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**From:** Gordon Abbotts [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 July 2020 09:10  
**To:** Licensing  
**Subject:** Bingo premises 11-15 Market Place

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Dear Sir / Madam,

Do we really want to be a one horse town, with gambling the only 'attraction' available to its residents on it's high street?

We have already seen considerable capture from the Racecourse which produces nights where locals cannot visit the town centre due to their drunken racegoers anti social behaviour. Having lived in the town centre for over ten years I can tell you with 100% certainty that us locals avoid race nights at all costs. This development looks like bringing an increased anti social presence to the high street 24/7 and it cannot be allowed to continue.

The number of gambling shops already in the town centre is more than adequate for a large town, let alone a small market town of Newbury's size. I believe gambling is out of control already in this country, due to lax licensing laws and powerful lobbying, and this will only further add to the problem.

Also the nature of gambling has changed and whilst I would like to see the company running this project fail, because 90% of bingo is now played online and no one will visit their venue – Newbury doesn't need yet another costly council backed failure to go with Debenhams (how much was their rent holiday in Park Way again?) and John Lewis.

This idea is a complete non starter and has zero benefits for Newbury or it's people.

We do not want more gambling opportunities - we want less... So close the betting shops, turn the racecourse into dodgems & remove this blight from our childrens lives.

Sincerely

Gordon Abbotts  
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Many Thanks  
Gordon

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