



Devonia,
Greatbridge Road,
Romsey.
Hampshire.
SO51 0HB

The Licensing Officer,
Test Valley Borough Council.
Beech Hurst,
Weyhill Road
Andover
SP10 3AJ

Dear Sir,

We would like to raise an objection to the proposed changes to licensing in the Esso Petrol Station in Greatbridge Road for the following reasons.

1. Prevention of Crime and Disorder

- In the past the garage supplied a waste bin on the boundary of our land. Although this was moved a long time prior to development it had little impact on the amount of litter around the site and in our garden. Littering is a frequent occurrence and mostly happens overnight with the prime examples being empty alcohol cans and bottles and accompanying food wrappers. The site is being redeveloped to manage an increase in the number of customers, and with that increase, will come an increase in the offence and a decrease in our standards of living. No other shop or garage in the Romsey area is permitted to sell alcohol to the times that Esso have been allowed, so why are they treated as an exception?
- On several occasions, property in the vicinity has been the victim of acts of vandalism, with fences and walls damaged many times at the cost of the home owners or their insurance companies. This is not acceptable.

2. Public Health and Safety

- We often clear away the refuse from the street outside our property, which often includes broken bottles. Whilst the site is being redeveloped there has been a noticeable drop in littering so we know the problem is a direct result of the garage.

3. Prevention of Public Nuisance

- There is a history of disturbance in this area, mostly late at night, and mostly alcohol related. Several of the occurrences have resulted in police intervention.
- The noise levels that previously came from the garage, prior to redevelopment, are antisocial. On numerous occasions cars pull up on the forecourt with Radios playing loudly, and groups of people

shouting, including those already under the influence of alcohol. This has disturbed our sleep many times.

4. Protection of Children from Harm

- The children from the local school access the garage on their way to and from school. It is unacceptable that they should have to make their way through areas littered with broken glass and other rubbish.
- Neither is it acceptable that they should have to face the intimidating prospect of groups of people buying alcohol from the garage and hanging around outside.

We have noticed a difference in our standard of living while the garage has been closed, and when it reopens and becomes even busier than it was before, we cannot help but feel that will be degraded even further than before. The Texaco garage was only granted very limited hours to sell alcohol out of deference to local residents. Are we to be treated differently to them?

Once again at the risk of repeating myself when the garage applied for a change in licensing hours on a previous occasion, I would ask that everyone consider the problems that alcohol introduces into society. Why do we, the residents in Romsey, wish to encourage that, when we already have enough problems with underage drinking and anti social behaviour? Surely our police force has more important things to do with its time than sort out the problems that we might be creating for ourselves, short term and longer term.

Yours Faithfully

Mr Kelvin Humby

Mrs Deborah Humby