

Mediation Meeting: Serene Lounge- 63 Alderminster Road

Council House Diamond Room 6

Monday 19th June 2017

Present:

After introductions, Sean Casey-Poole started the meeting off by providing business profile background on Serene Lounge in order for residents to gain a full insight into what the coffee shop has to offer. Mr Casey-Poole started off by stating that it was a coffee lounge not a typical coffee shop or "greasy spoon", a place for older clientele to enjoy coffee, paninis, sandwiches and afternoon tea. The venue will host book club events, board games and place for local residents to enjoy and relax.

After which it passed over to the residents to ask questions and voice their concerns. A number of relevant and non-relevant points were covered, it was pointed out that this was licensing mediation meeting and objections are to be made with reference to one of more of the licensing objectives. Residents were concerned of public nuisance and large groups coming into the vicinity, more so late in the evening as the licence is operating until 22:00 Monday to Saturday and 17:00 on a Sunday.

Parking was an issue as the residents explained that the road to where the premises is located there is not a lot of parking and they were concerned about public safety of residents having to step out into the road to get past due to tables being outside and also cars being parked on a blind bend. It was pointed out that this was not a licensing issue however public safety aspect would be taken into account.

David Coulson did ask many questions during the meeting one of which asked Sean to elaborate on exactly what the premises was going to be offering. It was not noted that Sean has intentions of holding a comedy and psychic nights this was not in his premises licence application.

Overall the main concerns for as to why residents of Alderminster object to Serene Lounge is;

- Parking and safety aspect

- Alcohol attracting groups and late night nuisance

- Music being too loud

It was suggested by licensing that the hours of sale and opening times could be altered and added as part of the conditions. Ultimately the general consensus is that residents do not have an issue with a coffee shop but they do object to an alcohol licence. It could be that Sean withdraws the premises licence application.

However it was agreed that the best step moving forwards to progress to a hearing for a decision. A date for the hearing is to be confirmed.