

Mardon, Sarah (Licensing)

From: Mardon, Sarah (Licensing) on behalf of Licensing
Sent: 22 October 2014 11:18
To: Mardon, Sarah (Licensing)
Subject: FW: Proposed redevelopment of the Octagon, St Ives

Sarah Mardon
Licensing Officer
Huntingdonshire District Council
Pathfinder House
St. Mary's Street
Huntingdon
PE29 3TN
Tel: 01480 387075

From:
Sent: 22 October 2014 11:06
To: Licensing
Subject: Proposed redevelopment of the Octagon, St Ives

To the Licensing Team, Huntingdonshire District Council;

I write to you today to raise concerns about the application for the re-development of the Octagon in St Ives. As a local resident, I have significant concerns and substantial objections to this development going ahead.

First, with the proposed redevelopment of the Robin Hood as a music venue also featuring a late license, this would significantly contribute to the re-branding of the downtown St Ives area as a place for night-life and alcohol; surely this is fundamentally incompatible with the 'Old Riverport' concept introduced locally this year? With the opening of Wetherspoons, as well as the planned Robin Hood redevelopment (both of which have requested late licenses) St Ives would have six establishments operating primarily as places for late-night drinking; surely this is excessive? With even the comparatively modest number in operation at the moment, early mornings on Saturdays and Sundays sees the town streets full of broken bottles and a thick carpet of discarded take-aways. I fail to see how disrupting the town centre to add yet more licensed premises will improve the situation.

As a resident of Needingworth Road, we already are forced to put up with inconsiderate parkers, copious litter and a steady parade of the inebriated making their noisy way home at unsociable hours. Please don't make the situation worse by making the town even more of a destination for late-night drinking than it already is. I assure you, if locals want to consume a snootful and dance the night away, they are not currently short of options.

If St Ives wishes to remain a pleasant market town, it will have to act on this matter, and make the decision to reject this ill-conceived and disruptive project.

I thank you for your attention on this matter.

Kind regards,

Edward Wilford
36 Needingworth Road
St Ives PE27 5JN