

Aznar, Stephen

From: Jonathan Morton
Sent: 21 May 2014 23:29
To: M&CP - Licensing
Subject: Unit 3, 200 Aldersgate Street EC1 - The Meat Company licence application - OBJECTION

" <licensing@cityoflondon.gov.uk>
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Dear Sirs

The City believes its residents are entitled to peace and quiet between the hours of 2300 and 0700.

The City also recognises that one of the greatest irritations to residents trying to sleep is the excessive noise escaping from licensed premises.

I live at [redacted] London House, which adjoins the Application premises and I wish to OBJECT strongly to the subject Application, based mainly on public nuisance, coupled with the protection of children from harm through sleep disturbance.

I consider that 200 Aldersgate Street is an inappropriate location for the type of operation described in the Application. This is based on my experience of three successive operators of the premises last known as the English Pig, (now vacant). These problems have been well documented previously. They include noise from leavers, street drinkers, smokers, and from minicabs; transmission of sound from the interior of the premises through the air and transmission through the structure of the building. General anti-social behaviour in the street. All of this leading to widespread sleep disturbance of residents in London House.

London House apartments are necessarily ventilated by opening their windows.

The City encourages Applicants to consult with neighbours on Licensing Applications, but their first contact with London House was on 19 May at 2107, following an enquiry from me to the Managing Agent of 200 Aldersgate Street. This conduct indicates that the Applicant did not want to consult its immediate neighbour on the Licence Application and, moreover, does not suggest it can be relied on to co-operate to resolve any problems in the future. This was always the difficulty that we residents experienced with the various operators of the English Pig, Hogshead and Slug & Lettuce.

In the email of 19 May the solicitor acting for the Applicant described a number of amendments he was authorised to make. These do not go far enough, particularly in respect of hours, which still do not meet the City's policy as to the reasonable expectations of its Residents.

I consider the latest time for the sale of alcohol and the provision of regulated entertainment should be 2230 daily, such that the premises are empty of patrons by 2300 daily.=20

The issue for residents living at the rear of London House, is that the proposed use of Unit 3 requires the installation of new air handling plant to the rear of London House, a virtually enclosed area bounded by Mitre House, London House and 200 Aldersgate Street. This area currently goes quiet at 2200= on weekdays, when the Mitre House plant is switched off. If the proposed use is permitted, this quiet will be disturbed by the Applicant's new plant, thus causing further direct nuisance to the public. On this basis alone, the Application should not be granted.

If the City is minded to grant a Licence, notwithstanding the foregoing, then I request that the following additional conditions be imposed.=20

1. Installation of double lobby doors at every entrance/exit.=20
2. Installation of a lift to permit disabled access to all levels to which the public have access.=20
3. Installation and use of Sound Attenuation equipment, and all other means necessary to eliminate the escape of sound to the street or transmission of sound to the adjoining apartment block, London House.=20
4. A Requirement on the Licensee not to permit its customers at any time to stand in the street, with or without a drink of any description, nor to smoke in the street.
5. A Requirement on the Licensee to take all steps necessary to prevent minicabs stopping or waiting in Aldersgate Street. A suitable holding point for minicabs would be in Albion Way.=20

Subject to the date set, I or one of my London House colleagues would welcome an opportunity to address the Licensing Sub-Committee on this Application=
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Yours faithfully=20

Jonathan Morton

London House
Chairman, London House RA.=20