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Wirral Globe Council needs

your support for introduction of minimum price of alcohol (From Wirral Globe)

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Council needs your support for introduction of minimum price of alcohol

9:52am Thursday 2nd September 2010

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- By Craig Manning »

WOULD you support the introduction of a minimum price for alcohol?

That's what Wirral Council is asking residents to consider.

It follows plans by the 10 authorities in Greater Manchester to apply for a bye law which would allow them to address public disorder and health issues caused by binge-drinking, including a law that each unit of alcohol must cost at least 50p.

The leaders of Merseyside's local councils have now agreed that each council will consult whether there is public support for a similar proposal across Merseyside.

The Chairman of Wirral's Licensing Committee, Cllr. Sue Taylor, said: "There are huge issues in Wirral with alcohol - either through addiction, under-age sales or alcohol-fuelled crime and disorder.

"We need to look at ways to tackle these issues and I'm really keen that we look at all options, without punishing the moderate drinker who has a quiet pint on their way home from work.

"The new Government has recognised that the previous push towards 24 hour drinking has, if anything, made some of these problems worse.

"I am keen that we overhaul the licensing system to tackle some of the alcohol-related issues we are seeing in all parts of the Borough, but I also want to know if residents would support us going down the Manchester route of charging, for example, £6 for a six pack of lager or £5.50 for a two litre bottle of cider."

"We will be contacting retailers, community groups, the police and those agencies that deal with the consequences of alcohol abuse for their views.

"Anyone who wishes to make their views known to the Licensing Committee can send us their views via licensing@wirral.gov.uk or by writing to the Town Hall, Brighton Street, Wallasey CH44 8ED."

The issue will be discussed at the next meeting of the Council's Licensing, Health & Safety and General Purposes Committee on September 13.

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Your Say Your Globe

piggymalone, wirral says... 10:59am Thu 2 Sep 10

Who will profit from the hiked up prices? How about donating them to charity or am I being naive?

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King Tut, Wirral says... 1:09pm Thu 2 Sep 10

It makes no difference what price it is, alcoholics will drink no matter what it costs, kids will still drink in the park and alcohol fuelled crime pales into insignificance compared to drug fuelled crime.

All minimum pricing does is hit the poorest in the pocket and makes responsible drinkers pay more.

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Peppar John, West Kirby says... 1:20pm Thu 2 Sep 10

What am I doing wrong? Where do these people drink for under 50p a unit? The last round I bought consisted of a pint bottle of Magner's / Bulmers cider £3-50 a small galss of Pinot Grigio costs £3-50, a Large one £4-50 a bottle £14-90. A house spirit £ 3.00 a special / premium spirit £4-50 (plus the mixers).

I remember during Italia 90 Threshers did a special cheap larger which was so cheap it tasted awfull - so bad that grown men had to have a dash of Roses Lime cordial with it to make it taste half decent.

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royalhussar, PETERBOROUGH says... 2:28pm Thu 2 Sep 10

I HAVE NEVER HEARD OF A PERSON BEING VIOLENT AFTER HAVING A CIGARETTE BUT ALCHOHOL..NOW THAT IS A DIFFERENT MATTER!!

BRING THE PRICE OF A PINT OF BEER UP TO THE SAME PRICE AS 20 CIGARETTES $(\pounds 5.00)$

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hugo2008, Wirral says... 3:06pm Thu 2 Sep 10

Better still, make fags a fiver each and beer only sold with a meal, the pubs could do with the extra cash, the government needs the extra duty.

Pubs would need to employ more staff, cooking, waiting, cleaning, etc

The government could ring fence the extra duty for health care and Hospitals.

We all benefit right across the board, economics made easy.

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Peppar John, West Kirby says... 5:31pm Thu 2 Sep 10

Again where am I going wrong... 20 fags for £5.00? The last packets of B&H in Morrison's was £6.45 for 20, and in the bar £7.00 for 16 Marlboro Gold.

I suspect the consequence of these bans and purges will have be to prohibit sale of alcohol and tobacco products to those that cannot pay the premium prices.

In effect it will be a tax on the poor who already pay a larger % of their income on low cost options. Guess what ... the quality of the ready to cook meals bought in the local corner shop is probably not as good for in relation to Fat and Salt content as say that bought from M&S or from the Tesco premium range! What you going to do? Impose minimum prices on these products too? Let us just face it. There are some things legally available to individuals that if abused will cause harm and death to the individuals concerned and the general public at large.

Restricting the sale and consumption in one's own home of legal products is a draconian measure that artificially impacts on lower income individuals.

The rigorous Policing of current legislation is required to prevent violent disorder in public. Stop the individuals (I wont say kids coz I have seen women of 50 staggering the streets after meeting up at someone's house and being on the wine / Vodka before they come out to the bars!) turning up at pubs and clubs drunk. It is illegal to serve an intoxicated customer so enforce it. It is illegal to be drunk in a public place so enforce it. It is illegal to urinate in public so enforce it.... It is illegal to sell alcohol to under 18s or to someone over the age of 18 whom you have reasonable cause to believe will supply the alcohol to the under 18s...

Just enforce the current legislation! Withdraw the Liquor License of establishments breaking the law, whether it be a major supermarket, a corner shop of a nightclub!

As we are ending the summer silly season for journalism I really did not suspect to see the other story doing the round about the RSPCA calling for the government to bring back the Dog License! I have an alternative! Bring back the Dog license and anybody that has tattoos should be arrested if found in possession of a Bull terrier, Rottweiler, Doberman, Alsatian, Akita etc....

Also no Car or Motorbike should be sold in the UK that can be drive in excess of 70 mph... if you want to go fast on a private race track that is fine! Take it there on a trailer not on the public roads! No Televisions should be sold without showing a valid TV License to the till operator and followed up by a home visit from BBC Licensing...

OK I am sure I have forgotten something's... but no doubt the reactionary masses will bring those into the debate.

Music!

That was it...

Ban all loud music and stop pubs / clubs playing it! It must be playing devil tricks with the minds of the kids and causing them harm not like what happened with me ... I remember when I was a lad they were proper musicians and the songs had a tune and words you could understand and sing along to as you drove home drunk from the pub after drinking 8 pints of Mild ... now that was proper beer no one used to get hurt with that... apart from the wife and kids taking a beating on a Friday night... but then we did not talk about that sort of thing then if it was not in public!

So that is it then! Problem solved!

Ban Larger and play Billy Furry and Lonnie Donegan records!

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Jayo, Wallasey says... 8:46pm Thu 2 Sep 10

Alcohol fueled violence is most likely no worse than it has ever been. As Peppar John rightly points out in his amusing post a bottle of "voddy" has already been sunk before they get to the pub. The real problem is when the vodka is mixed with the cocaine and that's when people really get hurt. Cocaine is the real problem but nobody seems to want to target that. I wonder why?

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Toryman, Lower Heswall says... 10:33pm Thu 2 Sep 10

As a shareholder in many companies, I fully support a minimum price in the sale of alcohol: I come to this judgement because of a number of factors: any one who has a need for alcohol will find the money to get it regardless of their income and hence the price/dividends that I will receive for my investment in those companies will increase. Secondly, it removes the need for me to invest further in those companies, just to increase my own return, because it has already been done for me; thus my returns increase without any investment from me.

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slumdogg, Wallasey says... 3:41am Fri 3 Sep 10

Peppar John, good stuff!!

Is that right Toryman? Well, I invented alcohol and I get 0.01p for every unit sold globally. I think the price should be as high as possible.

This is actually a stupid Tory idea. It just means that the poorer you are, the more you pay, proportionally, for a drink.

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