

## Witness Statement

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27. 2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

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Statement of: PS 453 Jim STEVENSON

Age if under 18 (if over insert "over 18"):

Occupation: Police Sergeant

This statement (consisting of .....2..... Pages(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it, anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature:



Date:

16/03/2021

I am Sergeant Jim Stevenson and I am currently based at Parkside Police Station in Cambridge.

I have been a Cambridgeshire Constabulary Police Officer for almost nineteen years, joining in April 2002.

I have worked in a number of different roles during my time at Cambridgeshire Constabulary, including several years' service as a Neighbourhood Policing Team Sergeant. I have had geographic responsibility for the South of Cambridge and now the East of Cambridge.

I make this statement in support of Cambridgeshire Constabulary's representation regarding the application for a new premises licence submitted by Ward Hadaway Solicitors on behalf of their client; Co-operative Group Food Ltd., relating to 44A Mill Road, Cambridge. CB1 2AD, as completed by PC 446 METCALFE of the Operational Planning and Licensing Department.

This premises is in Petersfield Ward. It is situated in a Cumulative Impact Zone and, further, is located in close proximity to two areas included in a PSPO, Mill Road Cemetery and Petersfield Green. PC METCALFE's representation includes information on the terms of the PSPO and the Cumulative Impact Zone.

As the Sergeant with geographic policing responsibility for Petersfield ward, my team work in partnership with Cambridge City Council and other agencies both statutory and third sector, to resolve problems arising in Petersfield and tackle crime and disorder.

44A Mill Road is located in the Petersfield area on Mill Road.

Since I joined the police in 2002, Mill Road has been a hotspot for alcohol related crime and disorder.

Between 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019 and 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020, the police recorded 26 street-based incidents which were marked as involving alcohol along the Petersfield section of Mill Road. The pandemic has resulted in unusual statistics for the last 12 months which cannot be relied on to draw proper conclusions about the state of the area which I expect to return to normality later this year.

Mill Road, and especially the areas included in the PSPO, has historically attracted large numbers of street drinkers. Their presence has historically led to incidents of public disorder and complaints from residents about noise, litter and antisocial behaviour. The granting of a premises licence on this application will unavoidably provide an additional source of alcohol for this already problematic group.

Although the applicant has made several concessions to providing additional security, there remain several issues which they are going to be unable to resolve.

Firstly; the applicant can do nothing to ensure that alcohol sold on their premises will not be consumed outside it, in the street, and secondly, this alcohol will be an

Signature: .....

Signature Witnessed by: .....

**Witness Statement**

Continuation of Statement of

attractive target for theft and there is insufficient target hardening, such as placing the alcohol elsewhere.

The granting of an additional premises licence to Co-Op is likely to contribute to and exacerbate existing crime and ASB problems in the Mill Road CIZ and lead both to a commensurate increase in the demand for Police response to reported incidents, and a decrease in residents' feelings of safety and security.

Unfortunately, regardless of the good intentions of the Co-Op and the staff they appoint to manage this store, the existing environment into which they are going to operate their store means that there will inevitably be anti-social behaviour and alcohol related issues associated with their premises.

There are already 26 other licensed premises on the Petersfield section of Mill Road. I believe that there is already ample provision for residents and visitors to be able to purchase alcohol from their choice of shop.

I do not support the granting of this new premises licence application.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Witnessed by: \_\_\_\_\_