

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Olave, Hart Street, and All
Hallows Staining, with St Catherine Coleman**

St Olave's Church,
Hart Street,
London,
EC3R 7NB.

Town Clerk
(Licensing)
City of London
Guildhall
London,
EC2P 2EJ.

16th March 2023

Dear Sir,

**Objection to license application (Tower Ward) by NYT Aura Limited (ground, lower ground
and basement level of the Corn Exchange, 55 Mark Lane, City of London EC3R 7NE**

I write on behalf of the Parochial Church Council to express in the strongest possible terms our objection to the licence application for these premises.

In summary the application proposes late night opening, with alcohol sales, music, entertainment etc every night of the week until 2am (3am Wednesdays to Saturdays), including Sundays. This is unacceptable.

We have a duty of care to the Rector of this church, and to his wife, relatives and those living in or near the Rectory, located above the church. The activities of night-time venues in the area have already for many years caused much distress in this previously quiet and peaceful corner of the City. We believe this licence application should be rejected. At the very least we would ask that the closing time be set at no later than 11.00pm although even that is far from ideal.

Our objections relate to the following licensing objectives:

Prevention of crime and disorder

- We know from current experience of local premises with late night licences that patrons will spill out in an uncontrolled way in large numbers in the early hours of the morning. They are frequently drunk and disorderly, with arguments and fights breaking out. To date there has been little attempt to manage/police these

disturbances, so the addition of another nightclub venue will inevitably result in further disorder, to the great detriment of those living/staying nearby.

Public safety

- As above, past and current experience shows there are grave concerns about the ability of the management of such premises to control the behaviour of patrons. The Rector and members of his family, as well as other local residents and visitors should not have to worry about their safety when returning home late at night. By virtue of his role, the Rector will sometimes be required to make visits during the night (to minister to the dying, for example) and it is unacceptable that his safety should be put at risk during encounters with drunk or aggressive patrons outside the premises.

Prevention of public nuisance

- A major concern relates to increased all-night road traffic in the small streets in this area. Public transport is not an option for patrons: there is no night tube service and few night buses. They will be using taxis, Ubers or private cars. The venue is in a one-way system of narrow streets, meaning all vehicles will need to drive directly past the Rectory bedroom windows and many hotel room windows. Patrons from existing venues (as well as parked up cars awaiting their passengers) already create noise and disturbance in these streets as they disperse. Yet another venue with a late licence will add significantly to this problem.
- Again, from past experience, music is likely to be played at loud volume throughout the evening into the early hours, seven nights a week. It prevents anyone living locally, including in the Rectory, from getting any sleep. This is followed, when the premises close, by a further great surge of noise as patrons come out and stand around in the street outside, and is clearly a major public nuisance.
- There is already a great deal of noise disturbance, often at 4:00am, from patrons of the Proud City nightclub.

Protection of children from harm

- There are now many more family groups who stay in nearby hotels when visiting the City for leisure. It is inappropriate and harmful for them to be exposed to late night noise and disturbance, including shouting and swearing.

Cumulative impact

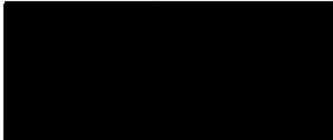
- The licensing authorities must take into account the cumulative negative impact that late night premises have on the health and wellbeing of those living close by. Residents, including the Rector and his wife, are regularly subjected to appalling disturbance causing anxiety and loss of sleep. Giving a licence to NYT Aura will simply worsen the problem, which the authorities to date seem powerless to control. Regular calls by the Rector to the noise complaint/public protection service and the police have no effect.

Other premises close by St Olave's, including the large hotels, share our objections to this licence application. All individuals living or staying in this area have a right to undisturbed sleep. I would particularly draw your attention to paragraph 91 on page 23 of your Statement of Licensing Policy 2022 which states that residents (including hotel guests) have

a reasonable expectation that their sleep will not be unduly disturbed between the hours of 23.00 and 07.00.

If you need us to elaborate on any of these points, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



Graham Mundy
Churchwarden and Lay Vice Chair
On behalf of the PCC