

PRESS RELEASE

NANTWICH TOWN COUNCIL

The Town Council has made comments to the Borough Council, which is responsible for licensing the sale of alcohol.

The comments, set out below, are in relation to the application by B&M Retail Ltd., (the company that has taken over the former Woolworths store in Nantwich town centre) for the sale of alcohol as an off-licence from 8am to 11pm, seven days a week. The Town Council comments are as follows:-

We appreciate that the Town Council is not an “official” consultee in this matter but we hope you will draw the attention of the Licensing Authority to our views.

Generally speaking, we agree with the conditions suggested by the police. Having said that, as a matter of principle, the Town Council see no reason for the sale of alcohol before 11am or after 8pm. Members are concerned that another outlet for the sale of alcohol is being established particularly late at night, and when school children are in town between about 3pm and 6pm.

The Town Council feels that more off-licences may lead to under-age drinking or drinking in the street and, combined with late night take-aways, contribute to increased litter, rowdiness and vandalism in the town centre.

The Licensing Authority is urged to restrict the hours of the sale of alcohol by B&M Retail and impose the conditions requested by the police.

The Chairman of the Town Council, Councillor Keith Cafferty said: “Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council are the licensing authority and it is they who consider the application by B&M Retail Ltd., to sell alcohol from 8am to 11pm seven days a week. The Town Council are not even official consultees but have heard about this application through public advertisement. We see no need for yet another off-licence selling alcohol in the town centre from first thing in the morning to late at night. We feel it may add to the possibility of under-age drinking and general disorder and have urged the Borough Council to restrict the hours of the licence.”

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