

Terry Park
40 North Magdalene
Medomsley
Consett
County Durham

4 June, 2009

F.A.O Licensing section
Durham County Council
Medomsley Rd
Consett

Dear Sir or Madam:

I write to you with regard to your recent correspondence concerning the proposed prohibition of street trading in Nelson St Consett.

As you are no doubt aware I have been trading in this street for a number of years, as were several traders before me. I am aware of the council concerns about street trading in Nelson St and some of their issues with the trailer. In the past the trailer has remained in Nelson St while it was not trading, this was due to the fact that I had no suitable transport to tow with and had to rely on friends to help in this matter. I now have a suitable car and since I have restarted trading (after the six-week redevelopment) the trailer is only there during trading hours. I also make sure that any discarded wrapping in the area of the trailer is picked up at the end of trading. I would also be happy to comply with any other suggestion that would benefit the area around the trailer on Nelson St

Prohibition of trading in this street would have a severe effect on my financial situation. During the recent redevelopment of the upper half of Nelson St I was unable to trade for six weeks. This resulted in my falling in to arrears with my council rent and tax, difficulty in paying utility bills, I also had to rely of family to help with the cost of food shopping for my wife myself and our three children. We also went over drawn at the bank and incurred charges there as we were unable to meet our financial commitments.. This meant that we had to borrow £1200 just to get our bank account within a manageable level. This is the effect my family and my self felt in just six weeks if this proposed prohibition came in to force then I am unsure how we would be able to cope, especially in the current economic climate were employment opportunities are limited. In addition to these costs we still owe £7,000 approx. on two combined loans from a family member to purchase our original catering trailer and the current one which replaced one that was stolen.

There seem to be no other suitable trading area in Consett, at the present the only other non prohibited street is located near John St and Gibson St, this would attract custom from the K2 night spot, but the amount of business this would generate would be significantly less than at present. In addition there is also a pizza shop close by whose trade would also be effected. There is another catering trailer that trades on Victoria St on Sunday mornings and this would possibly be an alternative site if trading was allowed during my trading hours. I would also happily consider any alternative location that you might suggest.

Sincerely,

Terry Park

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