

Nelson, Matthew

JA

Prem/03871/001

From Lesley Jeffries <[REDACTED]>
 Sent 23 October 2016 10:19
 To Entertainment Licensing
 Cc [REDACTED]
 Subject PREM/03871/001 Elinor Lupton Centre Licence application

Dear Sir/Madam

I write to object to the granting of a licence to JD Wetherspoon for the Elinor Lupton Centre (PREM/03871/001), as Chair of Headingley Network community association, which represents the residents of central Headingley. My reasons for arguing that there are no grounds to grant this licence are as follows:

- There is a 'cumulative impact policy' (CIP) covering Headingley and Hyde Park ***under which it is the applicant who has to prove that the licence will not contravene the licensing objectives***. I see nothing in the application that makes a case for lack of impact, still less proves it.
- Nevertheless, the argument that this development of a huge pub in the former ELC stands to contravene the licensing objectives is simple to make. The following table shows how the licence, if granted, would go against the licensing objectives in a number of ways(s).

- 1 The prevention of public nuisance
- 2 Public safety
- 3 The prevention of crime and disorder
- 4 The protection of children from harm



Contravention against licensing objective no	1	2	3	4
The size and scale of the proposed pub is bound to have an adverse effect on all those who live, work, go to school and/or pass through Headingley regularly	✓	✓		✓
ELC is in a 'gap' in the Otley Run (pub crawl route) and on the opposite side from other outlets, likely to cause problems of drunken people crossing the road. Often they currently get buses or taxis between the Original Oak/Shire Oak pubs and Hyde Park, but this will encourage them to walk this section.	✓	✓	✓	
Otley Road is already dangerous with drunken people weaving across the road. This can only get worse.	✓	✓	✓	
ELC is on a very busy road. The inevitable informal taxi rank that has appeared outside the Box will be repeated outside ELC. The cars speeding past when there is no traffic (and between speed cameras) will risk colliding with others and with drunken pedestrians. Other (non-drunken) pedestrians will get caught up trying to make their way along crowded and narrow pavements.	✓	✓	✓	
Drinking in Headingley is a problem throughout the daytime and evening at peak times (e.g. student festivities and cricket/rugby matches) – this is not a late night issue alone. Nor is it an Otley Run problem alone.	✓	✓	✓	
ELC is close to two schools.	✓			✓

ELC is in the middle of a residential area

✓

✓

✓

One single illustration of what life is like in Headingley when there are a lot of drunken people around is representative of many such experiences. I was coming home from work at around 5 p.m. on a bus up Otley Road in late September this year (Freshers' Week at the two Universities). There was a crowd of young people on the forecourt of what is now called Hyde Park Book Club, just the Headingley side of Hyde Park Road. They were all drinking (cans in their hands) and were very loud and crowding onto the pavement where people (including young families) were trying to get past. The bus was stopped in traffic and the young drinkers were shouting, banging on the windows and generally acting aggressively towards those inside, including elderly people. Whilst this is not the worst thing that I've seen, and it is not always only students who are the problem, it is symptomatic of the kinds of constant low-level anti-social behaviour that happens when large groups of drinkers are together in public. Such are the reasons for the CIP policy in Headingley. The addition of a huge drinking outlet to the centre of this constant pub crawl would be an act of irresponsibility by those in LCC who are charged with the safety and well-being of all citizens. This includes the young people drinking themselves. They need our protection too.

I would respectfully urge the licensing panel to REFUSE this application on the above grounds, as it has a civic and legal duty to do

Lesley Jeffries (Professor)