gentlemen's Club and Champagne Bar, Wilmslow**

My wife & I note with great alarm the application for renewal of a licence for these premises to enable *"Lap Dancing, Table Dancing, Strip Shows, Full Nudity."*

The use of these premises for this purpose is most undesirable. We have lived in central Wilmslow many years and we are most concerned that all efforts should be made to avoid central Wilmslow becoming blighted by this club continuing to operate this type of entertainment here. We and other residents we know avoid walking down Grove Street or along adjacent streets in the evening when returning from restaurants because of the customers the club attracts. Indeed instead of walking home from the Station in the evening we now have to take a taxi for the short ride.

Wilmslow is a residential town whose quality and high reputation it is essential to maintain. If not maintained the community and businesses will suffer, and the town will not prosper, it will go into decline.

Our understanding is that a Sexual Entertainment license is considered inappropriate "where there are schools, places of worship, leisure centres and residential areas. " Given that there are schools, places of worship, residential areas and leisure centre in Central Wilmslow in close proximity to Grove Street surely the renewal of this license is totally inappropriate. We request that the license / renewal of the license is refused

Yours faithfully



From: Make Wilmslow Matter, [makewilmslowmatter@gmail.com](mailto:makewilmslowmatter@gmail.com)

**Please** consider signing the attached letter against the location of the ST Lounge in Grove Street; the strip club has just reapplied for its annual licence to show fully nude shows, lap dancing etc. We are allowed to object only on the grounds of location, NOT on moral grounds.

We form a group of people, who think that the club is having a negative effect on Wilmslow, which could affect house prices. This is quite apart from the fact that the club may attract unsavoury characters, who might add to any criminality in the area.

Please send the letter to arrive before 15<sup>th</sup> February. Add name, address, date and signature.

Email to: [licensing@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@cheshireeast.gov.uk)  
Mail: Licensing Dept, Town hall, Market place, Macclesfield SK10 1DX

For any further information, contact us as above.

[Redacted signature block]

To: Licensing Section  
Cheshire East council

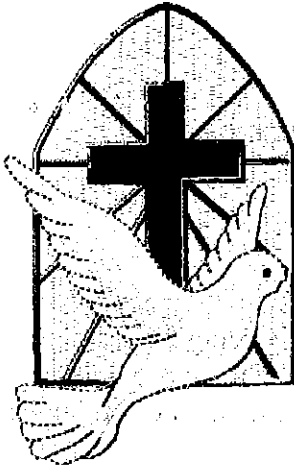
Dear Councillors,

We are writing to object to the location of the ST Lounge in Wilmslow; we feel that it is totally inappropriate, being so close to residences, schools, churches and parks and having nothing in character with other local businesses.

We also think that the location of the club is having a negative effect on the local area, in that crime is more likely as a result of its presence. Please refuse to renew the SEV licence.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature block]



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Chester

## THE PARISH OF WILMSLOW

St. Anne's

St. Bartholomew's

Lacey Green

The Rectory,  
15 Parkway,  
Wilmslow, SK9 1LS

The Licensing Section,  
Cheshire East Borough Council,  
Town Hall,  
Market Place,  
Macclesfield, SK10 1DX

13<sup>th</sup> February 2013

Dear Councillors,

I am writing to you in my capacity as Rector of the Parish of Wilmslow and Chair of Churches Together in Wilmslow to object to the renewal of the licence for the lap-dancing club/ST Lounge on Grove Street in Wilmslow because it is not appropriate to the relevant locality. A main family shopping area is the wrong location for a lap dancing club.

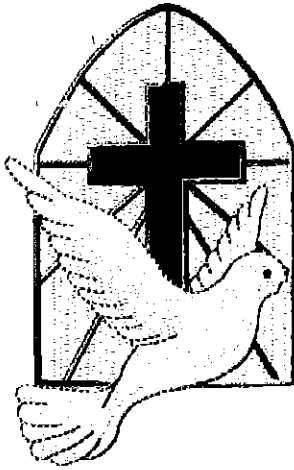
In my opinion, the Council needs to be sensitive to the uses to which Grove Street is principally put. It is an area used by local people young and old alike. It is surrounded by cafés where people meet, by shops and residential streets and facilities for the community in general. Local people make their way to and from schools, shops and churches along Grove Street. Wilmslow Preparatory School is very close by, as are St Teresa's Church and St Bartholomew's Church. Many teenagers from Wilmslow High School walk through town after school and in the evening.

Speaking personally, my teenage daughter walks along Grove Street from our home on Parkway to services and events in the evening at church and the parish hall. She and her friends meet at the local cafes and coffee shops. I am concerned for the safety of young women like her with an establishment like the ST Lounge on Grove Street.

**The Parish Office**  
**Wilmslow Parish Hall, Cliff Road, WILMSLOW, Cheshire SK9 4AA**  
**Tel: 01625 511111**

**e-mail: [office@wilmslowparish.org](mailto:office@wilmslowparish.org)**

**Wilmslow Parish is a Registered Charity, our Charity Commission number is: 1131056**



 **THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND**  
Diocese of Chester

## **THE PARISH OF WILMSLOW**

**St. Anne's**

**St. Bartholomew's**


**Lacey Green**

The Wilmslow Vision Document, which was endorsed by the Council, wishes to foster "a vibrant, welcoming and accessible town-centre, with a high quality environment, to draw people into Wilmslow". The presence of the ST Lounge in its present location contradicts this worthwhile aspiration.

I would strongly urge you to refuse to renew the ST Club's licence for its outlet in Wilmslow.

Yours sincerely,

(Rector of Wilmslow Parish and Chair of Churches Together in Wilmslow)

**The Parish Office  
Wilmslow Parish Hall, Cliff Road, WILMSLOW, Cheshire SK9 4AA  
Tel: **

**e-mail: **

**Wilmslow Parish is a Registered Charity, our Charity Commission number is: 1131056**

Feb 13<sup>th</sup> 2013

Dear Mrs Cadoux,

I am writing to object to the location of the ST lounge in Wilmslow,

I am objecting on the following grounds,

- 1) As a retired social worker/university lecturer I well know that young girls, especially those lacking real love & affection at home, can easily be attracted to town centre entertainment ~~sites~~ sites, particularly which may be forbidden or dangerous. There are many men, sexual predators, who are only too willing to exploit them. A strip club can easily give such men an opportunity to meet those young girls. The problem is that this may already have happened - and it



may only come to light many years later. See the Guardian Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 2013 re what was happening in the 1980s & 1990s at Cerethan's School.

(2) The club may be or may become a centre for drugs or money laundering.

Do we really need this?!

(3) Wilbur is a very pleasant, sophisticated town, quite inappropriate for something as dangerous & tacky as a strip club.

(4) I was appalled to learn that the club is advertising on the internet, try to cast its membership wider by offering cheap drinks & opportunities for stag nights

(5) A strip club should be far away from residential areas & schools. Many people who live near the club are fearful of going out at night — according to members ~~who~~ of a group I attended and who live near.

With many thanks

Yours sincerely



144

**CADMAN, Nikki**

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**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 16:50  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW:

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**[REDACTED]**  
Licensing Administrative Officer  
Westfields  
Middlewich Road  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1HZ  
Tel: **[REDACTED]**

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**From:** **[REDACTED]**  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 15:34  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:**

Sent from Windows Mail  
DearSirs

I am writing to object to the renewal of the licence for the lap dancing club/ST club situated in Grove Street Wilmslow.  
I believe this club to be in a totally inappropriate position to be of any benefit to the residents of Wilmslow.  
This establishment would be better suited for a city environment where there are no residents nearby.

yours  
**[REDACTED]**  
**[REDACTED]**

145

**CADMAN, Nikki**

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**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 14 February 2013 08:34  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW: Renewal of Licence for strip club

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[REDACTED]  
Licensing Administrative Officer  
Westfields  
Middlewich Road  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1HZ  
Tel: 01273 [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 18:30  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:** Renewal of Licence for strip club

Dear Sirs

Re: ST Club in Grove Street, Wilmslow

I am writing to express my objection to the renewal of the licence for the lap dancing club in Grove Street, Wilmslow. I think it is appalling that such an establishment is located in the heart of our lovely old town and near the church. It makes the area unsafe at night and it gives Wilmslow a bad reputation. I read in the local paper that the owner thinks there are only objections from a "moral minority". I believe that the ordinary decent people of Wilmslow do not want this kind of entertainment and I hope that more people will now make their objections heard.

I have lived in Wilmslow for 25 years and I hope that residents' views will be taken seriously when you come to make your decision about the licence.

Yours faithfully  
[REDACTED]

**CADMAN, Nikki**

**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 14 February 2013 08:34  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW: ST Lounge Wilmslow Cheshire

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Redacted]  
Licensing Administrative Officer  
Westfields  
Middlewich Road  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1HZ  
[Redacted]

---

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 23:19  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:** ST Lounge Wilmslow Cheshire

To Whom It May Concern

We would like to express our concern towards the location of the Lap Dancing Club on Grove Street in Wilmslow. It is very close to our store & other shops & cafes that are child orientated. Is the high street in Wilmslow really the best location for a business of this nature. Also as the store front is closed during the day it looks like an empty premises in Wilmslow. We work hard to populate the town as a child friendly area & this business works directly against this.

Thanks  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

t [Redacted]  
m [Redacted]

147

**CADMAN, Nikki**

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**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 14 February 2013 08:34  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW: Lap Dancing Club Wilmslow

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Amanda Hinton**

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

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 February 2013 23:26  
**To:** [REDACTED]; LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:** Lap Dancing Club Wilmslow

Dear Sir Madam

I wish to object to the lap dancing license renewal for the ST Lounge in Wilmslow. I do not feel it is sited at an appropriate location. Several businesses around are aimed towards children & families & the fully nude element of the club is dis-tasteful. The club has contributed to the breakdown of one of my personal friends marriages as my friends husband spent several hundred pounds in the club. Had this not been as easy an option to finish off the night in the club he may still have his wife & kids.

[REDACTED]

**CADMAN, Nikki**

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**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 14 February 2013 09:39  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW: Application for Renewal of Licence for the ST Lounge, 16 Grove Street, Wilmslow

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 February 2013 09:33  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Subject:** Re: Application for Renewal of Licence for the ST Lounge, 16 Grove Street, Wilmslow

Dear Councillors

**Re: Application for Renewal of Licence for the ST Lounge, 16 Grove Street, Wilmslow**

Before you decide to renew the SEV Licence, for the ST Lounge, I am asking you to consider in detail the effect the existence of such a club has on the ambience and safety of Wilmslow's town centre.

The Wilmslow Vision document, which was endorsed by the Council, wishes to foster "a vibrant, welcoming and accessible town-centre, with a high-quality environment, to draw people into Wilmslow"; it talks of "a community that is safe and welcoming". The stated purpose of the ST Lounge is to sexually excite its audience. That does not draw most people into Wilmslow and therefore contradicts what the Council is seeking to provide for the people of Wilmslow.

The premises next to the ST Lounge have been vacant for over a year and the shop opposite is also empty. This could indicate that the proximity of a lap-dancing club is off-putting to businesses.

In my opinion, the Council needs to be sensitive to the uses to which Grove Street is principally put; it is surrounded by residential streets and facilities for the community in general, including children and young adults. Every day, huge numbers of schoolchildren walk past the club, which is adjacent to coffee shops, clothes shops, shoe shops, charity shops and banks. The ST Lounge is in a very inappropriate location, in the middle of a family shopping area round the corner from the Wilmslow Preparatory School for Girls and around the other corner is St Theresa's Church. Two more churches with large congregations are very close by. I thought that strip clubs were not supposed to be near Churches, as it could be seen as being offensive?

In your 'Discretionary Grounds for Refusal' of an SEV licence, it is stated that the Sexual Entertainment license is 'generally considered inappropriate' where there are schools, places of worship, leisure centres and residential areas. On the Council's own website it says that Wilmslow is a residential town. That means that it is located in an inappropriate area according to the Council's own policy. I would ask you to refuse grant on the grounds that it is 'inappropriate to the relevant locality'.

The police have stipulated that performers from the club should be safely escorted to their cars as they are vulnerable (presumably to avoid the attentions of sexually-stimulated customers). A serious assault on one of the performers has already been committed. It is worrying to think what might happen to other women, who might be in the vicinity

If out on my own in Wilmslow in the evening I would feel more vulnerable and at risk walking along Grove Street past the ST Lounge as the majority of shoppers would have gone home. I would choose another route to avoid having to pass the club. I strongly resent that I now do not feel at ease in the town centre at night in a place where I have lived for 24 years.

I believe that the ST Lounge is in the wrong location, in the heart of the main street of a small town, close to residential areas, schools, shops and churches. I feel that it is completely out of character in the area. I also believe that it prejudices the safety of women out at night in the town centre. I ask you to consider all these points most carefully, when you are making your decision about whether to grant the licence renewal.

Yours faithfully

A blacked-out signature, likely a name, used to redact the sender's identity.

To The Licensing Authority, Cheshire East Borough Council

Dear Sirs

Re: ST Lounge in Wilmslow's main street

My family and I are writing to object to the renewal of the licence for the lap dancing club/ST Club.

The ST Lounge on Grove Street has become an eyesore. It has had a broken window on the first floor for months. There was a white mark on the front where the previous application for a Sex license was placed in December 2011. There are always cigarette ends and cigarette packets in the doorway. It does not seem very clean on the outside, what is it like on the inside? The shutters down all day makes it look like it is a failed business.

When I heard about the performer who was attacked by a client from the St Lounge, I decided that the centre of Wilmslow should be avoided, in fact I think it is a no go area for women and children. We now visit other areas to go to restaurants and to meet our friends.

The Wilmslow Vision document, which was endorsed by the Council, wishes to foster "a vibrant, welcoming and accessible town-centre, with a high-quality environment, to draw people into Wilmslow"; it talks of "a community that is safe and welcoming". The stated purpose of the ST Club is to sexually excite its audience, That does not draw me into Wilmslow, and therefore, contradicts what the Council is seeking to provide for the people of Wilmslow.

According to your policy document on the licensing of SEVs, my family and I understand that "relevant entertainment", even "live strip shows" can be provided for the "financial gain of the organiser". Whilst we accept that such "entertainment" takes place, why does the Council feel that such a venue is acceptable in the main street of a small market town? How can this be justified in our local area?

In your 'Discretionary Grounds for Refusal' of an SEV licence, it is stated that the Sexual Entertainment license is "generally considered inappropriate "where there are schools, places of worship, leisure centres and residential areas. On the Council's own website it says that Wilmslow is a residential town. That means that it is located in an inappropriate area according to the Council's own policy. We would ask you to refuse grant on the grounds that it is "inappropriate to the relevant locality". The policy also states that:

Under s.3.7 of the Council's SEV policy, the Committee" is able to determine the appropriate number of Sexual Entertainment Venues suitable for a locality and is able to determine that the appropriate number for a locality is nil". In light of the sensitive uses in the locality I would ask the Council to determine that the appropriate number of SEV's in the locality is nil. The fact that the Committee granted the SEV licence for ST Lounge in 2012 should not have a bearing on the outcome of the application for renewal. The Committee must consider the application afresh and is entitled to



determine on renewal that the grant would be inappropriate having regard to the character of the relevant locality or the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put.

Does the Council actually believe that the ST Club is "appropriate to the relevant locality"? That is to say, situated in the main street of a small local town, where the adjacent buildings house clothes and shoe shops, building societies, banks and cafés? In what way do they provide a relevant locality for a strip club?

In our opinion, the Council needs to be sensitive to the uses to which Grove Street is principally put; it is surrounded by residential streets and facilities for the community in general, including children and young adults. Every day, huge numbers of schoolchildren walk past the club, which is adjacent to coffee shops, clothes shops, shoe shops, charity shops and banks. The ST Club is in a very inappropriate location, in the middle of a family shopping area round the corner from the prestigious Wilmslow preparatory school for Girls and around the other corner is ST Theresa's Church. Two more churches with large congregations are very close by. I thought that strip clubs were not supposed to be near Churches, as it could be seen as being offensive? The Churches were here first.

The Leisure Centre is a popular and well-used venue, open till 10.15 some nights and later when they are host to the many school and theatre events throughout the year.

Residents from Hawthorn Lane, Hawthorn Grove and Grove way would normally have to pass in front of the ST Club, to go to restaurants or just to meet friends. Many now purposely avoid the centre of town and do not walk to friends houses, but drive instead. Some are not letting their teenage children walk back from places like Pizza Express because they will need to pass the stag night trade that a strip club attracts. This negative impact has caused our behaviour to change.

Grove Street is an area used by all the locals, young and old. They may be making their way to and from school, they may be shopping or just sitting on the benches, or even making their way to the churches in close proximity. Saint Teresa's Church is very close by, in Green Lane; the Methodist Church and St Bartholomew's Church are close by, as is the Leisure Centre and Wilmslow Prep School, which is in Grove Avenue. Many teenagers from Wilmslow High School are very often to be seen walking through town, after school and the many sporting events available at this prestigious sporting academy.

The bus stops to Schools, universities and colleges are situated metres away on Green lane. Many thousands of women and children use these services, to travel from the many social, and sporting events held in Cheshire, Macclesfield and Manchester. Nearby, the train station transports a million passengers from the Wilmslow area a year, at all times of the day and night.

To me and my family, this is definitely NOT an appropriate area for a fully nude lap dancing/strip club. In your policy document, it is stated that the aim of the "relevant entertainment" must reasonably be assumed to be "solely for the purpose of 'sexually stimulating'" its audience. Is it appropriate to have sexually stimulated people in a busy central area of our town, near houses and their families, schools and their pupils and churches and their congregations? My family and I think not! Grove Avenue, off

Grove Street, houses many local residents; Green Lane also leads to Hawthorn Lane, which is 95% residential.

Residents really dread that another awful crime, like the serious assault that occurred to a performer on Racecourse Road will be committed. The club has advertised on its website all 2012 that it gives free entry for stag nights and groups, "drinks for a pound" or 99 pence with a voucher from the web site. I thought that cheap drinks like this, places them in breach of the Arcangel initiative that the club signed up to together with the Cheshire Police. What have the police done about this?

According to Home Office guidelines, in the ministerial foreword, the new regulations are to empower local authorities and local communities, and give people a voice; the people of Wilmslow do not want a lap-dancing club in the middle of the main street!

Before his election at the full Council meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>, Michael Jones stated that he would "maintain the quality of Wilmslow for the people there," as he considered Wilmslow to be "a key town". How, exactly, does a lap dancing club maintain the quality of Wilmslow?

We do not want Wilmslow to have a blighted zone, which residents seek to avoid. Walking past the ST Club makes many of us feel uncomfortable and a little frightened. There are many elderly residents in Canterbury Grange, just off Grove Street. Why should they have to go the long way round, to get home in the evening?

Why should people be wary or fearful of strolling along their main street at night? On the contrary, residents should feel safe in a family-oriented, pedestrianised area. We feel very strongly about this. The Council should be striving to make the town as safe as possible.

Grove Street should not be a no-go area, which residents avoid; this would be totally against the legislation brought in by the government to give residents a say in the way that their town is run.

The police have stipulated/made the condition/insisted that performers from the club should be safely escorted to their cars as they are vulnerable (presumably to avoid the attentions of sexually-stimulated customers), it is worrying to think what might happen to other young women, who might be in the vicinity. Are they going to fall prey to the sexually-stimulated?

We feel that there are other issues you should be considering, too. The future of Wilmslow town centre is at stake here; we have two betting shops and a strip club in a very small area. Economists' projections show that this kind of development leads to the decline of a town. Shouldn't we all be doing our utmost to protect and enhance our town centre?

We hope that you will realise the depth of feeling and reconsider your decision to allow a strip club to operate on Wilmslow's main street.

Yours faithfully,

A blacked-out signature, likely a redaction of the sender's name.

150

**CADMAN, Nikki**

**From:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Sent:** 14 February 2013 11:01  
**To:** CADMAN, Nikki  
**Subject:** FW: Licence Renewal Application - ST Club, 16 Grove Street, Wilmslow

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 February 2013 10:50  
**To:** LICENSING (Cheshire East)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Licence Renewal Application - ST Club, 16 Grove Street, Wilmslow

To The Licensing Authority, Cheshire East Borough Council

Dear Sirs,

Re: ST Club, 16 Grove Street, Wilmslow

I am writing to object to the renewal of the licence for the lap dancing club/ST Club.

I consider that a main family shopping area is the wrong location for a lap dancing club, especially one with full nudity, given the large number of family / children orientated businesses in the vicinity. The club does not fit in with the local businesses. The web site states they can open for private groups "when they are closed to the public". They are already stating they are open at different times to their license application!

The Wilmslow Vision document, which was endorsed by the Council, wishes to foster "a vibrant, welcoming and accessible town-centre, with a high-quality environment, to draw people into Wilmslow"; it talks of "a community that is safe and welcoming". The stated purpose of the ST Club is to sexually excite its audience, That does not draw me into Wilmslow, and therefore, contradicts what the Council is seeking to provide for the people of Wilmslow.

In your 'Discretionary Grounds for Refusal' of an SEV licence, it is stated that the Sexual Entertainment license is" generally considered inappropriate "where there are schools, places of worship, leisure centres and residential areas. On the Council's own website it says that Wilmslow is a residential town. That means that it is located in an inappropriate area according to the Councils own policy. I would ask you to refuse grant on the grounds that it is "inappropriate to the relevant locality". The policy also states that:

Under s.3.7 of the Council's SEV policy, the Committee" is able to determine the appropriate number of Sexual Entertainment Venues suitable for a locality and is able to determine that the appropriate number for a locality is nil". In light of the sensitive uses in the locality I would ask the Council to determine that the appropriate number of SEV's in the locality is nil. The fact that the Committee granted the SEV licence for ST Lounge in 2012 should not have a bearing on the outcome of the application for renewal. The Committee must consider the application afresh and is entitled to determine on renewal that the grant would be inappropriate having regard to the character of the relevant locality or the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put.

In my opinion, the Council needs to be sensitive to the uses to which Grove Street is principally put; it is surrounded by residential streets and facilities for the community in general, including children and young

adults. Every day, huge numbers of schoolchildren walk past the club, which is adjacent to coffee shops, clothes shops, shoe shops, charity shops and banks. The ST Club is in a very inappropriate location, in the middle of a family shopping area round the corner from the prestigious Wilmslow preparatory school for Girls and around the other corner is ST Theresa's Church. Two more churches with large congregations are very close by.

The Leisure Centre is a popular and well-used venue, open till 10.15 some nights and later when they are host to the many school and theatre events throughout the year.

Residents from Hawthorn Lane, Hawthorn Grove and Grove way would normally have to pass in front of the ST Club, to go to restaurants or just to meet friends. Many now purposely avoid the centre of town and do not walk to friends houses, but drive instead. Some are not letting their teenage children walk back from places like Pizza Express because they will need to pass the stag night trade that a strip club attracts. This negative impact has caused our behaviour to change.

Before his election at the full Council meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>, Michael Jones stated that he would "maintain the quality of Wilmslow for the people there," as he considered Wilmslow to be "a key town". I would argue that a lap dancing club does NOT maintain the quality of Wilmslow.

The premises next to the ST Club have been vacant for over a year; so is the shop opposite vacant. This seems to indicate that the proximity of a lap-dancing club is off-putting to businesses, another barrier to the rejuvenation of the 'High Street'.

In conclusion, please refuse to renew the License to Sexually Entertain on Grove Street. I believe that the ST Club is in the wrong location, in the heart of the main street of a small town, close to residents, schools, shops and churches; I feel that it is completely out of character in the area. I ask you to consider this most carefully, when you are making your decision about whether to grant the licence renewal. Far from being a part of the 'moral minority' (according to today's Wilmslow Express!), I believe I am part of the majority - moral or otherwise - who want to see the best interests of Wilmslow served.

Yours sincerely,

A blacked-out signature, likely a name, redacted with a thick black marker.