

Sirs,

I wish to object to the application of an alcohol licence for the above applicant on the grounds that there is already an established wine retail business called Topsham Wines just metres away from 11 Fore Street, as well as the availability to purchase alcohol in the Co-op store, also just metres away.

Topsham is not a large town, and whilst commercial competition is considered healthy, it is felt that yet another alcohol-selling business could be detrimental to the diversity and long-term sustainability of all the other businesses in the town.

The Co-op store is open late nights and 7 days a week, so demand for any purchases of alcohol can already be satisfied along with purchases of foods and other goods. Aldi too is on the outskirts of the town and supplies alcohol. In addition, Topsham has several pubs and restaurants that serve residents and visitors alike, so helps to encourage sociable and monitored drinking.

The proposed new store, particularly when alcohol is sold late evenings and consumed off premises, could encourage bad behaviour when drunk in excess in our public spaces such as the Quay, Underway or Recreation ground in particular - let alone requiring the removal of cans and bottles discriminately thrown on pavements and elsewhere.

I therefore oppose the granting of an alcohol licence on the basis that it could encourage further unsocial behaviour in the town's public places, and a further wine store would decrease the diversity of he limited available commercial space.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Topsham resident