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To whom it may concern,

I am aware that many pubs are closing on a weekly basis and am fearful that the heart of my local community as well as others will be a 'thing of the past'. I do not go out and purchase alcohol when I socialise. However, my peers do and I still enjoy going out after a hard week at work and enjoying a soft drink in a friendly environment at my friends local.

Without these establishments there will be nowhere but home to have social gatherings as most other organisations have become modernised over the years, for example, selling food and playing loud music to attract a younger crowd. What about those who simply want to just go and have a quiet drink with their mates?

In addition, most local pubs allow parents to have their children in the pub due to the calm nature of the environment. I feel that this is good as it helps to condition children from a young age to drink responsibly. Can you say the same for these modernised establishments that attract 'the wrong sort of crowds'? Through social interaction young people will at some stage come into contact with alcohol. Around 13,000 young people are admitted to hospital each year as a result of drinking and 15,000 seek specialist care (Department for Education, 2013). So what does this say about our society?

I urge you to consider bringing in a statutory code as it is crucial that our local pubs are protected. I would like to continue enjoying my Friday evenings with my mates as well as being able to watch sports games with other people who have mutual interests.

Yours Sincerely