

Lynn P Mitcham

Muscliffe Bournemouth Dorset BH9 3NU

The Licensing Team
BCP Council
Town Hall Annexe
St Stephen's Road
BOURNEMOUTH
BH2 6LL



20 February 2025

Dear Sirs,

**Application for a Premises Licence – Manor Steps Kiosk, Boscombe Promenade
BH5 1BN**

I note that you are considering an application for the sale of alcohol, off sales only, from the Manor Steps Kiosk.

I do not consider the beach to be an appropriate place for the sale of alcohol for the following reasons:-

1. The kiosks on the Promenade are staffed usually by one young person, at the most two, often young girls. The Bournemouth area has a massive problem with alcohol mis-use. When it becomes known that there is alcohol on the premises, the kiosk will become a target, not only after hours when it is likely to be broken into on a regular basis (as are the beach-huts), but it will put the staff at increased risk. I thought the reason they switched to card-only payments was to remove the risk of kiosks and their staff being attacked for cash? Surely introducing alcohol will just encourage attacks?
2. Last year, walking from Sobo towards Boscombe Pier, on several occasions we could smell alcohol in the air from groups of youths gathered on the beach. I do not go to the beach to breath in alcohol.

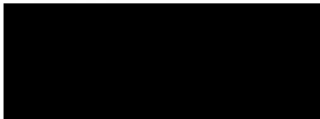
On one occasion, a small group of girls was being made uncomfortable by one drunk youth who would not leave them alone and kept trying to sit with them.

There were also two extremely drunk men walking along the Promenade, hassling other walkers as they went. It was intimidating and unpleasant; not what I expect on Bournemouth beach. And this is with no alcohol for sale on the Promenade. Just think how bad it will get if alcohol can be purchased from the kiosk. This is not acceptable for a place where there are usually a large number of families, children and older people.

3. Alcohol and beaches do not go together. I presume that the alcohol would not be in glass containers (as one whose sandal was sliced open by a broken bottle on the beach at Mudeford Sand Spit, I am very much aware of that and of how lucky I was to be wearing a thick-soled sandal at the time), but drunks tend to lose any common sense they may have had whilst sober and think they can do anything. Beaches and the sea are dangerous places; people need to be alert and aware and use their common sense. If alcohol is sold from the kiosk, how many more people will need to be rescued, or indeed die as a result?
4. Whilst it may be nice for people to be able to have "one drink" at the beach, sadly in this area and the country as a whole, a lot of people are unable to have "one drink". They do not know when to stop and you will have even more drunken behaviour at the beach than you get now, when they have to carry it down themselves (and by the way, they already do that so why do you need to sell it down there)?

I hope you will please take these points into consideration. The sale of alcohol from the kiosk is not suitable and will cause a lot of problems. I suspect this is a money-making scheme, but I believe that any profit will be offset and perhaps exceeded by the additional security that you will have to provide, both if you want to protect your staff and if you wish to continue to attract families and older people to the area.

Yours faithfully,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Lynn Mitcham.

LYNN MITCHAM

From: [Lynn Mitcham](#)
To: [Tania Jardim](#)
Subject: RE: Application for a Premises Licence at Fishermans" Walk & Manor Steps Kiosks (M225158 & M225161)
Date: 06 March 2025 18:11:41
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)

Dear Tania,

Apologies for the delay in responding. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

However, I still think the sale of alcohol at these beach front kiosks is unacceptable and I still wish to object.

As to the licensing objectives:-

1. There are never any Police on the promenade and rarely any BCP staff, so it will be some considerable time before any trouble is reported/dealt with.
2. Even if they do have security staff at busy times, there is no "door" as such through which to eject people and any trouble will remain on the promenade, among the holidaymakers, families and children.
3. They say they will train their staff, but most of the kiosk staff are very young, barely more than children themselves. They are also often foreigners – I have always thought perhaps foreign students – whose command of the English language is not always that good. Even if they can understand sufficiently, they will not have the experience to deal with troublemakers, and may find it very difficult to turn away aggressive drunks (and they will be faced with them), no matter how much training they may have.
4. And often, there is only one person serving in these kiosks; there is no mention of increasing this number. How will one person be able to deal effectively with an aggressive drunk or group? The Council clearly has more interest in making money than in protecting their employees.
5. Security cameras will not prevent trouble occurring, only perhaps later help trace those who cause it.

I look forward to hearing further from you.

Yours sincerely,

Lynn Mitcham

Sent from [Outlook](#)
