

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 June 2021 21:04
To: Licensing <Licensing@leicester.gov.uk>
Cc: Cllr Sue Waddington <Sue.Waddington@leicester.gov.uk>
Subject: Augustine Theatre Licensing Application

Dear Ms Coupe

My name is [REDACTED] and I live at [REDACTED]. I am writing to object to the application for a late license/alcohol license 6 nights a week at the Fosse Neighbourhood Centre.

PARKING

This is a densely populated area of terraced houses with multiple occupancy housing and some properties split into two dwellings. Many houses have more than one car. Some people need to park work vehicles such as FedEx/builder's vans on the roads overnight. This places a great burden on the available street parking. Often, if arriving after seven pm, it is not possible to find a parking space on the same road as your house and you have to park on Poole Road or one of the parallel streets. At weekends the Working Men's Club at the other end of Sylvan Street also attracts cars which are then left parked overnight. The Neighbourhood Centre has no parking space of its own. Performances will draw even more evening visitors into the area who will need to find parking spaces on the surrounding roads. This will make a bad problem much worse.

At pick up/drop off times for existing classes and/or the Nursery there are often congestion issues with cars parking on double yellow lines, blocking the fire exit/entry point for the Neighbourhood Centre itself and even blocking the pavements causing problems for pedestrians - particularly the elderly and infirm. On occasions (previous to Covid which has temporarily relieved us of the problem) it was not possible to turn into the road because of illegally parked vehicles. I, personally, have been into the Centre on two separate occasions to complain. Given that I drive a small KIA hatchback and could not turn into the road, access for emergency vehicles in the same circumstances would definitely be impossible.

NOISE

The applicant's offer of installing double glazing to alleviate noise pollution offers no comfort; the existing double glazing in the more modern extension does little to reduce the noise as it is. As I write this (Sunday 27th June), sitting in the back room of my house with all my double glazed windows closed, I can hear music, especially the bass line, coming from the Centre. Often windows at the Centre are opened to improve air circulation and ventilation during fitness classes, dance classes and church services and, while I'm sure this is necessary, this allows a great deal of noise to penetrate the neighbourhood. In truth, I can enjoy some of the singing which is of a high calibre but I don't work shifts and I don't have young children. As part of a diverse city community of terraced houses some noise is inevitable but to extend this late into the evenings, particularly on weekday nights as well is a lot to ask of the local population.

With the existing indoor smoking laws inevitably people will need to smoke outside during events. As the only available spaces this could only be on the street or in the courtyard currently used by the Nursery in the daytime. Both spaces will mean that conversations, possibly amplified by the alcohol served, will take place right next to residential properties.

This is particularly problematic during the summer months when local people want to keep windows open due to the heat.

Before Covid the leasees did rent out the facilities for a few Saturday night party lettings to generate revenue. These evenings were a nightmare for local residents with very loud music, people screaming and shouting and extended noise after closing time as they stood around in groups afterwards chatting, revving cars, slow to disperse. I am concerned that the granting of an alcohol license could be the thin end of the wedge and lead to further lettings of this kind with alcohol consumption now being permitted. I am very strongly against this.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

In my view - and that of many of my neighbours - the concerns raised above are reason enough to deny the application. But Health & Safety, both for the users of the centre and the local residents might also be considered. These streets are narrow with cars parked on both sides. Accessibility for emergency vehicles would need to be considered as part of this proposal and a risk assessment of the building's extended use.

Before concluding, I would also like to raise a concern regarding how this application was advertised. Only two A4 notices were put up, both in the door alcoves of the centre amongst other notices/signage. Fortunately one neighbour noticed this while walking her dog, NOONE I spoke to while knocking on doors were aware of the application at all. My understanding is that such an application should be publicised so as to afford those who may be affected time to voice any concerns.



Currently the Neighbourhood Centre hosts a range of activities. I am glad the building is in regular use. I am not against the enterprise itself but I do feel the granting of this application will have a negative impact on the local community.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature]

Photos of a collection of signatures collated this weekend will be emailed to you this evening also. The hard copy will be sent first class.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

FAO Ms L Coupe
Licensing Authority
Leicester City Council



28th June 2021

Dear Ms Coupe

Augustine Theatre Licensing Application

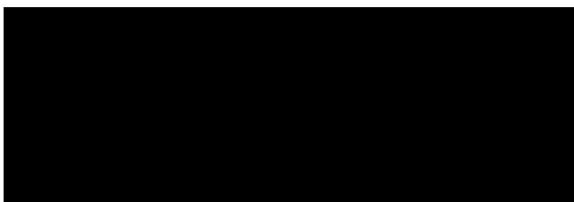
Please find attached a petition against the licensing application by The Augustine Theatre. I had limited time to undertake the petition but of all the people I spoke to **not one was aware of the application itself.**

I knocked on 52 doors.

- 27 did not answer.
- 20 signed the petition, several adding comments of their own.
- 1 woman was registered legally blind and could not sign. I left your email address on her voicemail because she said she wanted to make contact as the issue concerned her greatly, particularly the noise. I was concerned that she must have a voice as the pavement congestion could also pose a danger for her.
- 2 people said, 'live and let live'.
- 1 woman spoke no English.
- 1 man shut the door in my face before I had said anything.

If a proper consultation was to take place, and more people had been made aware of the application, I believe you would find the local community feel quite strongly against the application, especially with regard to the parking issue.

Yours sincerely



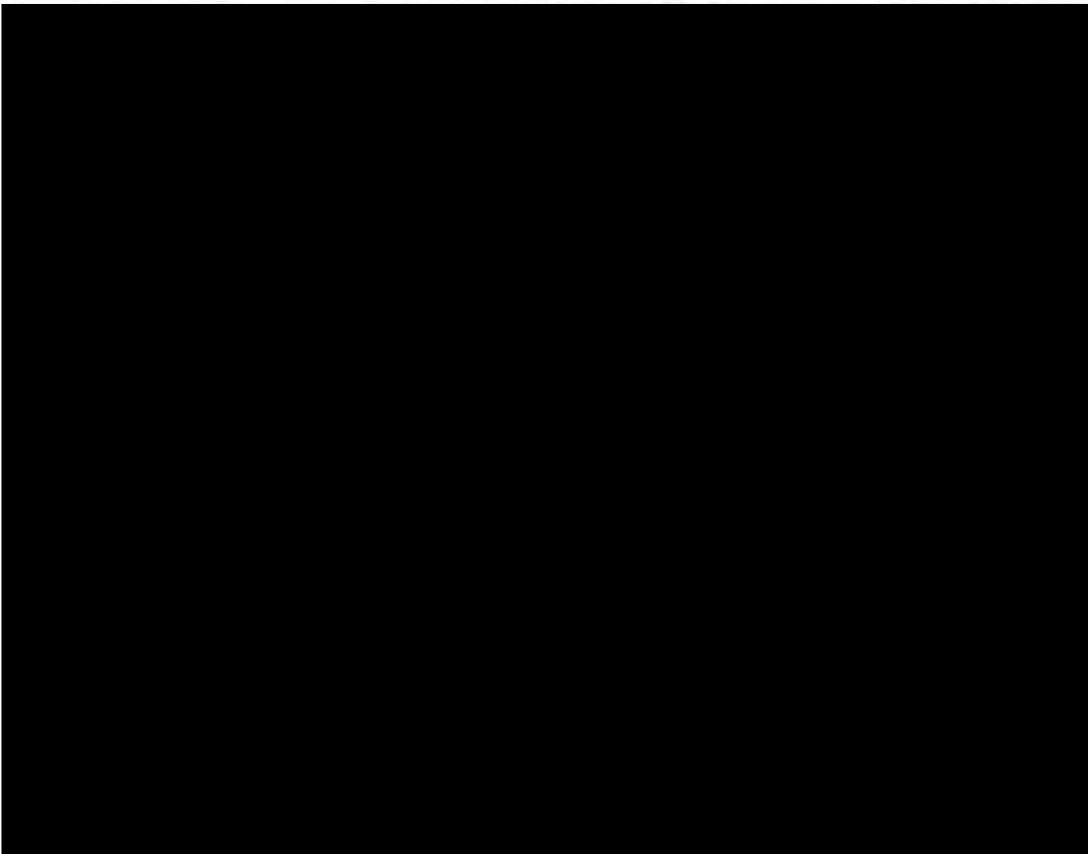

We object to the Augustine Theatre Licensing Application on the following grounds:

Parking. Parking is at a premium in this densely populated area. The Neighbourhood Centre has no parking of its own. Visitors will have to park on the surrounding roads which are already very crowded. Frequently people have to park in roads other than the one they live in.

Health and Safety: These roads are narrow. At peak times parents have been seen parking on double yellow lines and even on the pavements. This makes access to the road difficult. In the event of a fire or other emergency this could be dangerous and can make the pavements inaccessible for pedestrians. This application would draw more traffic into the area and the local roads cannot support this.

Noise Pollution: There are many young families living in the surrounding area. Late nights 6 days a week, during school terms, would be intrusive. The current modern extension has double glazing but this does not prevent the noise from travelling. With smoking inside being banned this would inevitably spill outside and would again lead to disturbance. All of these noise factors will be heightened at the peak times of arrival and departure.

Name (print)	Address	Comment (optional)	Signature
[Redacted]		Daytime use is great, but the noise at night, with the alcohol and the parking issues is too much!	[Redacted]
[Redacted]		They often block the corner. People hanging about blocking pavement with no S. distancing. Add noise and late night booze and residents get a nightmare.	[Redacted]
[Redacted]		NOISE IS TERRIBLY TERRIBLE, ALCOHOL added will make it worse.	[Redacted]
[Redacted]		I cannot emphasise just how utterly ridiculous the parking has become. The application will do the locals no good.	[Redacted]
[Redacted]		Noise Parking	[Redacted]
[Redacted]		IT WILL BRING NOISE, ACCIDENTS, VERGENCE, TRAFFIC. IT RESIDENTIAL NOISE CITY	[Redacted]
[Redacted]		No Parking for me as I am disabled	[Redacted]

Name (print)	Address	Comment (optional)	Signature
		<i>concerned about course material.</i>	

Name (print)	Address	Comment (optional)	Signature
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	concerned about noise + alcohol	[Redacted]
		Major problem with parking. concerned about noise	
		Already problematic on the street parking + cars - dangerous	
		Parking is horrendous + dangerous for kids to play especially at an unsecured	