



EAST PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Licensing Department
Arun District Council
by email

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5th December 2022

Dear Licensing,

Re: Licensing Application 117273 – Perfect Pizza, Willowhayne Crescent, East Preston

This council's Planning & Licensing Committee considered this Application at its meeting on Monday, 28th November, and agreed to raise the following objections to this Application. This is covered by Minute 997/22 of that meeting.

This council feels its objections fall into the following three of the four permitted categories: **Prevention of Crime and Disorder; Public Safety;** and **Prevention of Public Nuisance.**

This premises is currently of interest to Sussex Police. We do not believe there has been any change of personnel from the most recent licence to the current application. Over the past couple of years there have been a number of allegations of possibly illegal activity at these premises reported to Sussex Police and to Arun District Council's anti-social behaviour team and Licensing department.

From what we have been told, we understand these possible illegal activities generally originate from within the premises, rarely is any possible illegal activity originate with someone not connected to the business in some way. Arun District Council will already be aware of how the business has been operating without a licence and reportedly serving walk-in customers well past the times of the expired licence which is no longer visible on the ADC website; deliveries have been taking place well beyond the licenced times too.

We have received reports of verbal abuse and threatening and intimidating behaviour being aimed mainly at local women of all ages. Such behaviour is never acceptable.

(cont'd overleaf)

The situation is worsened by the apparent unwillingness of those connected with the business to cooperate with Sussex Police or Arun District Council. For example, when a vehicle related to the business was attacked in the middle of the morning by two guys on a motorbike using a baseball bat, in front of several witnesses at a nearby café, the owner of the vehicle refused to talk to the investigating police officer.

The rest of the night-time economy in East Preston ceases at midnight at the very latest. Although this premises is in a parade of businesses, all but one of them are daytime and all are surrounded front, back and above by residential properties. This is not a suitable location for a business which has created public nuisance beyond midnight in the recent past, public nuisance already reported to Sussex Police and Arun District Council through several channels. Even use of the back door of the premises will have a negative impact upon the residents of the flats above the premises, and homes in the immediate vicinity of the premises.

For these reasons, we ask Arun District Council to consider very carefully whether or not it is right to grant this licence. Please bear in mind, we have only very limited experience of responding to Licensing Applications, so if there is anything above you need us to clarify, please just ask.

Yours sincerely,



Simon Cross – **Clerk to the Council**