

Aznar, Stephen

From: Daniel James <
Sent: 22 May 2014 01:19
To: M&CP - Licensing
Subject: Licence application: 200 Aldersgate Street, Unit 3.

Sirs,

It has been drawn to my attention that a licensing application has been made in respect of 200, Aldersgate Street, Unit 3.

I wish to object to the application on the following grounds:

1. The licence sought would allow the premises to operate late into the night. The neighbourhood is normally fairly peaceful after office hours and I am concerned that customers coming and going at all hours would cause disturbance to residents.

I am also concerned that customers of the premises who wished to smoke would stand outside in the street to do so. There, they might cause disturbance by talking, their cigarette smoke might blow into nearby open windows, and their discarded cigarette ends might litter the street.

2. The licence sought would allow playing of music and films, and also some unspecified activity (of which the applicant has not provided a description in box H of the application form) late into the night. I am concerned that the sound of this would cause disturbance to residents in the area.

3. The licence sought would allow "performances of dance". I am unsure exactly what is envisaged here, but it seems likely that this would mean that the proposed "restaurant and bar" would assume some characteristics of a "night club", which I would not have thought appropriate in an area that is at least partly residential.

Please note that the premises in question adjoin St. Bart's Hospital to the west and north, and residential accommodation in the form of London House and Spencer Heights to the immediate north as well as the nearby Barbican Centre.

I am not in principle opposed to the opening of a restaurant and bar in the premises, especially if -- unlike most other premises in the city -- it remained open at weekends. but in view of the location of the premises in relation to the nearby hospital and residential buildings I would suggest that that the licence should not extend later than midnight, preferably earlier Sunday to Thursday, and that any music or other entertainment should end at least one hour earlier. Further, it should be made clear that no application for any extension to these hours will be entertained. I do not think that "dance performance" or the unspecified entertainment mentioned in box H, should be allowed at all in a residential area.

Further, I would ask that any sound reproduction equipment be limited so that it is incapable of producing a sound that can be heard outside the building. I would also suggest that the licensee be required to ensure that all external doors are kept closed so that sounds of music, conversation, etc., are kept within the building.

It might also be wise to make the licensee responsible, as a condition of the licence, for maintaining the pavement outside the premises, and for cleaning up in a timely fashion any mess left by the customers.

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Regards,

Daniel James

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