

2 Jul. '12 10:23

Civic Hall
Leeds LS1 1UR

FAX 97

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LEEDS CITY COUNCIL/05195/001

Witness Statement of Majid Zawi Ali

1. I Majid Zawi Ali is a first generation naturalized British from Iraq without any previous convictions living in Leeds with my family at 496 Oakwood Lane Leeds LS9 6 QX will say as follows
2. I purchased the lease of commercial premises at 249 -251 Harehills Lane in early 2012 to run a convenience store HareHills Lane Foods and have subsequently applied for liquor license from the Leeds City Council meeting all the requirements at application stage advertising in the local paper and displaying the regulatory blue form on the shop window.
3. However there were 6 identical template objections from 2 streets behind the premises 40 mts away by birds eye or over 300 mts by walking for which the alleged effect is claimed to be various anti social and ugly behavior ... I don't agree with these allegation as there are enough shops and stores selling till late in sizable quantities which would have the alleged effects if at all with or without my alcohol sales that will take place between 9 AM to 9 PM in relatively miniscule scale. Besides no drinking will be allowed at or around the premises and trade will be monitored by CCTV. Therefore I am in the belief that these identical and uniform objections look like they have been a product of an organized effort rather than genuine - by the competitors presumably on quid pro quo basis.
4. On the other hand from a house opposite to the premises there has been an hand written supportive letter from Ms. L. Gillespie commenting on positive effects of my shop on the house prices in locality and its predicted enriching cumulative effect to the neighbourhood indirectly.
5. Further more on the objections; I have received a NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED notice from the Licensing Department of Millgarth Police Station asking me to complete the part 2 & 3 of a document which unfortunately has not been delivered in the bundle. On 26th June 2012 - I sent a fax requesting the missing parts but I have not received them at the time of writing this statement never the less I hereby confirm that I will be fully complying all the requirements stated in the proposed additional measures at the time of license being granted.
 - A suitable CCTV system will be operational at the premises at all times when licensable activities are being carried out and at any other times where the members of the public are present on the premises
 - The CCTV system will have a sufficient storage retention capacity for minimum of 31 days continuous footage which will be of good quality
 - Designated member / members of staff at the premises will be authorized to access the CCTV footage and be conversant with the CCTV system At the request of an authorized officer of the Licensing Authority or a Responsible Authority (under the Licensing act 2003) any CCTV footage as requested will be downloaded immediately or secured to prevent any overwriting. The CCTV footage material will be supplied on request to an authorized officer of the Licensing Authority or a Responsible Authority.
 - The PLH/DPD staff will ask the proof of age persons appearing to to be under the age of 21 who attempts to purchase alcohol at the premises..

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true

igned: Majid Zawi Ali

dated:

2/7/2012