

## **‘Other persons’ Representations**

**From:** Charles Knight [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 November 2025 20:15  
**To:** licensing (CCity) <licensing@cambridge.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Information of general use & objections to alcohol sales licensing all at 103, CB1 7BS

Dear Cambridge Alcohol Licensing Team,

RE: 103 Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge CB1 7BS

My domestic home address is in the northern-western most corner of the edge of Queen Edith's Ward a few side roads away from Cherry Hinton Road at the Cherry Hinton Road end near to Marque and Cambridge Leisure locality.

This e-mail despite mentioning current information, fact and reputation and reference to historical memorable fact and commonly known local knowledge solely relates to the business premises now known today, 13 November 2025 as "Shop Simply" and historically as both Sparkles and or as Luxor all at 103 Cherry Hinton Road solely.

Local knowledge currently tells me that the business premises known now as Shop Simply (opposite the mouth of Rock Road) on Cherry Hinton Road recently had their alcohol license suspended or stopped.

I object to the premises under ANY business name, both past, present and future from being granted any license to sell alcoholic beverages permanently.

The reasons for objection as points of information due to local certain knowledge and witnessing myself.

- The premises was once a respectable Wine Merchants albeit 20 years and more ago. The wine merchants are both historical and never caused any problems nor breaches of law or license to the best of my knowledge and belief.

- At least 18 years ago the issues I feel it essential to make you aware of began:

In 2008 I had my own 28th birthday, so personally I was never and am not guilty of purchasing alcohol under age from this premises nor indeed anywhere else worldwide.

However I have lived in Queen Edith's since September 2001 aged 20 and it has always been commonly known to all of any age from when I first moved to the area that:

Sparkles was where the teenagers all went to get their booze and cigarettes at whatever age.

I will elaborate that now I am 45 years old.

The shop now known as Shop Simply has always been widely known and had a reputation for underage sales of alcohol, cigarettes, vapes etc.

The Shop when known as Sparkles was guilty of underage sales frequently, mostly alcohol but also cigarettes and since their inception "vapes" too.

From or possibly before February 2008 the shop and premises at the same location as now Shop Simply was known as: "Sparkles", yet careful examination of any receipt given to customers - if ever actually given at all, suggested the business was really called Luxor....

Their reputation for extremely shady business practises was and still is common knowledge to this day.

Furthermore in the past two years at least one local Cambridge newspaper - Cambridge Independent or Cambridge Evening news and probably both - carried an article I distinctly recall that elaborated in some depth that Sparkles / Luxor having been closed down due to underage sales the new shop owner had signed a particular extra document stating they would not ever do underage sales. This extra document was required by the authorities because the new owner of Shop Simply was and is a close relative of the previous owner and license holder!

Thus, the same family have been carrying out the same shady and illegal business practices for the majority of the past two decades. All locals know this and those of any respectable standing in the community do to ever frequent nor buy from the premises, now known as Shop Simply ever. I consider myself one of those very same local people. My work in the past 24 years began as a Royal Mail postal sorter - Clifton Road Site, finishing late at night, yet never choosing to buy alcohol from that premises at all, despite being 22 years old at the time.

More recently since then, I have worked with SEND children and young adults across four counties including Cambridgeshire and am currently an Ad Hoc Medical Secretary at Cambridge University Hospitals. Furthermore I have a more personal interest in the health and well-being of two female minors, the daughters of a close female friend, and I would certainly never want those two girls to even have the temptation within a few years to buy alcohol before their eighteenth birthdays and which are still a few years away.

Thus I have reasons to object to the granting, renewal or restoration of all and any license to any person trading at the premises on the Coleridge Ward side of Cherry Hinton Road opposite Rock Road.

Simply said, and apologies for the length of this email sent solely as information:

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Nothing has really changed in almost two decades:

the shop premises at:

Nº — Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge.

has been notorious for many shady and illegal business practises, mostly alcohol sales to underage minors and or already intoxicated customers for the vast majority of the past 24 years to my knowledge.

I wish to categorically state that the business only and solely when a respectable wine merchant IS NOT included in this complaint nor points of information.

My points of information and thus my reasons for objecting to any alcohol license ever being granted at that address either for consumption on or especially off the premises dates from ever since the day that respectable wine merchant closed their doors for the last time and all business and people trading solely at that same address since then have been notorious for bad and shady business practices, debts to their suppliers, underage alcohol sales and underage tobacco sales and slightly more recently underage sales of vaporisers, and their paraphernalia.

I think you have the necessary points now. This email is sent to make points of information and raise objection as a member of the local community where the premises concerned is located, all this email is sent to the best of my knowledge and belief and where applicable due to memory being naught to the contrary all at the time of transmission of the email herein.

Thank you for reading.

Any reply to this electronic letter can and should be sent to either:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

OR

My current work address: marked "Private & Personal Correspondence"

Charles Knight

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

Charles Knight