



Melksham Town Council

Town Hall, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 6ES

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Town Clerk and RFO Linda Roberts BA(Hons) PGCAP, FHEA, FLSCC

11 October 2021

Aldi Beanacre Road Melksham application for Variation of Licensing Hours.

Melksham Town Council initially objected to the above application following a meeting of the Economic Development and Planning Committee on 27 September 2021 for three reasons:

- causing a public nuisance
- it was against the Sunday trading laws
- it was against Wiltshire's Core Strategy Policy 57.

As Wiltshire Council Licensing team have confirmed only one of our objections has been forwarded for the hearing panel to consider (causing a public nuisance), Melksham Town Council assumes that the other two objections of contravening Sunday trading laws and against Wiltshire's Core Strategy Policy 57 do not apply to this application.

You have requested that Melksham Town Council provides a response to the hearing explaining how the increased request for licensing hours will cause a public nuisance.

Councillors have responded with the following:

- as the store is in the middle of a densely populated residential area unlike other supermarkets in the town, selling alcohol early in the morning and until midnight every night of the week would cause disruption to residents.
- selling alcohol late in the evening could cause gatherings in the area drinking, causing antisocial behaviour including littering, noise, rowdy behaviour and crime opportunities.
- the application is for selling alcohol from 6.00 am to 0.00 midnight seven days a week but the store does not open during those hours. Are the store looking to increase their trading hours.?

In response to the suggested variation of hours Councillors would be amenable to the reduction from 12.00 midnight to 11.00 pm however the store is not open currently until 11.00 pm.