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Democratic Support

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LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE - SUPPLEMENT PACK

Tuesday 3 October 2023 10.00 am Council House

Members:

Councillors Allen, Patel and Rennie.

Fourth Member:

Councillor Moore

Please note that, due to the nature of this Committee, we may need to send 'to follow' documents which were not expected at the time of the agenda publication. These documents may be considered under part I or part II.

Please find below supplementary documents relating to item 5: GRANT OF PREMISES LICENSE - FRONTFIELD STORES

Tracey Lee

Chief Executive

LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

5. GRANT OF PREMISES LICENSE - FRONTFIELD STORES: (Pages I - 2)

Redacted copy of additional comments made by the resident of Frontfield Crescent Flats.

As previously mentioned, I believe that having a shop in the neighbourhood will be positive. However, I have concerns regarding the opening hours. I understand that long business hours are essential for profitability, but I believe that reducing the opening times would benefit the community. These are my main concerns:

- Community Noise: The late and early operating hours will result in increased noise levels, especially during deliveries and restocking activities, which can disturb nearby residents and affect the overall quality of life in the community. An earlier closing time would reduce disturbances and contribute to a more peaceful neighbourhood. The store is located under a block of flats and allowing to open the shop 7am-11pm Monday to Sunday will negatively affect the sleep and overall well-being of nearby residents. I personally do shift work; therefore, the shop will ALWAYS be open when I go to bed regardless of my finishing time and the day of the week. Noise could be heard from both the café and the previous store (Fishing store); however, this was never an issue since the opening hours are/were 9am-5pm.
- Crime and disorder: Late-night activities around the store can attract undesirable elements and create safety concerns for both customers and residents, particularly considering the sale of alcoholic beverages. An earlier closing time could contribute to a safer environment. On numerous occasions, groups of teenagers sit at the steps in front of the store and there has been previous damage to cars. Children also like to use the space in front of the store to play football and cycle, which again has caused damage to cars. This is likely to become a more serious problem if the store is open until late and sells alcohol. Moreover, selling alcohol late into the night may contribute to alcohol-related issues, such as public intoxication, impaired driving, and disturbances in the vicinity of the store. These issues can have legal and social consequences.

I have investigated the opening hours of other convenience stores in the area. And I have been unable to find any other shops that open at 7:00 and close at 23:00 Monday through Sunday. Moreover, none of the stores close later than 22:00. I will provide the name and opening hours of the stores at the end of this letter for reference (page 3).

Finally, Mr Balayoga claims to have already installed a total of 16 CCTV cameras (3 behind the counter, 2 outside the shop, 2 at the back, 8 cameras within the shop and 1 in the storeroom). I would be grateful if he could

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Agenda Item 5 Page 2

provide proof of this since I have not been able to locate any of the outside cameras.