

**TO:** Licensing Section, Gateshead Council, Civic Centre, Gateshead, NE8 1HH.

**FROM:** MR & MRS KEATING, [REDACTED]

**REF:** Application for Premises Licence Asda Express at Esso Garage, 6-8 Front Street Whickham,

20<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.

**WE WISH TO OBJECT TO THE APPLICATION IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING LICENSING OBJECTIVES.**

1. The Prevention of crime and disorder
2. Public Safety
3. The Prevention of Public nuisance
4. The Protection of Children From Harm

**OUR OBJECTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

We are immediate neighbours of the garage. Our gable end wall adjoins the garage forecourt and we have four windows facing the garage, one a bedroom. We are directly affected by everything going on at the garage. This part of Whickham is residential, in a conservation area and our property, number [REDACTED] is a listed building.

**Our main objections are** the introduction of extended opening hours to 24hours to include alcohol sales and also extended refreshment sales after 11pm till 5am.

The current garage trading hours are restricted through planning applications to protect the residents and the area. For example – through restricted opening hours. The garage is always closed by 10.30pm. Through control of lighting outside of hours, everything should be switched off except for the internal shop security light.

If 24hr opening is allowed then current lighting restrictions would be ignored.

Other restrictions include - Garage colouring eg the roof banner surround is coloured grey, the pumps are also colour restricted and the external sign at the edge of the footpath is also restricted. These do not relate to the licence application but Planning enforcement need to be aware to protect these. However, the colours of the Asda Express Fascia is a change and is also now brightly illuminated. The old shop fascia was not lit. This is against what was originally permitted.

**Our main concern** is that with extended hours effectively becoming 24hours, with the addition of alcohol and additional overnight refreshments we are genuinely concerned this will add further to existing problems in Whickham, in the park opposite, in the immediate garage area outside our house, Front Street and other nearby locations. The problems include vandalism, unruly behaviour and disturbance. The problems are well known to the Police. They are current concerns and so will be likely to worsen if licence is granted. We

are concerned that alcohol will be purchased by others for use by children under age, and drinking will exacerbate current problems.

**We are also really concerned** that 24hr licence including alcohol and additional refreshment overnight will be like a magnet for people when other premises are closing down.

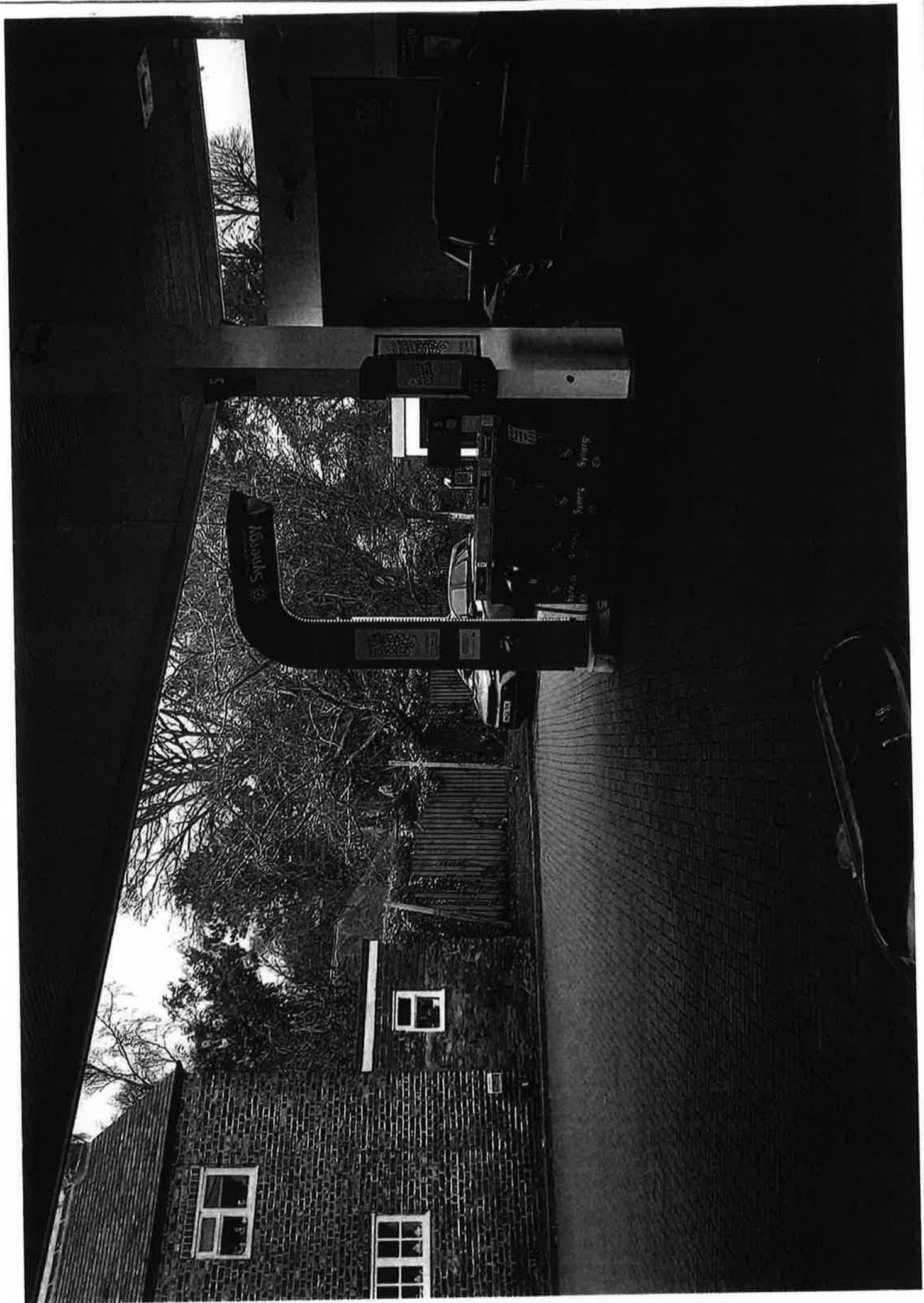
All of this we also consider to be an increased fire risk.

The new Asda Express fascia is brightly illuminated. This and the other lighting are already an intrusion into our home affecting us as immediate neighbours, and others nearby also. Additional lighting hours will increase that intrusion into our home lives and raise our own feelings of insecurity.

We ask Gateshead Licensing Authority to consider our views and objections and hope we can be supported by refusal of the licence applied for.

Yours sincerely,

MR & MRS KEATING,  













## Kirsty Jennings

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**From:** tom keating [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 21 February 2024 11:03  
**To:** Kirsty Jennings  
**Subject:** Re: Asda Express at Esso Garage, Front Street, Whickham

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Hi Kirsty, and thank you for your reply.

Withdrawal of the application would alleviate our concerns.

Opening hours and other restrictions should remain.

Esso can ensure compliance with that. They have already ignored lighting by installing a huge vaping display continuously lit overnight which make a big difference overnight and lighting up the Asda Express fascia.

Those things are more for the enforcement team in planning, but highlight that Esso do things despite planning restrictions.

A change in shop franchise makes no difference. However, with licensing, even if alcohol was allowed but only sold within existing opening times we still have real concerns it would become a magnet and exacerbate problems already in the area as outlined in our objections. Those problems Asda cannot stop, but withdrawing the application would alleviate our fears.

Many thanks.

TOM & GWEN KEATING.

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

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**From:** Kirsty Jennings <KirstyJennings@Gateshead.Gov.UK>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:57:13 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Asda Express at Esso Garage, Front Street, Whickham

Dear Mr and Mrs Keating,

I confirm receipt of your objection to the licensing application for Asda Express, Whickham.

Can you please let me know if there is anything the applicant can do to alleviate your concerns? Otherwise I will be in touch closer to the last date for representations which is 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024,

I will forward your concerns in relation to planning to the planning enforcement team,

Kind regards

Kirsty Jennings  
Licensing Officer

**Economy, Innovation and Growth, Gateshead Council**  
Civic Centre, Regent Street, Gateshead, NE8 1HH  
☎ 0191 433 3933 ✉ [kirstyjennings@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:kirstyjennings@gateshead.gov.uk)

**From:** tom keating [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 20, 2024 4:35 PM  
**To:** CE Licensing <Licensing@Gateshead.Gov.UK>  
**Subject:** Asda Express at Esso Garage, Front Street, Whickham

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**WE WISH TO OBJECT TO THE LICENCE APPLICATION.**

Please see the attached document with our representations in connection with the application for 24hour opening with alcohol sales and additional refreshment provisions between 11pm and 5am.

I am attaching here also some photographs taken from our house immediately adjacent to the garage forecourt. These may help you to appreciate the impact of additional opening overnight beyond the current restricted times and lighting.

I have some day photos and the same photos at night with the garage lighting.  
I have more images if you need some.

We hope you can look at the application from a residents view.

Yours sincerely,  
MR & MRS KEATING  
[REDACTED] Whickham.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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**Kirsty Jennings**

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**From:** tom keating [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 07 March 2024 21:45  
**To:** Kirsty Jennings  
**Subject:** Re: Licensing Act 2003 - Asda Express, Front Street, Whickham

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I have been occupied with business meetings this afternoon and missed this email until late.  
If you look at our original objections and additional email to you when you asked how our concerns could be alleviated you will see our objections cover alcohol at any time and 24 hour opening.  
Many thanks.  
TOM & GWEN KEATING

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

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**From:** Kirsty Jennings <KirstyJennings@Gateshead.Gov.UK>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 7, 2024 2:31:36 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Licensing Act 2003 - Asda Express, Front Street, Whickham

Dear Mr and Mrs Keating

I am emailing you to inform you that the applicant has now amended the times of the application as below:

- Sale of alcohol:  
06:00 – 23:00 (no longer 24 hours)
- Late Night Refreshment:  
23:00 – 05:00 (No change)

Can you please let me know if you still wish to continue with your objection, or withdraw?

I look forward to hearing from you,

Kind regards

Kirsty Jennings  
Licensing Officer

**Economy, Innovation and Growth, Gateshead Council**  
Civic Centre, Regent Street, Gateshead, NE8 1HH  
☎ 0191 433 3933 📧 [kirstyjennings@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:kirstyjennings@gateshead.gov.uk)

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## Kirsty Jennings

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**From:** tom keating [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11 March 2024 16:23  
**To:** Kirsty Jennings  
**Subject:** Re: Licensing Act 2003 - Asda Express, Front Street, Whickham

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FOR THE ATTENTION OF KIRSTY JENNINGS, LICENSING OFFICER, Gateshead Council

FROM MR & MRS KEATING [REDACTED] WHICKHAM

Thank you for your further email.

We wish to retain our objections to the Applications for Sale of Alcohol and 24hr opening at the Asda Express, Esso Garage, 6-8 Front Street.

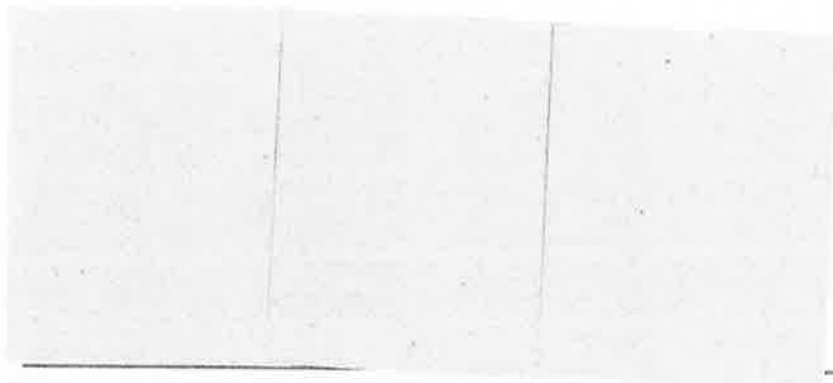
Our email and letter of 20th February outlined our concerns and objections, as requested.

We also wrote on 21<sup>st</sup> Feb saying only withdrawal of the applications would alleviate our concerns. We stressed that even if alcohol was allowed but only sold within existing shop hours our fears and concerns would remain and existing problems in the area would be made worse.

The meeting with neighbours and concerned residents at our house on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March, attended by our MP Liz Twist, showed real depth of concerns at the application if granted. Concerns over sale of alcohol were expressed, particularly fears of an increase in antisocial behaviour already existing in the area and then further problems with littering, noise disturbance and alcohol related crime activities. Real concerns by residents who wish to see our Council respect our residential area, designated as a conservation area which should have special protections. All in attendance were agreed that any objections would be maintained and would not be withdrawn. There was a feeling of being pushed, bullied and even threatened by this.

We wish to confirm that our objections remain.

Yours sincerely,  
TOM & GWEN KEATING [REDACTED]



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**From:** Kirsty Jennings <KirstyJennings@Gateshead.Gov.UK>  
**Sent:** 07 March 2024 19:11

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Licensing Act 2003 - Asda Express, Front Street, Whickham

Dear Mr and Mrs Keating

Following further discussion with between the applicant's solicitor and Licensing, I can confirm they have now amended their application as below:

*To amend the application to seek opening hours and alcohol sales hours of 0600-2200 if this means that the representations are withdrawn. These are the hours that the premises currently open. The request for late night refreshment would be withdrawn altogether.*

Can you please let me know if you still wish to continue with your objection, or withdraw?

Kind regards

Kirsty Jennings  
Licensing Officer

**Economy, Innovation and Growth, Gateshead Council**  
Civic Centre, Regent Street, Gateshead, NE8 1HH  
☎ 0191 433 3933 ✉ [kirstyjennings@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:kirstyjennings@gateshead.gov.uk)

From: Kirsty Jennings  
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2024 2:32 PM  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Licensing Act 2003 - Asda Express, Front Street, Whickham

Dear Mr and Mrs Keating

I am emailing you to inform you that the applicant has now amended the times of the application as below:

- Sale of alcohol:  
06:00 – 23:00 (no longer 24 hours)
- Late Night Refreshment:  
23:00 – 05:00 (No change)

Can you please let me know if you still wish to continue with your objection, or withdraw?

I look forward to hearing from you,

Kind regards

Kirsty Jennings  
Licensing Officer

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