

The Licensing Application

Members of the **Long Crendon Community** have complained that they had not seen the proposal to obtain a license to sell Alcohol in their Post Office advertised.

It would appear that the confusion over this is that the License was applied for under the name of SAHASH LAI BAGHA and not under the Long Crendon Post Office. [Most people would not have recognized that name or associated it with our Post Office].

The majority of the Long Crendon community would not know that the notice would have been advertised by a name other than Long Crendon Post Office. This only became clear when I contacted the **Bucks Herald Office**. On the 22nd Oct. I contacted them again enquiring if it was advertised under the name of SAHASH LAI BAGHA the email came back that it could not be found under that name either.
[copy of emails enclosed].

The Crendon Crier is our Local News Letter published every month. October's edition went on sale on **Wednesday 21st. Oct.** [Copy enclosed].

I quote the Parish Council Minutes from October's edition.

Clerks report

'Post Office Licensing – There is an application for a License to sell **Newspapers, Milk, Dairy and Magazines etc** and for the reduction in the size of the Post Office to a single counter. After much discussion Cllrs. Decided not to object'.

THERE IS NO MENTION HERE OF THE SALE OF ALCOHOL.

Yet another confusing piece of information.

Enclosed please find a printout of the Post Office Door with notice displayed.

Small print on A4 Pale Blue paper [Next shade to White]! At top left hand corner of shop door with various other notices. Door is frequently open as Customers enter or leave, easily missed when door is open. Difficult for average height people, let alone small and short sighted people to read. Really **inappropriately displayed**.

Public Nuisance

Here in Long Crendon, as in other villages, we have residents who are addicted to Alcohol and at times they do cause a problem to the general public. i.e., accost passers by to go and buy their drink for them when the shopkeeper has refused to serve them.. They have been known to urinate in shop doorways, and leave Alcohol related litter in the Square.

Protection of Children from Harm

Known local alcoholics often drink on the Recreation Ground where Children play. These people [who do not see anything wrong with the excessive consumption of Alcohol] have been known to be approached by under age persons to supply/purchase Alcohol for them.

Children who use the Post Office will be subjected to the influence of Alcohol use by having to associate with customers purchasing it.

Public Safety

Here I relate to the new layout plan submitted [copy enclosed]. This plan seems confusing as it appears to show a much larger area than is actually available. Thus making the area even more cramped than it is now, which could raise Health and Safety issues for the disabled, wheelchair bound, the elderly and even young Mothers with Child buggies having to negotiate all the extra shelving etc, to access the Post Office counter.

It is proposed that this will be a combi counter [one counter for both **Alcohol sales** and Post Office Services] this will cause much longer queues [and standing time] for Post Office services. Our Post Office supplies four local villages, as you can imagine it can get impossibly crowded at times.

Other considerations

We already have six licensed premises in Long Crendon for a population of approximately 2,335 [2011 census]. One being the Newsagents in the Square just a few metres from the Post Office. **I am not against competition but, with another licensed premises in such close proximity there is a risk of Alcohol price cutting to compete for trade. This could encourage more anti social drinking.**