

Rasa Food & Wine
20 Station Lane
Hornchurch
RM12 6NJ

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to say that I object to the premises licence application for this shop. I have been living on Station Lane for almost 10 years, and I know this area very well. I live very close by and I honestly believe another place selling alcohol here will only make the problems in the area worse. I kindly ask the Licensing Committee to refuse this application because it goes against the main licensing objectives.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

Station Lane already has problems with people hanging around, especially near the Subway and the alley next to it, and outside places that sell alcohol. If this shop gets a licence, it will bring more antisocial behaviour, more noise and more trouble at night. People already buy cheap drinks before going into pubs like Sutton Arms and Vertigo Bar, and this new shop will just become another feeder point for that. We already see groups drinking on Station Lane and the High Street before their nights out and I believe this will only get worse.

I also want to mention something very serious that happened a few weeks ago. When I was walking home from Sainsbury's, I saw masked and hooded people in the alley next to Subway throwing fireworks randomly at the flats and into the road. My daughter wasn't with me at that moment, but she walks there with me normally, so she *could have been* right next to me when it happened. The thought of that scared me a lot because something like that can injure a child very badly — she could lose her eyesight or even worse, we could lose our lives if a firework hit us.

And another time, just before it got dark, I went to Subway to buy a sandwich and saw police officers inside. I didn't go in because someone outside told me that a group of youngsters had gone in trying to steal things. This was very frightening to hear. When things like this already happen in shops on Station Lane and the High Street, it makes me believe that a new off-licence would also become a target for this type of behaviour.

Public Nuisance

Residents and families using this road every day are already disturbed by people standing outside, smoking, vaping, shouting and leaving bottles and rubbish behind. The area outside the pub near these shops is already noisy and crowded.

We also have problems with people urinating on the street, sometimes right in front of my home. On Saturday and Sunday mornings the smell is terrible, and it is very hard for me to explain to my daughter why the street smells like that when she asks. I have also seen many times broken small vodka and whisky bottles on the pavement, and sometimes empty lager drinking cans thrown on the ground too. This shows the area already struggles with alcohol-related issues, and another shop selling alcohol will only make things worse.

Another shop selling alcohol will bring more late-night noise, more broken bottles and more disturbance, which will make everyday life harder for people living nearby.

Protection of Children from Harm

This is very important to me because there are so many schoolchildren using this area every day. Students from Havering New City College walk through Station Lane between around 9am and 4pm. My daughter goes to Langtons Junior Academy and we walk this same route home. The area is already full of young people gathering near Subway and the alley next to Peacocks. Many other secondary and sixth-form pupils also use this road because of the bus and train links.

Also, the shop is extremely close to the bus stop on Station Lane. A lot of students get off the bus or wait for the bus here, and they walk right past this shop every day. Having alcohol and vapes being sold so close to a busy bus stop makes it much easier for underage children to try to buy these products or be influenced by older people hanging around there. This is something I am really worried about as a parent.

I am also very worried about my own daughter, who is just entering her teenage years. I don't want her to see all these things every day. I am especially scared she might get influenced and start vaping, because even the small technology shop next to this proposed place sells lots of colourful vapes for no real reason. And when you cross the road, even the phone and computer repair shops have bright vapes on display in their windows. With all of this already around her, how can I expect my daughter to walk past a brand new wine shop, full of more alcohol and vape products, without noticing it or getting curious? As a parent, this makes me very uncomfortable. I don't think this is a good location for another alcohol shop at all.

Cumulative Impact

There are already many shops selling alcohol nearby: Costcutter, Kevils Off Licence, Onco Food Centre, Sainsbury's, Iceland and Lidl. All of them are only a few minutes walk from my home. The area is already full and adding another off-licence will only create more problems and put more pressure on the police and local services. We already deal with noise, crowds of youngsters and disorder. Another shop selling alcohol will definitely increase these problems.

For all these reasons, I strongly believe this licence should not be granted. I kindly ask the Licensing Committee to reject the application for Rasa Food & Wine.

Yours faithfully,

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29/11/2025

