

Miss D Barker  
Orchid Close, Abridge, Essex,

29th April 2014

Your Ref: Abridge Stores, 24-25 Fir Trees,  
Abridge, Essex, RM4 1DG

**Epping Forest District Council**

Civic Office  
High Street  
Epping  
CM16 4BZ

FAO: Licensing Unit

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Abridge Store, 24-25 Fir Trees, Abridge, Essex, RM4 1DG

Thank you for your letter of 4th April 2014 regarding the application/proposal for the Londis shop at the above, to be open until midnight.

I would like to make a representation against the proposed new opening hours of the shop, on the following grounds; (and have detailed below my reasons which encompass both 1 & 2).

1. The prevention of crime and disorder
2. The prevention of public nuisance

Firstly I would like to acknowledge that as a local resident, I feel fortunate to have a local shop within the small community/estate in which I live, however, I feel being open until 22:00 (as it is now) is already too late, bearing in mind how close the shop is in relation to neighbouring houses who already experience the constant 'comings and goings' of cars, deliveries and customers up until 10pm. I think it is unreasonable to want to continue trading until midnight, in view of how many families and elderly there are living in such close proximity to the shop, these residents are likely to be disturbed long after 'bed time' if the application were to be granted.

Unfortunately, the outside of 'corner' shops seem to be a popular hangout spot for youngsters to loiter and meet outside. The Londis shop in Fir Trees is no exception. Youngsters and teenagers loitering outside the Londis at night has been an issue on numerous occasions over the years I have lived on the estate.

When the teenagers are loitering around the shop late into the evening, the noise, general 'carrying on' and foul language can be heard easily from where I live. This level of noise is disturbing in the

evening, but usually dies down once the shop has eventually closed. I am extremely concerned that if the application to extend the opening open hours is granted, then I will sometimes have to wait until midnight before such noise would dissipate, which is much later than I would choose to go to sleep.

It is also a concern of mine that people from neighbouring villages/towns will learn of the shop on the estate being open until midnight, and therefore the estate may become busier with traffic at a time of the evening when most people would be hoping to settle down and go to bed soon. Essentially the shop is located in a built up residential area, and as a local resident, I do not welcome the thought of more traffic coming through the estate after 10:00pm, especially as my thoughts are that the customers shopping between the hours of 22:00 and 24.00 will most likely be youngsters looking for somewhere still open to grab their evenings final supply of cigarettes, snacks and alcohol.

There is another issue as well with the volume of litter around the shop, so on the basis of the shop possibly being open for longer, I can only assume that in turn it is likely there will be more unsightly litter accumulating in the area.

Thank you again for the opportunity to forward my views on the application.

Yours faithfully,

Donna Barker

**Sarah Kits**

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**From:** R Spiller  
**Sent:** 01 May 2014 13:36  
**To:** Licensing  
**Subject:** Lambourne Parish Licence Applications

Please find below the comments from Lambourne Parish Council regarding recent licence applications

**WK/201411754** Abridge Stores, 24-25 Fir Trees, RM4 1DG: The Sale of alcohol from 0600hrs-2400hrs.  
This would increase anti social behaviour and cause disruption to neighbouring properties. There are existing problems of youths drinking on the Pancroft Green and the Abridge Village Hall ground and this would exacerbate the problems

Kind regards

Ruth Spiller  
Clerk to Lambourne Parish Council