

15th August 2011

To Whom It May Concern

With regards to my application for the mix use of 102 Mill Road, Cambridge. I would like for the Planning Committee to review this application before making a final decision on the request for the change of use.

Since 1980, I have been involved in running my own grocery store at 96 Mill Road. However, in 2001 I had no choice but to change my line of business due to the increasing competition by the large supermarket chain stores.

In 2001, I spent thousands of pounds renovating on a run down property and opened a community café, improving the image of Mill road. Since then Sweet 'n' Spicy has become a community centre for local residents and foreign tourists. We cater for a large Muslim community, vegetarians and are a key supporter of most charity events.

In connection to the new layout of 102 Mill Road, we are proposing the following to coincide with the planning committee's requirement. The total floor area (98sqm) will be divided as per the new schedule, which uses a mere 38% of the shop floor area for A3 (Restaurant) and retains 62% A1 (Retail) use of the premises. Therefore the dominant use of the shop will remain A1 in line with council's policies.

To keep the word community in the café as a central point, we are segregating our product lines into the following, please see table below.

Product Area	Product Description	Comments (A1/A3)
Wall shelves Shop side 100	Spices, Indian & Arabic sweets, Spices, Packed savouries,	A1
Serving Counter Shop side 100	Snacks, cakes, milkshakes, tea, coffee, fresh juices, smoothies and yoghurt drinks.	A1
Display counter Shop side 100	All types of scoop ice cream	A1
Shop display window Shop side 100	Handicraft & gifts	A1
Wall mountings Shop side 104	Wall dedicated to local artists paintings for sale	A1
Shop display window Shop side 104	Handicraft & Gifts	A1

As an independent business man with four dependants, running a business is very challenging and requires adaptation. I strongly believe with the new changes to our shop plan and floor use layout, the committee members should take every aspect of my application into consideration. I also request that the new change of use be granted in good faith keeping the local community in mind.

Yours Sincerely

Z.Arshad