

4 Belgrave Crescent  
Banbury  
OX16 0SY

16<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Licensing Officer  
Bodicote House  
Bodicote  
BANBURY  
OX15 4AA

**Re: s.17 Licence Application of Cock Horse Service Station**

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are writing in response to the application of 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010 made by Cock Horse Service Station for the granting of a licence to sell alcohol and late night refreshment, pursuant to section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003. We are among a number of local residents who wish to strongly object to this application as interested parties on the following grounds:

- 1) It will not prevent but increase crime and disorder; and
- 2) It will not prevent but increase public nuisance.

**1. Prevention of Crime and Disorder**

Belgrave Crescent and Boxhedge Road, on which the Cock Horse Service Station sits on a corner position, are residential streets with a number of other residential streets leading off from them.

There is a mixture of both families with young children and elderly people in sheltered accommodation living on these streets and in very close proximity to the service station. Although the area is residential, it acts as a thoroughfare from the town centre to other outlying streets and the Bretch Hill estate. Sadly, this has resulted in Belgrave Crescent and Boxhedge Road residents not being strangers to crime and disorder or antisocial behaviour, which have been reported to the local neighbourhood policing teams on numerous previous occasions. The fear among residents is that the granting of a licence to sell alcohol and late night refreshments will exacerbate this already serious problem.

It is our very real fear that by granting a licence to sell alcohol and late night refreshments, the pedestrian 'traffic' will increase and that much of it will be drunken and noisy.

Since moving in to our property in May 2007 we have directly experienced the following anti-social behaviour: two acts of criminal damage to our vehicles (December 2007 and September 2009); three acts of theft from our front garden and we have witnessed numerous other acts of anti-social

CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
LICENSING AUTHORITY

18 NOV 2010

behaviour. All these acts occur on weekend nights and seem to be directly linked to the alcoholic intake of the pedestrian traffic. Alcohol is a known disinhibitor and fuels aggression and establishments that provide late-night refreshments are so often source and scene of fights and affrays.

Our road is also used as a main route for families walking their children to the local St Mary's Primary School. Were the garage be permitted to sell drinks in glass bottles it is highly likely that these will end up smashed on the pavement along with the drinks cans that are already a nuisance.

This broken glass will not only cause a serious danger to children, but also to the many walkers of pets who use the road as a route to the Park. Cars which are parked on the street will also be at increased risk of punctures from the glass shards in the gutter or road.

## 2 Prevention of public nuisance

The service station already acts as a focal point for groups of young people to congregate and socialise around, particularly at weekends and this is most noticeable at the back of the service station on Belgrave Crescent/Boxhedge Road and in the disused car park to the rear of the service station. These groups have previously caused damage to the perimeter wall of the service station and are responsible for generating a large amount of noise and litter. The litter problem has been mentioned to our local councillor Alyas Ahmed. Again, it is feared that allowing the application to succeed would increase what is already a problem with litter and late night noise.

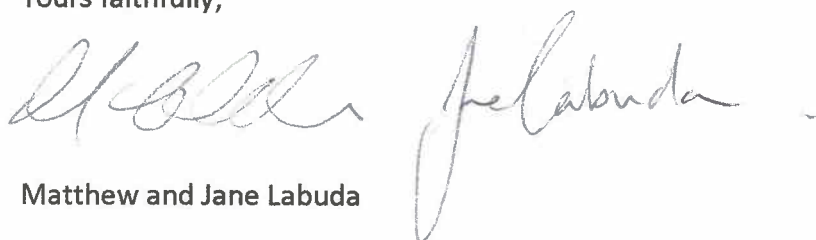
Our final concern is about the potential increase in traffic and noise levels that would occur with the granting of such an application, particularly from taxis and other vehicles using the service station on their way out of town and then driving at speed up Belgrave Crescent and Boxhedge Road.

Singing, shouting and the use of foul language is also a weekly occurrence on a Friday, Saturday and even Sunday evening as people leave the pubs in the town centre and walk home. We can only see that the selling of alcohol at the garage will exacerbate this type of behaviour as people seek to re-fuel with even more drink on their way home.

We are keen to know what the police's views are on this application, given the concerns about the anti-social behaviour in the area behind the service station and in general.

We cannot overstate our concerns and objection to the granting of this licence.

Yours faithfully,



Matthew and Jane Labuda

We the undersigned object to the granting of a licence to sell alcohol and late night refreshment, made by the Cock Horse Service Station pursuant to section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003.

Name and Signature:

Address:

Nicola + David McCarty

2 Belgrave Crescent  
Banbury  
OX16 0SY.

CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
LICENSING AUTHORITY

18 NOV 2010

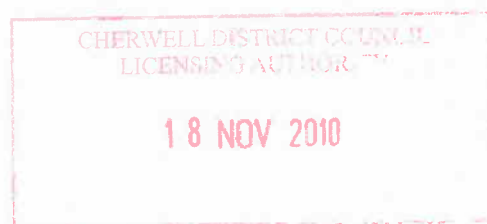
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Name and Signature:

FARZANA KARIM  
FKarim

Address:

1, BELGRAVE CRESCENT  
BANBURY



We the undersigned object to the granting of a licence to sell alcohol and late night refreshment, made by the Cock Horse Service Station pursuant to section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003.

Name and Signature:

Address:

MR. T. BARRETT



JESSOPS COTTAGE, BOXHEDGE ROAD  
BANBURY OX16 0BP

MRS R. BARRETT



JESSOPS COTTAGE  
BOXHEDGE ROAD  
BANBURY  
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CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
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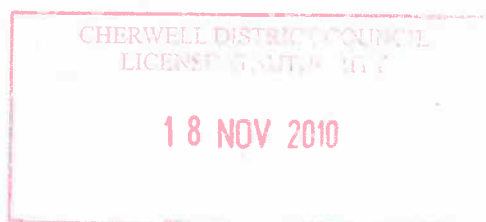
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Name and Signature:

Address:

MR & MRS Ewers  
Bower,   
R G Ewers.

3 Belgrave Crescent  
Banbury



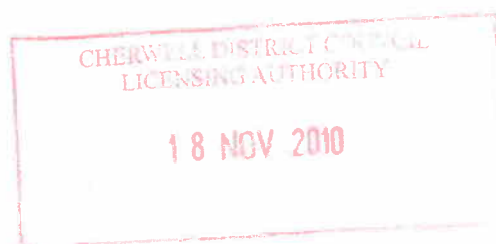
Jessops Cottage

Boxhedge Road

Banbury

OX16 0BP

16<sup>th</sup> November 2010



Licensing Officer

Bodicote House

Bodicote

Banbury

OX15 4AA

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Dear Sir or Madam,

We are writing in response to the application of 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010 made by Cock Horse Service Station for the granting of a licence to sell alcohol and late night refreshment pursuant to section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003. We must say that our initial reaction was one of mirth believing that no one could possibly take this initiative seriously bearing in mind the track record of this establishment in the encouragement and generation of multiple anti-social activities including the congregation of drunk and disorderly youths, criminal damage, drug taking and dealing, consuming late night takeaways, discarding remains of takeaways over vehicles and the street, defecating, littering, foul language around children, graffiti, urinating, prolonged revving of engines, vehicles playing loud music, screeching tyres as cars roar away from the site at high speed and car horns sounding late at night and early morning. These are just some of the issues we have to begrudgingly tolerate which blight our lives. If we gave it a little more thought the list would be a lot longer. On reflection we realise we live in strange times and regrettably profit appears to remain a higher priority than considering the misery inflicted on others in the pursuance of self-gain. With that in mind we would like to object in the strongest terms possible to the potential granting of this licence.

Boxhedge Road and Belgrave Crescent residents are a group of positive contributors attempting to live their lives in a law abiding and socially responsible manner. Many are bringing up families in the face of adversity which, more often than not, is linked in no small way to the clientele of the Cock Horse Service Station. We regularly have to clear up detritus and litter as well as repair damage to vehicles and property created by the customers of this outlet. It is already a magnet for every type of miscreant known to man and the selling of alcohol will only exacerbate the existing problems and have an even more negative impact on our local environment and day to day lives.

On a number of occasions we have witnessed the underage selling of cigarettes and petrol so we are highly sceptical about the integrity and ability of this business to hypothetically retail alcohol responsibly. It is worth noting that Cock Horse Service Station staff routinely smoke on the premises, generally in the area used as an open air urinal, which is contrary to their own warning notices and it may be worth someone from your offices reminding them that petroleum spirits and a lit cigarette do not mix. The proprietor is generally a pleasant and well-meaning man however, on this occasion he is seriously misguided and has been ill advised. Unsurprisingly he is not a resident of the area. The preposterousness of this proposal is obvious to all and we are hoping that common sense will prevail.

Please confirm receipt of this correspondence and keep us informed of any developments pertaining.

Yours faithfully,

Mr T Barrett



Mrs R Barrett

