Representations from Resonsible Authorities

Licensing Authority

Community Safety and Street Scene

Licensing, Riverside House, Main Street, Rotherham, S60 1AE

Direct Line: 01709 254955

E.mail: licensing@rotherham.gov.uk

My Reference: Your Reference:

ASP/1522/070825

Please ask for: Alan Pogorzelec Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Date:

7th August 2025

To:

Diane Kraus

diane.kraus@rotherham.gov.uk

Copy to:

Audrey Bailey

audrey.bailey@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Mrs Kraus.

Wigtox Lounge, 33 South Street, Rawmarsh, Rotherham, S62 5RF

I write on behalf of Rotherham MBC acting in the role of a Responsible Authority and with reference to the application for the grant of a Premises Licence in respect of the above premises.

The application seeks consent to allow the:

- Sale of alcohol (for consumption on & off the premises) on:
 - Sunay to Thursday between 12:00 hours and 23:00 hours;
 - Friday & Saturday between 12:00 hours and 00:30 hours on the day following
- Provision of live & recorded music and the performance of dance (all inside only) on:
 - Sunay to Thursday between 12:00 hours and 23:00 hours;
 - Friday & Saturday between 12:00 hours and 00:30 hours on the day following
- Exhibition of films (inside only) on;
 - Sunay to Thursday between 10:00 hours and 23:00 hours;
 - Friday & Saturday between 10:00 hours and 00:30 hours on the day following
- Provision of late-night refreshment, for consumption inside the premises, on;
 - Friday & Saturday between 230:00 hours and 00:30 hours on the day following

Having reviewed the Operating Schedule provided as part of the application, the Licensing Authority is opposed the grant of this application as it considers that the applicant has not sufficiently demonstrated that the steps they are proposing will sufficiently promote the following licensing objectives:

- Preventing Crime & Disorder
- Protection of Children from Harm
- Public Nuisance

Public Safety

The Licensing Authority is of this view for the following reasons:

- The premises are seeking consent for the retail sale of alcohol until 0030 hours and yet they have stated that door supervision is not considered necessary.
- Outdoor areas are provided for use by patrons, with a number of restrictions in place
 regarding the activities that can take place in these areas after certain times (e.g. no
 consumption of food / drink on the patio area after 11pm). There is no information in
 the operating schedule regarding the arrangements that will be put in place for the
 monitoring and enforcement of this requirements.
- The terminal hour for the sale of alcohol is 0030 hrs it is considered likely that this
 will attract patrons that have attended at other premises earlier in the evening that
 have chosen to attend the venue due to the later opening time.
- There is insufficient information within the operating schedule that outlines the steps that will be taken to minimise the impact of noise on the nearby residential properties and other noise sensitive locations.

The Licensing Authority is open to further discussion with the applicant with regard to these matters and will consider withdrawing the representation if agreement can be reached with regard to additional licence conditions. In order to assist, the Licensing Authority would like to propose the following:

- Subject to condition 3 below, a minimum of two SIA door supervisors will be employed at the premises from 8pm on a Friday and Saturday until premises close.
- 2. Subject to condition 3 below, a minimum of 2 SIA Door Staff should also be employed at the premises on days when higher risk activities are taking place at or in the vicinity of the premises (a high risk activity would be one that is likely to see a significant increase in the number of people attending the venue and / or a change in the nature or behaviour of the people that attend the venue when compared with what would be expected had the activity not been taking place).
- 3. Conditions 2 and 3 will not apply if the both the licensing authority and South Yorkshire Police accept the findings of a satisfactory risk assessment carried out by the licence holder where those finding indicate that the use of SIA door supervisors is not required. The risk assessment must be accepted by the Licensing Authority and South Yorkshire Police prior to the withdrawal of SIA door staff from the premises.
- 4. When carrying out the risk assessment referred to in condition 3, the licence holder should have regard to any information provided to the licence holder by the Licensing Authority, South Yorkshire Police or any other reliable source of information.
- A written copy of the risk assessment referred to in condition 3 must be available for inspection at the premises by any authorised officer.

- If the Licensing Authority or South Yorkshire Police consider that risk assessment referred to in Condition 3 is no longer acceptable or sufficient then conditions will apply until such time as both authorities accept a revised risk assessment.
- Subject to condition 8, no person shall be admitted to the premises after 23:00hrs.
- Condition 7 will not apply to persons that were present in the premises at any point between 22:45hrs and 23:00hrs

As measures relating to the prevention of noise are venue dependant, I have not made any suggestions here regarding appropriate conditions. I would however direct the applicant to the Rotherham MBC Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Policy that provides examples of actions that premises may wish to take to reduce the impact of noise on nearby sensitive properties.

I am prepared to expand upon these matters further during a hearing before the Council's Licensing Sub-Committee, but in the meantime please feel free to contact me if you require anything further.

Yours Sincerely,

Alan Pogorzelec Licensing Manager

Community Protection Unit (Environmental Health)

memorandum

Neighbourhoods



To: Date: 7 August 2025

LICENSING SERVICES

Subject:

Premises Licence Application
Wigtox Lounge 33 South Street Rawmarsh Rotherham S62 5RF

 Contact:
 Ref:
 Extension:

 Kirsty Leonard
 062297
 01709 255013

I write with reference to the above application to which I received consultation papers on 10 July 2025 and would report as follows:

I have read the application document and it is noted that the application seeks consent to allow the following:

Sale of alcohol (for consumption on & off the premises) on:
Sunday to Thursday between 12:00 hours and 23:00 hours;
Friday & Saturday between 12:00 hours and 00:30 hours on the day following

Provision of live & recorded music and the performance of dance (all inside only) on: Sunday to Thursday between 12:00 hours and 23:00 hours; Friday & Saturday between 12:00 hours and 00:30 hours on the day following

Exhibition of films (inside only) on;

Sunday to Thursday between 10:00 hours and 23:00 hours; Friday & Saturday between 10:00 hours and 00:30 hours on the day following

Provision of late-night refreshment, for consumption inside the premises, on; Friday & Saturday between 230:00 hours and 00:30 hours on the day following

This application raises a number of concerns due to the fact that the premises are in a noise sensitive location. The premises are in a residential area, directly adjacent to a primary school.

The premises have been subject to noise complaints in the past, due to noise from patrons leaving late at night. The provision of recorded music is likely to result in complaints from noise sensitive dwellings in close proximity. Though the music is proposed indoors, this is likely to be audible outside of the building due to windows/doors being open

The proposed development would cause a loss of amenity on the grounds of noise disturbance to noise sensitive receptors. Therefore it is the recommendation of this department that the License application is refused.

Should you require any further information regarding this application, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Signature

Representations from "Other Persons"

Other Person – Ward Councilor #1

From: Cllr David Sheppard < David. Sheppard@rotherham.gov.uk >

Sent: 03 August 2025 22:14

KJ. Oll

To: Diane Kraus < Diane. Kraus@rotherham.gov.uk >

Subject: Wigtox Lounge

I'd like to submit my response to the application related to the Wigtox Lounge in Rawmarsh.

The premises are located in the middle of a residential area, with people living very close by. The operating hours requested on a Friday and Saturday night are not suitable for a business operating in such an area. As submitted, there is a strong likelihood of residents being disturbed by the noise of customers coming and going from the premises late into the nighttime hours.

Given the above, and in order to ensure that the licensing objective of preventing public nuisance is fully promoted, I would ask that the hours authorised for the provision of licensable activities are reduced on Friday and Saturday nights to 11pm.

Cllr Dave Sheppard

Other Person – Ward Councilor #2

I have been approached by a number of residents who have raised objections to the former working men's on South Street becoming a licensed premises again.

Most of the residents want to remain anonymous for fear of reprisals from the applicant.

Their objections fall within all four licensing objectives.

Broadly, the concerns are:-

- The impact of a late night licence on the residents who live on the street.
- They report that there was public nuisance and crime and disorder when the premises was a working men's club. They believe a new club would have the same issues.
- They are concerned that part of the premises is a beauty parlour and that crime and disorder
 could ensue as there is to be no separation between the two different businesses. They fear
 that intoxicated people could stray into the beauty area and that this would make the clients
 targets for offending. Children may also be accompanying their parents and this could place
 them in harm's way.

Thank you,

Cllr Rachel Hughes

Other Person One (South Street, Rawmarsh)

Sent: 10 July 2025 13:32

To: Diane Kraus < Diane. Kraus@rotherham.gov.uk >

Subject: Re: Important - Licence Application - Wigtox Lounge, 33 South Street, Rawmarsh,

Rotherham S62 5RF

I'm still not happy with a outdoor area on the front, where children and elderly will be walking passed a open area where people will be drinking alcohol. Resulting in the chance of verbal comments and bad language, especially around school hours, this should be a enclosed area with no visual access to the street. Also the 11pm is fine but that doesn't say about Friday or Saturday nights, as anything after the 11pm is a disturbance to residents. Which will cause both myself and my 15yr old daughter stress due to having a autism diagnosis (same as a open area on the front)

What about the parking issues? It's already difficult to park outside our own homes at times , and we need access to the car without having to walk/search for it due to disabilities.

Also it says nothing about door staff (trained) or the issues of damage to our properties (car and urination on our front yard and passage).

So until these are addressed I would still be against this licence

Other Person Two (Hutchinson Road, Rawmarsh)

Sent: 20 July 2025 16:15

To: Diane Kraus < Diane. Kraus@rotherham.gov.uk >

Subject: LICENSE APPLICATION-WIGTOX LOUNGE, 33 SOUTH STREET, RAWMARSH,

ROTHERHAM S62 5RF

In reply to your recent email I understand that Carl Clayton has withdrawn his application for an alcohol license for the above premises and Helen Clayton has now applied for a license.

May I mention that I have been in touch with Councillor David Sheppard and it appears that planning permission has not been applied for these premises and the planning team are looking into this.

The new opening hours for Friday, Saturday and New Years Eve are far too late. It will mean that every weekend and Bank holiday customers will be drinking all day and residents will be unable to enjoy their gardens. Although only the patio is to be used as an outdoor drinking area they will gradually overspill and go round the back of the building unless it is securely gated. Even though there are to be notices up when customers come out and are walking home because they have been drinking they will be loud and argumentative. There will also be taxis flying about. Most of the surrounding residents are elderly and won't be happy about being disturbed in the early hours. Although Helen Clayton says the roof terrace will not be used, on section 'J of the application she states that alcohol will not be permitted after 22.30 on every day. If they are open later than the other licenced premises in the area customer who have already been drinking will be coming along and imbibing more alcohol.

This application is not appropriate for these premises. The Lounge is on a narrow back street consisting mostly of terraced houses. It is not an affluent area (lots of people are on benefits) and will not be able to afford fancy cocktails etc. and it will encourage people to spend money which should be going on families and bills.

Outdoor drinking will be on a very narrow patio (6ft/8ft wide) and will spill onto the pavement. Children will be going past at home time which isn't suitable and they will be pestering their parents to go in and buy milk shakes, ice creams etc. again too much temptation. Children over 12yrs will be able to go in unaccompanied and will see customers drinking all day which then they will think is the norm. The building abuts an infant school and isn't appropriate for them to be passing or hearing any uncouth language.

Parking is already a problem on narrow streets and residents already have problems getting in and out and the traffic will spread to other streets. Opposite the premises was a car park

but has now been built on. On the plans there are several studio flats for temporary accommodation so where will they park and also they will be encouraged to use the lounge for drinking and they will also be affected by the noise. Although the music is only being planned for indoors, the front door will be opened frequently for the customers on the patio and it will be a nuisance for residents.

The applicants Mr & Mrs Clayton have only been in the area for a short while and will be unaware of the problems caused at Ryecroft Club when police were called frequently for disturbances and fighting. Although Wigtox is spending lots on converting the building (seemingly without planning permission) I don't think they are being realistic about 'building a community' as you don't need alcohol to do this. They should just have had a coffee shop and cafe alongside their treatment rooms.

As owner/occupiers we alcohol license been granted. It is not in the interest of public safety and preventing crime and disorder, not protecting children and young people. Please consider our objections.

Other Person Three (South Street, Rawmarsh)

Sent: 17 July 2025 20:26

To: Licensing < Licensing@rotherham.gov.uk > Subject: Application 054749 - Wigtox lounge

I understand there is a planning application submitted for Wigtox Lounge at the former Ryecroft WMC.

Please see below my appeal against the planning application and reasons why it should be seriously considered to be declined.

Seating - I understand they wish to have a rooftop terrace overlooking south street and main street open everyday from 10:00am until 10:30pm.

This arises major concerns for me when it comes to privacy. Guests would be able to directly see into people honestly, gardens and bedroom windows including mine. This is absurd especially if there are children's bedrooms. And given Rotherham councils appealing past with children, this should be a quick decision to reject this permission for a rooftop seating area altogether.

I understand they also want seating to the front of the property on south street open everyday from 10:00am to 11:00pm with smoking permitted.

This will cause anti social behaviour issues as it did when Ryecroft WMC was there. Constant noise, fights, police calls and drug deals taking place which all stopped when Ryecroft WMC shut it doors, therefore I do not wish to deal with this headache again. The constant noise from shouting, drunk revellers isn't right, especially when young children are leaving directly opposite and next door to the area. Also not to mention there is school right next to it.

Opening hours and serving alcohol - I understand the opening hours applied for are 10:00am to 1:00am everyday including upto 2:30am on news years eve. This is ridiculous, this is a family oriented street with young children and newborns, not a town centre.

1:00am is too late to be open to revellers. This will cause issues for people working and also will encourage anti social behaviour which our police force have better things to do then be on south street again everyday like it was.

I understand alcohol wishes to be served until 12:30am everyday. Again, absurd! This will encourage excessive drinking, will cause anti social behaviour, fights at the premises and a nuisance to local residents.

Music - I understand they wish to have music everyday from 12:00pm to 12:30am. Absolutely not!

This is complete disregard to local residents, it will cause nuisance, will keep children and newborns awake and it's just a stupid idea overall. This shows that the owners of the bar have no regard for the local residents whatsoever.

Overall, I object to the planning admission as a whole. It is not good for the local residents of south street and main street to have to put up with the anti social behaviour that will arise like it did when it was Ryecroft WMC. The plans put forward from the owners highlight they have no regards towards local residents and that does not install faith that they will act should issues arise, which they will.

South street and main street have become nice quiet streets to own a property on, hence why if you check Zoopla houses have sold her very quickly. Let's not ruin a popular quiet street for the sake of a drinking establishment when there are already enough in rawmarsh such as the queens, rawmarsh tap, horse and jockey, something brewing and the earl grey. We don't need any other drinking establishment in such close proximity, especially one on a family street.

So if Rotherham council actually care for residents then this will not be granted.

Should it be granted then it highlights that kcm really have their fingers dipped in deep at Rotherham council as you didn't follow your own procedure when I injected to the work already done at the former Ryecroft WMC, you didn't even follow up with me despite my numerous attempts to speak to someone.

Would you want this next to your home keeping your children awake?

Please acknowledge this email asap.

Sent: 23 July 2025 19:50

To: Diane Kraus < Diane. Kraus@rotherham.gov.uk >

Subject: Re: Premises Licence Application - Wigtox lounge

Listen to me.

I object to everything they have proposed. There does not need to be another drinking establishment in this area.the last one caused alot of anti social behaviour, wasted police time constantly, drug deals being done in the street and violence.

I think the opening hours are far too long. There are children living so close to the proposed premises. I know Rotherham council don't care for children (the grooming scandal) but at least see this from our perspective.

South street is a residential street, why have a drinking establishment on here where families reside. There is a main road for this with plenty of vacant properties, it's called kilnhurst road.

And the part where I stated about Rotherham council don't care for children (the grooming scandal) you can keep that in so it's public.

Please acknowledge this email.

Other Person Three – Addendum 2

Sent: 24 July 2025 15:18

To: Diane Kraus < Diane. Kraus@rotherham.gov.uk >

Subject: RE: Premises Licence Application - Wigtox lounge

And I want this to be taken seriously.

This is a family street with young children. Think about how you would feel if trouble was keeping your kids awake at night as it previously did with the Ryecroft social club.

Instead of Rotherham council thinking about money and filling up empty buildings with anything they need to think about what is best for residents.

Also directly opposite where the proposed club is wanting to be there is a young girl with severe autism who is looked after by her mum. Do you think a club will be in her best interest.

Be a human for once and put residents before money.

Other Person Three – Addendum 3

Sent: 29 July 2025 19:22

To: Diane Kraus < Diane. Kraus@rotherham.gov.uk >

Subject: RE: Premises Licence Application - Wigtox lounge

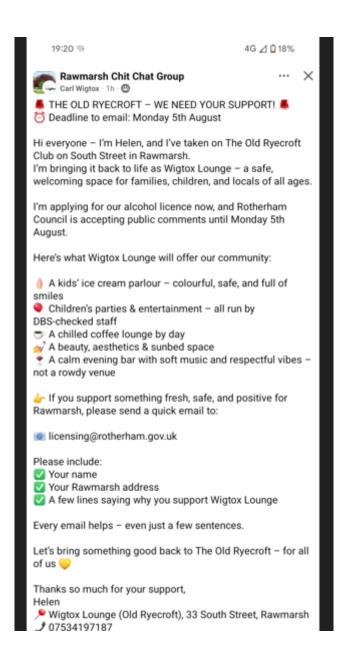
Surely this isn't on.

Pulling at heart strings on social media so anybody emails in to you to support the business.

Most people commenting don't even live in the area so surely this isn't fair.

I've attached a screenshot. That's appalling. People emailing in to oppose actually live on the street whereas these people emailing in with support are lures in from social media.

I want a response on this. This isn't on.



Other Person Four (South Street, Rawmarsh)

Sent: 26 July 2025 12:34

To: rotherham_licensing@southyorks.pnn.police.uk; Licensing

<Licensing@rotherham.gov.uk>; Diane Kraus < Diane.Kraus@rotherham.gov.uk>; Cllr David

Sheppard <David.Sheppard@rotherham.gov.uk>; Cllr Rachel Hughes <Rachel.Hughes@rotherham.gov.uk>; John.Healey <john.healey.mp@parliament.uk> **Subject:** Important - Licence Application - Wigtox Lounge, 33 South Street, Rawmarsh, Rotherham S62 5RF

To whom it may concern,

Please see my response to application of Wigtox lounge for 33 South street, Rawmarsh, S625RF

This is in relation to:

Sale of alcohol (for consumption on & off the premises) between 12:00 hours and 00:30 hours Friday and Saturday and 12:00 hours until 23:00 Sunday to Thursday. Provision of late-night refreshment, for consumption inside the premises, on every day of the week.

My concerns are related to the following issues:

- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Safeguarding of children
- Public nuisance
- Public safety

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

Granting a license to serve alcohol until 12:30 a.m. on a residential street is inappropriate, even at a weekend. Historically, when alcohol was previously sold on these premises, there were numerous incidents requiring police intervention. These included anti-social behaviour, vandalism, and damage to vehicles. Reintroducing late-night alcohol and music on this site risks exacerbating these issues and would significantly disrupt the safety of local residents. Despite there being an 11 pm closing time at the previous premises there were numerous occasions that residents had to phone the police past midnight to deal with the antisocial behaviour happening on our street. This will only be further exacerbated by longer hours.

As detailed above, the previous address has been used as a working mens club in the the past. At this time, alongside the crime and disorder detailed above there was also open drug use around the site. This included the clear selling of drugs outside the premises and drug paraphernalia being left around the public bins and in residents bins. This also poses a serious risk to children (please see section below). Even since the closing of Ryecroft Working Mens Club, drug concerns continue to exist on our street and residents consistently witness drug dealing taking place on bisby road. Of late this seems to be increasing within the local area with numerous none residents now waiting on bisby or outside the school late at night. I have already requested south

yorkshire police increase their presence in the area and am aware the councillor Dave Sheppard has asked the same.

Public Nuisance

1. Sound pollution

This is a residential area with terraced houses and relatively narrow streets. Sound travels freely up and down the road and the houses are quite close together. Previously, when the pub was open we could hear the conversations happening outside the pub while people were smoking in our home.

Since the closing of the working mens club our street has become a quiet residential street, numerous families have moved in and it has been a real change for the better.

Sound from the pub disrupts local residents, most of whom are working age or have young families. An opening time until 1am is not acceptable and would cause unnecessary disruption to residents alongside sleepless nights for adults and children. Most families have a room on the front of their houses. It is not acceptable to have residents disturbed by the sounds of this venue. The use of the front for seating also makes it impossible for residents not to be disturbed. The previous site used the back and side of the club for seating which did alleviate some of the noise on south street however I cannot attest to what this looked like for residents on main street.

2. Parking.

It has always been difficult to park near our homes on south street. Previously, the working mens club had an area used as a car park. This has now been repurposed into housing causing more of a challenge parking both in the day and at night for all local residents. There is not the infrastructure on and around south street to cope with the additional hmo flats (for whom parking is not provided), new houses built, the school and traffic visiting this proposed venue. This impacts on safety, especially where there are such a large number of children around and is a nuisance for residents.

3. Additional footfall

The additional footfall in and around the venue and the ability to take alcohol off site encourages anti social behaviour and causes an increase in noise. It also encourages an increase in litter, we currently are contacting the council on a weekly basis for the emptying of rubbish from bins. There is a large amount of litter left on the green areas of Bisby Road.

Protection of Children from Harm

The proposed site is immediately adjacent to a school. During my time living here, I have witnessed children having to pass individuals who were visibly intoxicated near the premises of Ryecroft Working Mens Club. This is not an acceptable environment for young people and raises serious safeguarding concerns. This will only be exacerbated by patrons being able to drink on the front of the site, next door to the school.

Without adequate measures to disrupt noise, sound will travel and inappropriate conversations may be over heard by children.

Noise from outdoor areas would also potentially disrupt children's learning.

Finally when the ryecroft working mens club was open there was drug paraphernalia, glass bottles, broken glass and alcohol left on the streets. This is a significant risk to keeping children safe. The schools is also an infant only school meaning that children are often not able to adequately protect themselves from harm.

Public Safety

There are longstanding public safety concerns associated with this site. In the past, there have been instances of physical altercations, windows being put through, cars being hit by those leaving the pub intoxicated, drug dealing on the street and cars being set on fire. When Ryecroft Working Mens club was open we did not feel safe walking past the club at night. We finally are in a place where residents feel safe in their own homes and are not worrying about every sound. It is wholly unreasonable to put residents back in that situation until late at night.

I also have significant concerns about the multi use of this site and that there may be needles and scalpels for aesthetic treatments kept a door away from where people are drinking. I am concerned that one kicked down door could lead to a patron being armed with a weapon which could have an unspeakable impact on the safety of patrons and residents.

Emergency vehicle access has always been a problem due to excessive, poorly regulated street parking and a lack of available spaces as a result of the development of need houses on the street. Previously, the premises included a car park, but this space has now been repurposed for housing as approved by Rotherham Council, further reducing available parking. Additionally, the conversion of the site into flats has added further pressure on local infrastructure. Combined with the proximity to a school, these changes create real risks to public safety and require serious consideration. If there was a serious incident parking in this area currently prevents access for emergency vehicles and this is only likely to get worse. I also have a number of concerns around the safety of children at the end of the day due to the number of vehicles and again this will be exacerbated.

Addressing Concerns

As redress to my concerns I believe the following should be put in place to ensure that the community is kept safe.

1. Addressing the times of the alcohol licence.

It is unreasonable for a venue on a residential street to be open until 1am and serve alcohol until 12:30am. My suggestion would be that alcohol can be served until 10:00 pm (with a 10:30 closing time) Sunday - Thursday and 10:30 pm Friday and Saturday with a closing time of 11:00pm. This would be in line with similar local amenities such as rawmarsh tap which closes at 10pm week nights and 10:30pm weekends and local

off licences which have a latest closing time of 11pm. I would also note that all these local amenities are on a main road not in the middle of a residential street.

There is also an application for an opening time until 2:00am on new year's eve. While I appreciate this is a night where the venue may need to be open later, it is unnecessary for it

to be open until this time. I would suggest that alcohol is served until 12:30am on this night only with a closing time of 1am in line with public houses.

2. Use of outdoor areas.

This is a residential street with the majority of residents of working age or families with young children. All houses have bedrooms on the front of our houses. I would suggest that outdoor areas close at 9pm Sunday - Thursday to prevent disruption to children and 10pm Friday and Saturday to ensure that residents who shift work are not disturbed. I would also request that consideration is given to either move the outdoor seating to the back of the venue or objects put at the front of the venue to redirect noise such as sound panels within a fenced area.

3. Parking.

There is a clear issue with safe parking on the street exacerbated by the repurposing of land previously used as parking for housing and the additional vehicles which will be generated by hmo housing. I would suggest that there is consideration to the front of the building being used for parking for the hmo housing with beer gardens on the back and a permit system being introduced for residents of south street so that they are able to park safely and within a reasonable distance of their homes. There could also be consideration of how the green spaces on bisby could be repurposed by the council for additional parking. This could also be a conversation with the school as there is not enough parking within the school grounds for staff to park.

4. Security.

First there needs to be installation of security cameras outside the venue and on south street to capture any antisocial behaviour to support the appropriate legal redress should any incidents occur. Secondly there needs to be a clear plan to move patrons on at closing time and prevent anti social behaviour, for example sri security being in place at the venue.

5. Litter.

There needs to be a commitment to ensuring litter is reduced on the street. Therefore I would request twice a week emptying of public bins and weekly litter picking on the street.

6. Potential drug use around the site

There needs to be agreement from Mrs Clayton about her response to incidents of drug use in the area and in his venue and an understand of how Mrs Clayton will work with South Yorkshire police to reduce and respond to drug use in and around the venue.

7. Access to dangerous objects

There needs to be clear safety planning to ensure that dangerous objects used in cosmetic treatment cannot be accessed by patrons. This needs to go further than being behind a locked door. There needs to be a clear risk assessment in place and clear plans about steps that should someone gain access to equipment and the order of these e.g. contacting the school to trigger lockdown procedures, contacting south Yorkshire police etc. While I am aware that this may seem extreme to those who have not lived in the area I have seen the

extent of anti social behaviour in this venue in the past so am more than aware that a locked door can be quite easily kicked down.

8. Safeguarding of children

The use of the outdoor terrace, the risk of antisocial behaviour, the risk of drug use and other risks to children have serious safeguarding implications which need to be taken seriously in line with the law. I would suggest that any mitigation of this area invites the school and local authority safeguarding representatives into the discussion to ensure the adequate safeguarding of children. This area needs to be mitigated with suitably qualified professionals.

Finally I would like to express my concerns about the licensees information to given to local residents. It is proposed as a family friendly venue to give something back to the community. However information sent out does not make clear that the venue is planning to stay open until 1am. I do not understand any eventuality where a family friendly venue needs to be open till 1am and I would assume local residents would identify the same if they were aware. This is the second time information has been circulated by the proprietors about the plans and the opening times have not been made clear which I perceive to be an attempt to hoodwink the local community and doesn't inspire confidence that they are creating a venue to support the community.

I want to make it clear that for years then residents of South Street have had to put up with sleepless nights, anti social behaviour and not feeling safe outside their own homes (and this was with an 11pm closing time). Over the last few years, since the closing of the club, our street has become a quiet, calm, neighbourly place and a pleasure to live on. It is everyone's duty to ensure that this continues and the area and community continue to develop so that Rawmarsh is seen as a good and safe place to live. The the only way to ensure that the community continues to thrive is through the area being a desirable place to live rather than the opening of businesses which force people from the community and our street. None of the community would be opposed to a business repurposing the club in a positive way however this has to be done transparently to support the local community not in a way that increases risks in the local area and negatively impacts local residents.

With thanks,

Other Person Five (South Street, Rawmarsh)

Sent: 28 July 2025 21:45

To: Diane Kraus < Diane. Kraus@rotherham.gov.uk > Subject: Wigtox Lounge Licensing Application

We wish to make a strong objection to the above licensing application in respect of 33 South Street, Rawmarsh and would make the following points:

- i) The venue is in the middle of a residential area and at the side of an Infants School. There are a great many houses close by. When the original Ryecroft WMC was opened in the early 1900's there were very few houses close by.
- ii) There is no car park for the venue. There was one directly opposite but 3 town houses are being built on the site. Parking on South Street is already a big problem for residents particularly at night and this venue will only make the situation far worse. Residents already suffer from haphazard parking by parents of school children in the mornings and afternoon. Many parents keeping their engines running for long periods.
- iii) Over the years residents have regularly been disturbed by noise from the club during and after licensing hours. Customers who sat outside drinking and smoking made a great deal of noise and were constantly shouting and swearing. Residents were unable to keep windows open or even sit in their gardens undisturbed particularly during the Summer months. A license issued to the club stated that there should be no drinking outside but this was never adhered to. The application states that there will be a seating area outside the entrance to the building and therefore the residents will be subject to noise and disturbance yet again.
- iv) The application states that the rooftop terrace will not be used. However the door is already in place and who is going to stop it being used if the licence is granted.
- v) The application states that children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult at all times and that no one under 18 can be on the premises after 10.30 pm. Does this mean that children aged 12 to 17 can be on licensed premises unaccompanied up to 10.30 pm?
- vi) There is no separation between the so called coffee lounge, ice cream parlour, beauty parlour and drinking area.
- vii)The licensing hours applied for are totally ridiculous and irrespective of the claim that noise will be kept to a minimum. How will they ensure that this will happen and what is classed as a minimum amount?
- viii) A leaflet distributed by Wigtox says that this is what the community needs. Who did they canvas to reach that conclusion? Certainly not residents! The applicant has not lived in the area very long and has no idea of the previous problems caused by the former club.

Other Person Six (South Street, Rawmarsh)

Sent: 28 July 2025 21:03

To: Licensing < <u>Licensing@rotherham.gov.uk</u>>

Subject: Representation for application 054749

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as homeowner on South Street to formally object to the premises licence application submitted for "Wigtox Lounge" at 33 South Street,

Rawmarsh, S62 5RF. While I think local business is important, I fear that the disruption this could cause has to be considered.

33 South Street is now flats and a building that is (according to WigTox posters) to be multipurposed. I would ask that all planning applications are investigated to ensure the proper planning and building regulations are upheld as the building has changed it's purpose from a pub to flats and a pub/function room/coffee shop/ ice cream parlour/aesthetics centre. Planning applications should be split purposes and reflect the properties purpose both current and historic.

I object to this application on the grounds that it undermines the following four licensing objectives set out in the Licensing Act 2003:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm

1. Prevention of Crime and Disorder

This premises is located in a quiet, residential street not suited to late-night commercial use. The proposed licensable hours—alcohol until 00:30, closing at 01:00—are inconsistent with local precedent. For comparison:

- The Horse & Jockey closes at 11:00 PM (10:00 PM Sundays)
- The Marquis closes at 11:00 PM daily
- The Earl Grey closes at 11:00 PM (8:00 PM Sundays)
- Rawmarsh Tap 10PM Sundays Thursday and 10:30PM Fridays Saturdays

All of these establishments are on main roads away from local residents. Late-night trading in a residential setting will attract patrons from other venues seeking extended drinking hours, increasing the likelihood of antisocial behaviour and noise. I fear that the noise of patrons walking to the venue and leaving the venue at night, no matter how well managed, by its very nature will increase noise, for example the use of the street facing seating area, people chatting, shouting goodbye or coming outside to smoke after having a drink. The only way to manage this is to have an earlier closing time (see below). The premises also plans to sell alcohol both on and off-site, which raises serious concerns about street drinking and disorder after closing which has happened historically.

Notably, the former pub on this site (The Rycroft WMC) was regularly attended by police due to alcohol-related violence, residents property and car damage, drug activity and disorder. These problems had a lasting impact on the community, and there is understandable fear that history will repeat itself.

There is currently no provision for door staff in the application or the advertisement sent by Wigtox to residents. This is deeply inappropriate given the proposed late-night hours.

We request, at a minimum, that SIA-registered security staff be required on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings until close. This can ensure a safe and swift disbanding of patrons.

2. Public Safety

Parking on South Street is already severely limited. The application proposes no parking provisions, despite plans to increase footfall and introduce residential units. There is no capacity for safe parking for patrons, delivery drivers, or staff. Cars already park on pavements due to lack of space, blocking prams and emergency access routes. The venue also has no defined taxi pick-up point, meaning patrons will gather at the roadside after 1:00 AM, obstructing the road at a T-junction and increasing the risk of accidents.

Litter is already a major concern, the addition of alcohol consumption and outdoor seating will only increase this hazard, especially without a clear waste management strategy.

I request:

- A designated parking and traffic dispersal plan
- Daily litter pick-ups and additional street bins maintained by the premises
- No outdoor seating allowed on the front of the property (there is a back area that could be used and better contained)
- Limiting rooftop terrace hours (see below)
- To be closed on New Years Eve by 1:00AM and sale of alcohol to stop at 00:30AM.

3. Prevention of Public Nuisance

This development is wholly inappropriate for a residential street. Late-night music, intoxicated behaviour, outdoor smoking, taxi noise and bottle disposal will all erode community peace. This will affect not just sleep patterns, but residents' mental health and ability to work from home, especially those with caring responsibilities, disabilities or children.

The building sits at a T-junction, amplifying and echoing voices and music into the street. Conversations from customers will project into homes, many of which have bedrooms facing the street. The permission of a music and alcohol license, especially to such a late time, will only aggravate this.

Furthermore, there is no acoustic barrier, no seating plan, and no meaningful sound control proposed. Most homes in this area have families, shift workers, and retired residents. They are entitled to peace in their own homes.

Reasonable conditions must include:

- Alcohol sales to end by 9:30PM on weekdays and 10:00PM on weekends.
- Venue closed by 10:00PM weekdays and 10:30PM weekends.
- No front-of-property street seating
- Nightly bin-emptying and litter clear-up
- No amplified music audible from the property boundary

4. Protection of Children from Harm

Perhaps the most ethically serious issue is the location of this venue: directly next to an infant school (Rawmarsh Ryecroft Infant School). The school serves 5–7-year-olds. The proposed hours would overlap with school start and finish times during event setups, deliveries, and early-day alcohol service.

Children will be exposed to:

Public drinking

- Loud music and crowds
- Possible arguments, smoking and foul language from outdoor patrons

Alcohol off-sales until 00:30 risk street drinking within view of the school, undermining Rotherham's duty to protect minors. The risk of underage proxy sales is heightened given the location and lack of permanent supervision. Previous the venue had lots of issues with people smoking cigarettes, cannabis and loud conversations on the front of the property that would echo down the street. The only prevention for this is to have the seating area not on the front of the property that pours into the street. There is no clear differentiation between the front of property and the street.

I would also like to note that this re-application has been done during the school holidays not giving school the correct time to make comment if they wish. I would ask that someone reach out to the school to ask if they wish to make representation on this matter.

I request:

- A condition that no children under 18 may be on premises after 9:00 PM unless for a private family booking
- Full safeguarding training for staff
- Alcohol off-sales to end by 9:00 PM
- Outdoor areas not to be used during school hours (8:00 AM-3:30 PM)
- Outdoor area to be moved to the back of the property.

5. The Reapplication to Hide the Applicant's Potential Criminal Background

This is a reapplication that has been done changing from the husband to the wife. I feel like this a strategic in order to not allow the police to make representation on the matter.

It came to light during the first application from people within the neighbourhood that the applicant is potentially locally known for having a drug related criminal record. I asked that South Yorkshire Police make representation regarding this in order to have a clearer and factual understanding. This application was then revoked and put in another name. While some grateful amendments were made it does appear to be a deliberate evasive manoeuvre given that this is a family run business according to

Wigtown media and there will still be involvement from the previous applicant as he is the sole business owner according to companies house.

Emotional and Ethical Impact

This application represents not just a planning error but an ethical failure. It prioritises commercial interest over the wellbeing of families, children, elderly neighbours and vulnerable people. South Street is not a commercial zone—it is a close-knit, quiet community.

Local residents are already reporting anxiety, stress and fear and I share this with them. If this licence is granted in its current form, many will lose sleep, property value, and peace. Children attending the infant school next door will be forced to walk past smoking patrons and littered pavements. Local women have expressed fear of walking home in the evening if intoxicated crowds gather outside their homes.

A business with this ethos—no bins for tenants, illegal curb parking and disregard for public lighting of the applicant has shown insufficient community values to be trusted with a latenight licence. I also think, as someone who works at 8:30am on New Years Day, that allowing the venue to open until 2:00AM is unreasonable.

The communication shared by Wigtox to local residents is also misleading and states that they do not want 'late night noise or disruption' and does not mention the outdoor elements. With all the will in the world, allowing a license so late noise disruption is inevitable and will negatively impact my quality of life. You can not expect to own a music and alcohol license for such late hours and uphold those assurances. I feel that the business itself is unclear and in allowing these licences, opens scope to abuse that will impact me as a local resident.

While I do not want the application to be upheld at all, I do require the following as a minimum:

<u>Topic</u> <u>Requested Condition</u>

Alcohol Hours Sales to cease at 10:00 PM weekends and 9:30PM weekdays.

Closing Time Premises to close by 10:30PM weekends and 10:00PM weekdays.

Security SIA-registered door staff required on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Clear distinction between the main road and the property using a clear

dividing boundary such as a fence.

Outdoor No seating at the front of the property onto the street.

Restrictions

Waste & Litter Bins provided inside and outside; nightly waste clean-up required.

Noise Control Soundproofing installed; no amplified outdoor music; enforce "quiet

dispersal."

Parking No customer parking on-street; designated taxi drop-off/pick-up point.

Children's Safety No under-18s on premises after 9:00 PM; safeguarding policy required.

Off-Sales Off-premises alcohol sales to cease by 9:00 PM.

New Years Eve To be closed on New Years Eve by 1:00AM and sale of alcohol to stop at

00:30AM.

I appreciate your consideration and urge the Licensing Authority to protect our residential amenity, uphold its own policies, and put people before profit. Please do not allow this application to set a precedent that fundamentally changes the character of South Street and places the community at risk. We have found peace after Ryecroft WMC was closed down and I would like to keep my street the quiet, peaceful place it now is.

Other Person Seven (Grange Road, Rawmarsh)

Sent: 30 July 2025 00:14

To: Licensing < Licensing@rotherham.gov.uk >

Subject: Licensing hours, Wigtox Lounge 33, South Street, Rawmarsh.

I'm writing over my concern regarding the application by Wigtox Lounge, 33, South Street, Rawmarsh for Friday and Saturday opening hours serving until 12.30 am. I think it's going to be at least 1am before the premises will be emptied.

This is in the middle of housing with many people still working on Saturday and Sundays I feel the old licensing hours of 11pm is late enough.

Other Person Eight (Marrion Road, Rawmarsh)

Sent: 04 August 2025 15:27

To: Licensing < Licensing@rotherham.gov.uk >

Subject: Wigtox lounge 33 south street Rawmarsh s62 5rf

I am writing on behalf of my household, as neighbour of the premises on South Street, to formally object to the licence application submitted by Mrs Helen Clayton for "Wigtox Lounge" at 33 South Street, Rawmarsh, S62 5RF.

We object to this application on the grounds that it undermines the following four licensing objectives set out in the Licensing Act 2003:

- The prevention of crime and disorder.
- Public safety.
- The prevention of public nuisance.
- The protection of children from harm.

The premises are located in a quiet, residential street not suited to late-night commercial use. The proposed licensable hours (Sale of alcohol (for consumption on and off the premises) on Sunday to Thursday between 12:00 hours and 23:00 hours, Friday and Saturday between 12:00 hours and 00:30 hours on the day following)

are inconsistent with local precedent. Late-night trading in a residential setting will attract patrons from other areas seeking extended drinking hours, increasing the likelihood of antisocial behaviour. The premises plan to sell alcohol both on and off-site, which raises serious concerns about street drinking and disorder after closing. Notably, the former pub on this site -The Ryecroft WMC, later renamed as South Street Social Club- was regularly attended by police due to alcohol-related violence, drug activity and disorder. These problems have had a lasting impact on the community, and there is understandable fear that history will repeat itself. There is currently no provision for door staff in the application. This is deeply inappropriate given the late-night hours. We request, at a minimum, that if plans go ahead, SIA-registered security staff be required on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights until closure.

2. Public safety

Parking on South Street is already severely limited. The application proposes no parking provisions, despite plans to increase footfall and introduce residential units. There is no capacity for safe parking for patrons, delivery drivers, or staff. Cars already park on pavements due to a lack of space, blocking prams and emergency access routes. The venue also has no defined taxi pick-up point, meaning that patrons will gather at the roadside after

1:00 AM, obstructing the road at the T-junction and increasing the risk of accidents. Vehicles are already parked on grass verges, and Bisby Road is now being used as a car park; this is only expected to increase and worsen when the venue opens. Litter is already a major concern; the applicants' tenants were left without bins for a long period of time, and refuse regularly accumulated on the pavements and grassy areas as community bins were used. The addition of alcohol consumption and outdoor seating will only increase this hazard, especially without a clear waste management strategy. As a close resident, I have experienced first-hand verbal abuse from patrons of the previous establishment when I have asked patrons not to block my driveway or to remove their litter, some of which was frequently thrown onto my garden where my children play. History will repeat itself, placing such a venue in a residential area and breaching the peace.

3. Prevention of Public Nuisance

This development is wholly inappropriate for a residential street. Late-night music, intoxicated behaviour, outdoor smoking area, car and taxi noise and bottle disposal will all erode the community peace. This will affect not just sleep patterns, but residents' mental health and ability to work from home, especially those with caring responsibilities, disabilities or children. The building sits at a T-junction, amplifying and echoing voices and music into the street. Conversations from the venue will project into homes, many of which have bedrooms facing the street. For the 2 years my family lived here before the Ryecroft closed, we were unable to have our windows open during the summer due to the disruptions from patrons. Our children will have to once again endure hot summers without having proper ventilation due to the noise.

Furthermore, a front patio area with outdoor smoking and drinking areas will generate unacceptable levels of sound and disruption. There is no acoustic barrier, seating plan, or meaningful sound control proposed. Most homes in the area have families, shift workers, and retired residents. They are entitled to peace in their own homes. Equally, opening until 2:30 AM for New Year's celebration is unacceptable when there are working families in such proximity. A lounge has no reason to be open New Year's so late in a residential area. Since the closure of The Ryecroft WMC, the community have

benefited from a quieter residential area, improving community spirit and mental health. Theft and damage to properties have also decreased in the last five years, since the closure of the Ryecroft. Reopening an establishment that encourages disorder will only cause harm to the wider community.

4. Protection of Children from Harm

Perhaps the most serious ethical issue is the location of this venue, directly next to a primary school, Rawmarsh Ryecroft Infant School. The school accommodates children aged 4-7 years old. The proposed hours of the venue would overlap with school start and finish times during event set-ups, deliveries, and early-day alcohol service. Children will be exposed to;

- Public drinking
- Loud music
- arguments, smoking and foul language from outdoor patrons

All the above points have been witnessed numerous times when the previous establishment was open, also parents drinking in the street before then entering the school to collect their children. As you can understand, the encouragement of this poses a safeguarding risk to the

children. I have also witnessed loud music when the school is open, potentially impacting the learning environment for young children. Rotherham council should be doing their utmost to safeguard all children from these environments, as it claims to be the children's capital of culture. Psychologically, these encounters have a lasting impression; indirectly encouraging a lifestyle centred around alcohol. As a community in partnership with the council, events like this should be learnt from and prevented for future generations. Alcohol off-sales until 00:30 creates the potential risk of street drinking within view of the school, which undermines Rotherham Metropolitan Council's duty to protect minors and protect residents from disruption within their homes. There are also other risks of underage proxy sales, heightened by the location and lack of permanent supervision.

5. Emotional and Ethical Impact

This application represents not just a planning error but an ethical failure. It prioritises commercial interest over the well-being of families, children, elderly neighbours and vulnerable people. South Street is not a commercial zone; it is a quiet community on a small, narrow street with no footfall other than residents. Local residents are already reporting stress, anxiety and fear over the prospect of a licensed establishment being opened. If the license is granted, many residents, myself included, will be at risk of mental health issues worsening, lack of sleep, peace and for many, a devaluation of their property.

Primary-aged children will be forced to listen to and walk by intoxicated patrons and littered pavements, including drug paraphernalia. Footfall and an increase in vehicles also impact the safety of children crossing roads. Women have expressed their fear of walking past the establishment in the evening when large crowds of intoxicated men are present outside. Previously, crowds would shout profanity at women, including me, as we walked past the establishment. I suffered numerous panic attacks in the short time of living near the old establishment before it was closed. The current applicant's

business ethos (no bins for tenants, illegal curb parking, disregard for public lighting and community feedback) has shown insufficient community values to be trusted with a latenight licence. The term 'Lounge' is misleading; this venue and the capacity within the licence permit have the potential to cause serious harm to local residents who have experienced calm and peace since the closure of the previous establishment. The application for such a late-night venue in a residential area is also not in line with other licenses held nearby in less residential areas. It is highly unreasonable to expect local residents to endure late hours of chaos and disruption. I urge the council to take action, visit the site, speak to residents, and support local residents.

I would also like to direct your attention to the Environmental Protection Act of 1990. Within the legislation, it states that councils have a duty to protect residents,

- unreasonably and substantially interfere with the use or enjoyment of a home or other premises
- injure health or be likely to injure health

Granting a licence permit would go against the legislation, and evidence of this has been highlighted several times throughout the email. Residents will be limited to the enjoyment they can have in their homes and gardens due to the invasion of privacy from patrons of the establishment. Injury to health includes mental health; unruly and disruptive behaviour late-

night, especially, and disruption to sleep patterns, heckling of residents in their gardens or walking past are all factors that would damage the psychological well-being of residents.

A social media campaign to gain votes in support of the license is now underway; my concern is that these residents do not live in direct line of any issues that would arise from the opening of a late-night venue, therefore, their support, unless in close vicinity, should not be counted. A license to serve alcohol is not needed to open what the owners claim to be a community space. Enjoyment can be had and profit made without the sale of alcohol or late-night opening hours. As the council supports making Rotherham the children's capital of culture, the encouragement of alcohol sales in an area that also looks to serve children is not in line with promoting the psychological well-being of the children of Rotherham.

Also, in terms of it being a community space, there has been no attempt made to speak with local residents and address the issues. Flyers have been posted only to select residents, giving the impression that the current owners do not understand how far of an impact the late-night hours have on residents; it is not just those on South Street who are affected.

In summary, the objections made are against a late night venue and an alcohol license. the objection is made as it does not fit with the current environment.

As residents, we appreciate your consideration and urge the Licensing Authority to protect our residential amenity, uphold its policies. Please do not allow this application to set a precedent that fundamentally changes the character of South Street, the surrounding streets and would undoubtedly place the community at risk. While I understand that you need to share these concerns, I would like to ask that my name and address remain anonymous under GDPR guidelines.

Other Person Nine (South Street, Rawmarsh)

Sent: 05 August 2025 15:47

To: Licensing < Licensing@rotherham.gov.uk>

Subject: 33 South Street

I am writing to provide objections to the application made by wigtox lounge, application no 054749, my main objections to the alcohol licence are the times requested, 11:30 pm Sunday through Thursday and 1am Friday and Saturday nights. This time is excessive in such a residential area, and later than any other alcohol premise in the area, all of whom are closed by 10:30/11pm.

Opening until such a late time will not only cause disruption to those who live in the houses directly adjacent to the premises but also poses the possibility it will attract customers already inebriated from other venues closing up to 2 hours before this venue.

I also object to the plans to have an outdoor seating area alongside the public footpath (without any fencing/gating) to prevent it being misused outside of opening hours.

The outdoor seating area will cause an increase of noise outside the venue, causing disruption to residents and potentially to the school right next door.

It also opens up the possibility of misuse by patrons/locals before or after closing.

The applicant has been very vocal with leaflets, posters and social media posts regarding their desire to be a family friendly venue and a place for the community whilst omitting information that may create objections and asking people from the wider area to email their support without being fully informed as to the applications details and requests being made.

I do not agree such opening times and outdoor drinking will contribute to such a family friendly environment, especially when it will cause so many potential disruptions to the families that live close by.

Whilst I appreciate my next comments are not directly related to this licence application I feel it necessary to mention, the venue in it's former existence was a know hotspot for antisocial behaviour, crime and drug related incidents, all of which are documented by the police. I have concerns (especially after posts on social media) that it will attract the same former clientelle especially with late evening drinking hours, and cause further problems for local residents.

My personal preference would be that the venue not be allowed to open for alcohol sales past 10:30/11pm in line with other local venues and that due to venues history the owners/managers hire security/door staff particularly on Friday and Saturday nights to ensure client behaviour is maintained and residents are not overly impacted.

I would also like to see the applicants implement a cut off time for minors to be on the premises (in line with almost all other child friendly alcohol venues).