

Objections and Representations to the Application for Grant of Premises Alcohol Licence for Maunsel Lock Teashop, Bankland, North Newton, Bridgwater, TA7 0DH, by Nicky Westphal.

Mr and Mrs Whitcombe, Maunsel Lock Cottage, Bankland, North Newton, Bridgwater, TA7 0DH.

Thursday 27th April 2023

We live opposite Maunsel lock Teashop, and were previous owners of the business, during that time we consciously steered away from alcohol sales as we were aware of the danger of being next to a canal and deep water, and also the impact it could have on the local residents and rural area.

We have observed the impact of the nearby developments of Somerset Boat Centre & Lock Inn Bar and the problems that occurred, and the solutions that then had to be implemented to solve some of those issues.

We have always fully supported Nicky in her development of the business and have been pleased to see it thriving. However, we fully realise with rising costs, to service businesses, like this, she does need to maximise any potential development of sales. We are pleased to see the extended evening hours are for only two evenings a week during the summer period, but if the application is granted, we would prefer it to be in line with Somerset Boat Centre & Lock Inn Bar, only to **2100 hours**.

An alternative to the application would be to operate a corkage option, which we would have no objections to.

The prevention of public nuisance

As this is a relatively quiet area, the introduction of alcohol, and music at the premises would cause disruption to nearby residents and also disturb all the current wildlife that we observe.

The prevention of crime and disorder

As the council owned car park is locked voluntarily between the Spring/Summer hours of 1900 – 0900 April to October and Autumn/Winter hours of 1630 – 0900, an increase of unattended vehicles later in the evenings could raise potential for crime and after hours parking by persons not using the Teashop.

Public safety


Measures could be put in place, to restrict alcohol only being consumed with food on the Teashop premises; otherwise alcohol will end up beside the lock and canal with the risk of danger to life.

Also, with the public car park retaining its current opening and closing times there would be insufficient parking for numbers of vehicles which in our experience has, in the past, caused road side parking on the verges thereby restricting movement of local residents and agricultural vehicles.


The protection of children from harm

Also, measures need to be in place for children to be supervised at all times by an appropriate adult to avoid the danger of going near the canal and lock.

Mr C D Whitcombe


27/4/23

Mrs V H Whitcombe


27/04/23