

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
LICENSING DEPARTMENT

21 FEB 2024

To  
DATE RECEIVED  
The Licensing Committee  
Caerphilly County Borough Council.

From,  
Mr and Mrs Bajwa  
General Store  
2, The Green,  
Abertysswg  
NP22 5AH

Dear Sir/ Madam,

**Re: Objections to New Premises Licence Application by Kajanthan Nagarathnam for 20 The Green**

We write to make representations against the proposed licence for 20 The Green.

We have a General Store and Post Office in the village in which we have been serving the community for the last 15 years. We got to know the families and their children to be a part of the community. People feel safe to send their children unaccompanied to the shop because they know that they will be safe.

We have Off-Licence in our shop until 10.30 pm, but no one has asked to sell alcohol for later because we have two Social Clubs in the village which are open until late at night, one is just top of The Green virtually 20 yards away and other one is down the road about 200 yards away, so there is no need for more alcohol sale in the village.

If this application for General Store and Off-Licence at 20 The Green is successful it will have a detrimental effect on our business because it will reduce the footfall in our business.

The only reason we have got a viable business is the combined income of the shop and the post office, without the present customer base it won't be viable so will end up losing the post office or both.

People know that we will not serve underage kids with anything; we have watched them from the young age and they know that we will tell their parents about it.

Myself and my wife work full time, about 98 hours a week with the help of our 3 workers from the village. It would be very hard for all of us if this business went downhill and was not viable anymore to support all of us.

Both of us and our staff kept everyone in the shop safe and served all the community everyday safely during the covid period without closing any day.

The village needs the variety as 20 The Green was a successful Fish and Chips & Take away in the past because last owners had run it as a successful business for 30 years until present ownership took charge of the place.

The present owner took nearly a year to start trading after they bought the business and then traded for 3 months and closed it, not even giving any notice or reason to the public.

[REDACTED]

This is the only hot food place in the village and should be given back to the community which is most needed, not an Off-License, which the village already has. People have been coming into my shop every week to ask when the Take Away is opening back up.

This is a shock to the community to see the notice gone up to convert it into an Off- License rather than a food Take Away as this has been a

There is not enough trade for two shops doing the same trade in the village as there is no passing trade as there is no through passing traffic to the village.

We employ 3 local girls to help us in the business and their jobs will be in danger.

Local people use this post office as their bank and lots of elderly people use it for their pension and to pay their bills. All the Banks have joined the post office so you can make withdrawals and deposits free of charge on the post office counter, you can even take out loose change from your account.

We are a hub in the village for parcels and post for not just Royal Mail but for ParcelForce, Amazon, DPD, Every, Collect+ and local Collect, so if customer are not home during the day, they get their parcels delivered into the shop and pick them up when it is convenient for them knowing that they are going to be safe here.

Local and neighbouring villages business people use this post office for their banking services.

We have a Pin Pad for card payment on the shop check out so when post office is closed and customers can pay that way.

We look after and help the elderly and vulnerable people coming into the shop because we have got to know them well. If anyone needs help with anything, people have got the shop phone number and we help deliver the items to them.

The shop is not just a shop it is like a community hub for people to come and meet and get to know what is happening in the village.

hot food place in the village as far as they can remember it and it would be a shame to lose it.

Since this notice has been displayed on the premises people have come to my shop to ask me that if it is available for them to rent or buy and run it as a Fish n Chips or Take Away etc, so it shows that other people are willing to run it as a food place and there's a need for that in the village.

We note the 4 licensing objectives and make the following comments:

- The prevention of crime and disorder  
As already mentioned, there are currently 3 places in the village selling alcohol and with a village of this size, it does not need a 4<sup>th</sup>. Increasing the number of places where alcohol can be bought will only lead to the likelihood of more crime. [REDACTED] v [REDACTED] it will just attract more undesirables to the property and area and increase crime.
  - Public safety  
Public safety will be compromised with more alcohol being available and for increased hours, all in a short space of each other. The proposed Off-Licence is directly opposite a public area, a children's play area. People may not feel safe bringing their children to this area, where children will be able to see the shop and people coming in and out buying alcohol.
  - Prevention of public nuisance  
Having a business selling alcohol, particularly at the proposed late night hours, will lead to noise nuisance and light nuisance (with lights from the shop) late at night. It will also increase pollution due to waste from the shop.
  - Protection of children from harm
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As already mentioned above, the proposed Off-Licence is directly opposite a public/children's play area. Children playing in the area will be able to see the shop and see people buying alcohol and then potentially drinking alcohol in the play area. It will be detrimental for children's social environment.

We hope that before you consider awarding this Licence, we beg you to come and visit the village and talk to us in the shop and the community and see it for yourself, which is most needed in the village.

We thought the whole point of having the authorities to oversee everything was that what is in the best interest of the local community.

We hope that you will consider our appeal and we would be forever grateful for our existence of the business.

Thanks.

Your sincerely,

Mr & Mrs Bajwa,

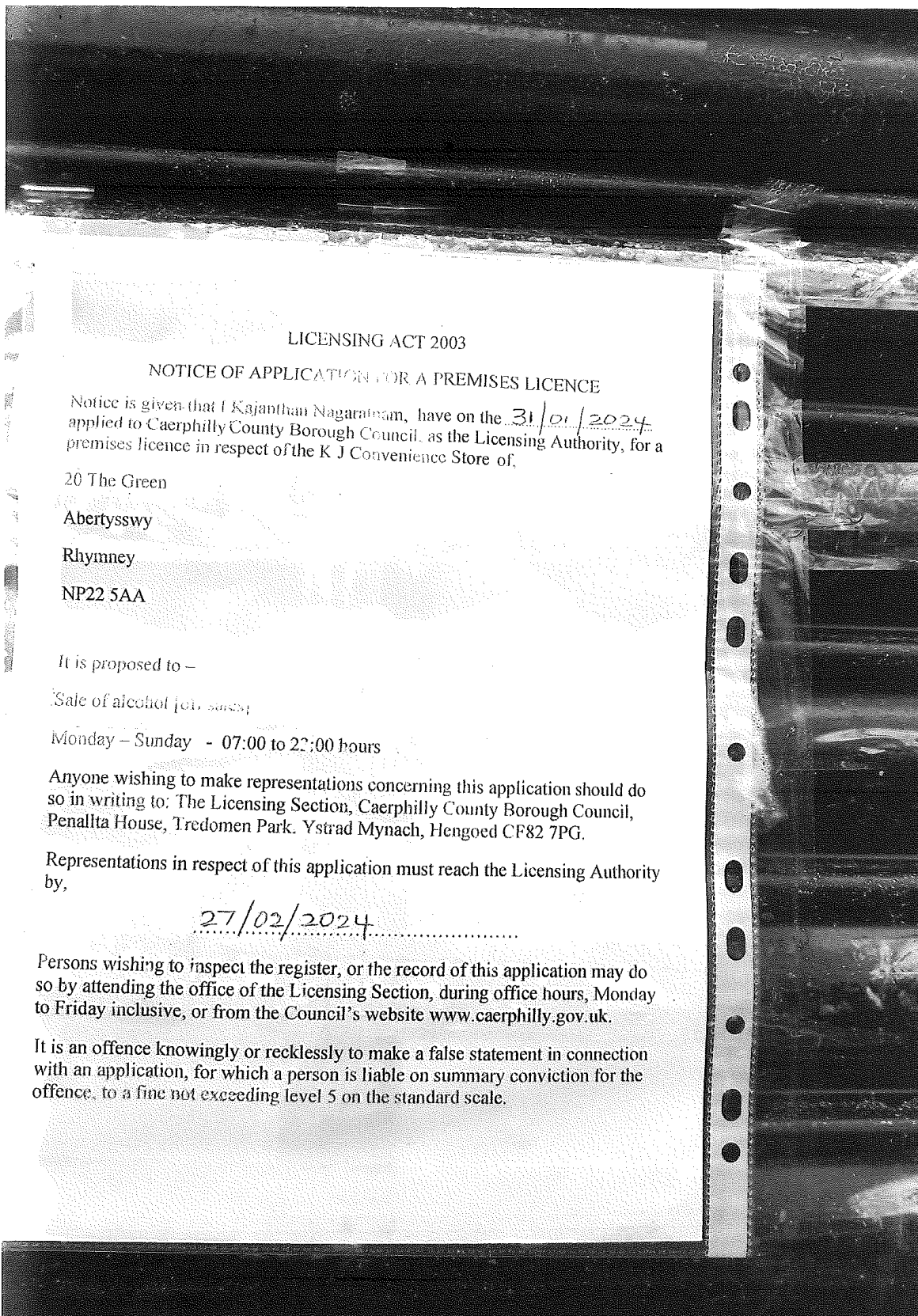
[REDACTED]

Abertysswg

NP22 5AT, -

[REDACTED]

21-2-2024



LICENSING ACT 2003

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE

Notice is given that I Kajanthan Nagarathnam, have on the 31/01/2024 applied to Caerphilly County Borough Council, as the Licensing Authority, for a premises licence in respect of the K J Convenience Store of,

20 The Green

Abertyswy

Rhymney

NP22 5AA

It is proposed to –

Sale of alcohol (off-sales)

Monday – Sunday - 07:00 to 22:00 hours

Anyone wishing to make representations concerning this application should do so in writing to: The Licensing Section, Caerphilly County Borough Council, Penallta House, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7PG.

Representations in respect of this application must reach the Licensing Authority by,

27/02/2024.....

Persons wishing to inspect the register, or the record of this application may do so by attending the office of the Licensing Section, during office hours, Monday to Friday inclusive, or from the Council's website [www.caerphilly.gov.uk](http://www.caerphilly.gov.uk).

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application, for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence, to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.