

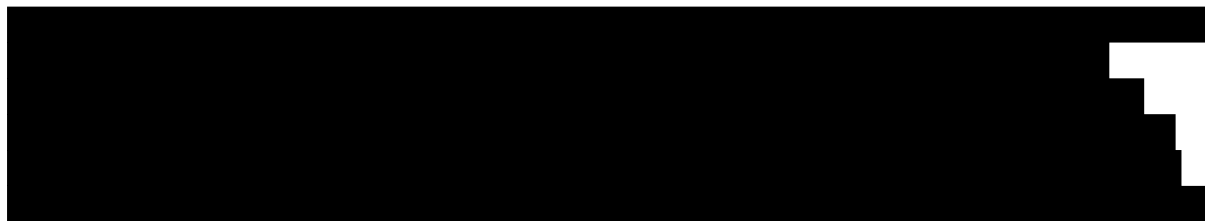
From: Ryan Newman [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 August 2021 18:03
To: Licensing <Licensing@north-herts.gov.uk>
Subject: Licence Application - 12681

Good evening,

I write to make representations regarding the licence application for The Flintshack in Royston (Application Reference: 12681). These representations are made in accordance with Part 3 of the Licensing Act 2003. I oppose this application.

When I moved to Royston I noted that a development was taking place below my apartment. As this development continued it became clear that this would be a restaurant premises. This caused me no issue until the premises opened.

When the premises opened several issues became clear almost immediately. These centred around two principal incidents, which brought possible licensing concerns to my attention:



2) When the premises closed in the evening, members of staff often congregated outside the front of the building. They would gather directly underneath my window smoking, swearing and using homophobic language. On several occasions this went on until 1am or beyond.

Due to the above issues I made contact with the licensing team at NHDC. From this it became clear that the premises had no licence to use the pavement or to serve alcohol. The premises were visited by the licensing team and instructed not to do this.

After this incident the premises has been involved in a further 'fly tipping' incident. In this incident the premises placed a large amount of waste bags on the public street towards the back of the building. I believe these to belong to the business due to the fact a number of the bags contained balloons which were identical to those which could be seen inside the premises. These waste bags stopped myself and other residents accessing our bin store (as they were piled up outside of that area) and as such interfered with our enjoyment of our property.

I have been informed that the Flintshack has now applied for a premises licence. I am extremely concerned by this given the above history which relates to these premises. I wish to make the below objections:

a) Those responsible for the premises have shown a complete disregard for licensing laws and practices. The premises operated unregulated for a period of time - serving alcoholic beverages and using the pavement without any appropriate licence. The premises only ceased to do this when they were visited by the licensing authority, and would arguably likely be still doing this if this visit had not taken place. The requirement for premises to be licensed when serving alcohol is something which is generally known by the public, and which any proper proprietor of a restaurant business should be aware of. It may be considered that the breach of licensing laws was, therefore,

deliberate. Regardless of this the fact that the premises could not comply with the simple licensing requirement of registration should give rise to concerns that they will not comply with any conditions that may be placed on the license.

b) The premises has already demonstrated that their staff will cause a nuisance to members of the local community by smoking, swearing and being disorderly to the front of the premises. The fact that staff members are allowed to do this is does not give confidence that the proprietor will be able to appropriately control the service of alcohol to patrons to ensure that they do not cause a public nuisance, crime or disorder.

c) The premises have left a large amount of waste to the rear, causing a nuisance to members of the public and further crime. They have also interfered with local residents and their ability to use their own property in doing this.

I would respectfully remind you of your obligation to consider the licensing objectives when exercising your licensing functions. It is my belief that the grant of this license would give rise to concerns that crime, disorder and public nuisance would be caused. I would respectfully suggest that the proprietor of the Flintshack has shown that they are unable (or unwilling) to comply with licensing requirements, and that the grant of a license would also be otherwise contrary to the licensing objectives.

I would therefore ask you to refuse this application.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Kind regards,

Ryan Newman
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