

**Representation to the Exeter City Council Licensing Authority  
Re Ford Holdings application (038297) for a Premises License  
At Unit 2, 38 Commercial Road, Exeter, Devon, EX2 4AE**

I urge you to consider the following aspects of this application, which is intending to trade under the name of "Ganbeis":

**1)** The Quay is both a popular tourist and leisure destination and, together with the [REDACTED] with many flats and houses on both sides of the river. Furthermore the acoustics of The Quay are such that any sound echoes loudly across the river.

**The licence should therefore limit its opening hours to close by midnight, not 2am as requested**, so as not to create a disturbance from high-spirited customers on their way home from these premises while residents are sleeping. This has been recognised by the other catering premises in this area, which generally have opening hours which finish by midnight. For example Puerto Lounge in the same building opens as follows:

Open Hours:

Sunday to Wednesday To 23:30

Thursday to Saturday To 00:00

New Years Eve To 00:00

Supply of alcohol for consumption ON the premises only:

Sunday to Wednesday To 23:00

Thursday to Saturday To 00:00

New Years Eve To 00:00

**2)** We have experienced trouble with inebriated people continuing their drinking exuberantly on the grass verge outside our house after hours, urinating, vomiting and defecating [REDACTED]. We would **strongly object to off-sales of alcohol**, which would further enable such unacceptable behaviour.

**3)** In the interview in the Exeter Express & Echo of Ganbeis ( <https://www.devonlive.com/whats-on/food-drink/brand-new-restaurant-opening-exeter-4704552> ) they tell us that they are focussing on the Asian market. In Chinese culture the word Ganbei (literally Mandarin for "bottoms-up") means a drinking custom where drinkers are pressurised into drinking alcohol to excess, as explained in this web link: <https://www.chinaeducationaltours.com/guide/article-ganbei-chinese-drinking-culture.htm>

With any premises licence, such drinking games are prohibited, to comply with the Licensing Act. In the particular circumstances surrounding this application, this prohibition should go further, and **the supervisor made responsible for preventing any drinking games that customers might initiate and the licence should exclude the sale of spirits by the bottle that can be used in such games.**

**4)** The above interview contemplates the sale of hot takeaway food (See attached), as does the banner currently advertising their opening. The sale of hot takeaway food on The Quay would be a retrograde step for this prime family tourist area, Not only would it directly detract from the atmosphere, but the litter created by people eating takeaways on the hoof, rather than taking the food away to consume at home, would further detract from the area. Furthermore the inevitable discarded food, whether accidental or deliberate, would result in a significant increase in the pigeons and gulls on The Quay, which are already a nuisance. None of the other catering premises on The Quay sell hot takeaway food, other than ancillary to their restaurant business, and **a condition of the refreshment licence for Ganbeis should exclude any over-the-counter hot takeaway food service.**

5) The applicant is a dormant company, formed earlier this year as a holding company ( <https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/12606277> ), not an operating company, and so can avoid any liability arising from the operation of the premises by simply doing nothing. Both the owner of the applicant company, Glynn Ford, and the person controlling the property owning company, Ian Mitchell, have other companies behind them that have never traded, were dormant and have then been struck off. **The authority should determine which entity or person will actually be operating Ganbeis, and only consider the issue of a licence to such entity or person.**

