

Hastings Borough Council

22 MAR 2018

Received



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Local Policing Support Team

20th March 2018

Mr. B. Brown,
Licensing Manager, Licensing Team,
Hastings Borough Council,
Muriel Matters House,
Breeds Place,
Hastings, East Sussex TN34 3UY

RE: APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE: 20 Norman Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea TN37 6NH

Dear Mr. Brown,

I write on behalf of the Chief Officer of Police for Sussex to raise a representation against the above application for a new premises licence on the grounds of the Prevention of Crime and Disorder Licensing Objective.

The application, in the name of Norman Road Stores Ltd., is to permit the supply of alcohol between 09:00hrs and 20:00hrs daily; the times the premises are to be open to the public are given as being between 07:00hrs and 23:00hrs daily. However, an advertising leaflet for the premises submitted with the application shows the trading hours to be 'Monday to Saturday 9.30am – 7pm' which is at odds with the hours requested. The premises is currently operating as a convenience store and was previously licensed until the licence was surrendered by the previous premises licence holder on 25th January 2018.

Research of Companies House shows that Norman Road Stores Ltd (Company Number: 10965207) was incorporated on 15th September 2017, the sole officer of the company being Mr. Michael Adelasoye. The sole officer's details were changed on 9th October 2017 to Mr. Mutalib Adelasoye; Sussex Police believe that Michael and Mutalib Adelasoye are one and the same person. Given he is the sole officer of the company he will in effect be the person in autonomous control of the premises particularly as he is also the nominated designated premises supervisor.

There is no obvious connection between Mr. Adelasoye and the previous premises licence holder Mr. Sivaseelan Mahalingham however, there is an anomaly in that the company, Norman Road Stores Ltd, was set up some four months before the premises licence was surrendered. This application for a new premises licence was submitted one month after surrender.

The Reverend Mutalib Adelasoye whose full name is in fact Mutalib Kayode Abiodun Michael Adelasoye has an extensive criminal history. On 29th July 2010 he was convicted upon indictment of conspiracy to facilitate the commission of breaches of immigration laws. The circumstances were that between July 2005 and July 2009 about 360 marriages were conducted in a St. Leonards church. The sole purpose of these marriages was for people from the non-European Economic Area to acquire the right to live and work in the United Kingdom, which right they would not otherwise have enjoyed. During the aforementioned time period the Reverend Adelasoye was a solicitor specialising in immigration work. He was also the pastor of an Evangelical church in Hastings, an area designated by the Home Office for immigrants into the United Kingdom to live pending the determination of their applications for leave to remain in the country.

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Reverend Adelasoye therefore had a large number of contacts among immigrants who wished to remain in the United Kingdom and arranged marriages for them in order that they would achieve their aim.

On 6th September 2010 he was sentenced to 4 years imprisonment for these offences. Under the revised guidance for the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 issued on 10th March 2014 his sentence will not be spent until 5th September 2021.

On 10th August 2011 Reverend Adelasoye was sentenced to a further 42 months imprisonment for two offences of False Representation. The circumstances of these offences were that on two occasions he falsified by enhancement, his salary information. He completed two Employer Reference Forms showing a salary vastly inflated from that which he actually earned. These forms were purportedly completed and signed by a manager of the company for which he worked. In fact this person had neither prepared, completed nor signed the forms. His sentence for these offences will not be spent until 9th February 2022. On 10th January 2012 he was struck off the Roll of Solicitors following a Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal.

Given that Reverend Adelasoye was a solicitor at the time the above offences were committed, his first duty was to the law regardless of whether he thought it fair or otherwise, particularly in relation to the immigration offences.

Sussex Police contend that Reverend Adelasoye has a proven record of both gross dishonesty and a lack of integrity. Therefore we have no confidence in his ability to promote the four licensing objectives and respectfully invite the licensing committee to refuse the application.

We note that the premises is situated within Hastings Borough Council's Special Saturation (Cumulative Impact) Policy Area. However, on this occasion this is not pertinent to our objection.

Yours sincerely,



Inspector Diane Lewis – Licensing Inspector Local Policing Support Team
101: Extn. 564241

Sent: 07 March 2018 10:53

To: Trevor Scrase

Subject: RE: New premises licence application - Manor Road Stores, 20 Norman Road, St. Leonards on Sea, TN37 6NH. Our ref 265615

Trevor

I have reviewed the evidence that has been presented by the applicant.

I have no objections, however I would want to see a requirement that:

- A refusals register is kept on the premises and is available for inspection by local authority officers or Sussex Police.
- Staff are trained in the use of a refusals register.
- The refusals register is routinely audited by the shop management.

I am of the opinion that is best practice and will not be a burden on the business to put in place.

Regards

Roger Cohen

Senior Trading Standards Officer

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