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Date: 15th December 2020

Application: SMD/2020/0648
Location: 35 High Street, Biddulph
Proposal: Change of use from café to bar

The following comments should be considered in the light of the following:

- The National Planning Policy Framework states "Planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments ... create places that are safe ... and where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion and resilience";
- National Planning Practice Guidance which states that "Designing out crime and designing in community safety should be central to the planning and delivery of new development";
- SMDC Core Strategy Policy C1 –"Require development proposals to incorporate high quality locally distinctive design features and layouts that will reduce crime and the fear of crime and support inclusive communities, particularly in terms of accessibility and functionality in line with the Council's Design SPD";
- The statutory obligation placed on local authorities to do all they can to prevent crime and disorder in accordance with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998;
- The 2006 CABE document entitled 'Design and Access Statements: How to Write, Read and Use Them', which states "Statements should demonstrate how development can create accessible and safe environments, including addressing crime and disorder and fear of crime."

Liaison has taken place with the Neighbourhood Policing Team Commander and the Staffordshire Police Licensing Unit regarding this application. Neither have expressed any particular concerns regarding the proposals. Albeit there is no narrative with this application, the comparatively small size of the premises and opening hours suggest it will be very much in line with the micro pub type of format, which is generally one that does not generate problems of a violent or anti-social nature. However, conditioning of the opening hours as per those indicated on the application form is requested. The Licensing Unit will make the appropriate representations under the licensing regime to satisfy themselves that measures will be in place at the premises to minimise the likelihood of problems arising including around any provision of CCTV cameras.

Crime Prevention advice is given freely without the intention of creating a contract, and all comments and recommendations are site specific. Staffordshire Police and the Home Office do not accept any legal responsibility for the advice given.

David Elkington
Crime Prevention Design Advisor