

Objection 40

01/06/2021

Dear Sirs /Madam

Co-operative food group, High Street, Crickhowell NP81BW.

Sales of Alcohol licence .

I am writing to register my objection to the application for a premises licence by the Co-operative food group at High Street Crickhowell. A licence for these premises will not promote licensing objectives, particularly the prevention of crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour.

Enabling the premises to sell alcohol would be totally detrimental to Crickhowell town. The application proposes that alcohol will be sold for consumption off the premises between 7am and 10pm six days a week and 8am to 10pm Sundays (I note in the planning application for this development to BBNP it is stated that net retail area is 293sq m, so I would expect the legal Sunday opening hours to apply )

Granting a licence would provide a further source of off premises alcohol at longer hours within an area already heavily populated with licensed premises. Crime, disorder and public nuisance have already reached problem levels in some young people. We have evidence of this and have to currently pick up broken bottles and cans in the library garden area, recreation ground and many other areas around town. We are suffering a spate of regular vandalism and disorder. Check with our litter picking group, town council, PCSO and local volunteers who care for library garden and other areas of town.

There are residents in this lane by the proposed Co-op who could suffer noise and antisocial behaviour, particularly in early morning and later evening, with this minority fuelling their habit of alcohol consumption. There would be a parking impact as the 4 spaces provided are inadequate for the size of the store and the lane could be blocked by the people dropping off to pick up their alcohol supplies .

I would urge the committee to consider a Health impact assessment. There are a large number of premises already supplying alcohol in the town and another as large as the one proposed would be well over provision in relation to the small population of Crickhowell. The current premises selling alcohol are run by local families who generally know the young people and who is being sent in to purchase alcohol for them, thus making it more difficult for the underage

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drinkers and providing some local regulation. So to get a supply they have to go further thus making the source more difficult and not regular. I note the supervisor from the site will be from Abertillery so has no local knowledge. We need to be a society to keep children from harm and not make alcohol readily available everywhere. This will be a store selling the usual snacks and things to entice the young and a large display of alcohol is not meeting the community needs. We were told that this store will help those on low incomes so its not alcohol we need here.

The Welsh Gov have a substance misuse plan 2012 -22 revised in response to covid19 (as alcohol consumption did rise during lockdowns)

There's an Alcohol measure in Wales doc -which states Wales now having the highest level of alcohol consumption in Europe in young people. .

45%of men and 34% women reported to be drinking over the recommended guidelines.

1500 deaths occur each year in Wales related to alcohol and costs more than 1 billion to society.

The Welsh gov wishes to make healthy choices -easy choices.

The hours of selling alcohol at 7 in the morning is unreasonable and fuelling our nations health problems. Licensing authorities must take a responsible position and limit the hours of alcohol sales and provision in an area. Crickhowell town is really only the size of a village with 2000 population; we have 29 physical shops, providers, cafes and pubs and at least 13 of these I know sell alcohol. That is a high percentage

In view of the above I would urge the licensing authority to take a responsible role and refuse the application on over provision, prevention of disorder and protecting our children.

Yours faithfully

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