

Welcome Break Ltd Premises License for Rothwell Truck Stop, Orton Lane, Rothwell

I would like to express my concerns when objecting to the above application at the Welcome Break services application for a Grant of Premises License for Rothwell Truck Stop.

As a supposedly secure truck stop – as per the planning approval granted, we are dismayed to learn alcohol will be on offer 24/7 to lorry drivers and anyone else! It will be totally irresponsible ignoring public safety to give this planning permission.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

With a Premises License, the truck stop will be a magnet for locals resulting in more private cars and people walking on foot down a small country lane with the danger of meeting a lorry driver over the alcohol limit. If the Truck Stop is not secure it will become a mecca for drug dealing, including county line gangs, prostitutes, people trafficking, fights and violence, young drivers showing off by doing 'wheelies' round the truck stop. In other words, a meeting place, out of the way with no one monitoring it because the police are overstretched. The Premises License MUST be considered in conjunction with the Adult Gaming Licence as it will have an accumulative effect on the local environment attracting more under 18 year olds to the lorry park.

Public Safety

Traffic accidents resulting in death are on the rise - and yet alcohol on tap 24/7, lorry drivers and the A14, as well as our country lanes are being combined together. Unbelievable! Orton village has no choice but to use the lane past the Truck Stops. Drivers will not be breathalysed as they leave the site and local people will be risking their lives every time they drive by.

The quiet lane status to Orton is used by cyclists, dog walkers and young and older people out walking with no alternative but to cross busy roundabouts by the A14 and the lorry park. The stables/livery opposite the Truck stop creates more riders accessing the quiet lanes as well as caring for their horses, early and late in the day. More horses join the lanes from the pony paddocks on the Orton to Loddington road, creating dangers from speeding drivers who could be over the drink drive limit. Cattle are moved from fields in the Orton lane into the village – there is no other alternative. Farm traffic uses the lanes, including large delivery vehicles.

The A14 at junction 3 is regularly at a standstill resulting in large lorries and speeding cars finding alternative routes through our narrow lanes and villages. We live with a 'rat run' during rush hours as people avoid the A14 and cut through our villages. Our verges are in a terrible state due to heavy traffic constantly driving all over them ie the road to Loddington. Very large lorries, ie car transporters, have been witnessed attempting to get around the corner at the

Orton junction to Loddington. Adding alcohol to this situation will make for a very dangerous situation.

It is recognised in the media that underage drinking is more prevalent. The Truck Stop will attract more and more underage young people either driving or on foot from Rothwell using the lanes in an inebriated state. They are the alcoholics of the future!

Prevention of Public Nuisance

Public Nuisance will be created by more speeding cars, traffic and huge lorries attracted to the alcohol serving truck stop. This will result in more litter in our lanes, more pollution, more alcohol consumption in vehicles. Light and noise pollution ie rowdiness, fights, will become a problem as cars race through our quiet villages in the day and very late at night. We have a major litter and fly tipping problem in our village gateways and on our grass verges as it is - without more opportunities to add to it.

Protection of Children from harm

Lorries and young children are vulnerable and at risk, especially if alcohol is in the mix, as explained in 'Public safety' above. Add to alcohol, a gaming license that has been applied for at this site, and children are open to addictions as a result!

Public safety comments includes child safety. The lane is well used by young riders on horseback, as well as young cycle riders and dog walkers particularly during weekends and school holidays. Mothers' access the quiet lane with prams and very young children because it is safer.

The truck stop owner needs to act responsibly and be mindful of safeguarding and protecting children, not encouraging them into alcohol and gambling.

As they leave the premises on foot, dangerous roads will need crossing ie roundabouts and access roads to and from the A14. There is no plan for monitoring this. It will become a magnet for youngsters during weekends and school holidays.

Children's lives should not be gambled.

The Truck stop will encourage gambling and alcohol ADDICTION.

S.J.Chester 20/3/19