

Aznar, Stephen

From: jdennis [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 May 2014 17:15
To: M&CP - Licensing
Subject: Unit 3, 200 Aldersgate Street EC1 - The Meat Company licence application

Importance: High

Dear Sirs,

I am writing as owner of Flat [REDACTED] London House, 172 Aldersgate Street EC1. London House is a residential building of 81 apartments immediately adjoining the applicants building and will therefore be directly affected by the operations of the restaurant/club.

As a building we have been very, very badly affected by the 3 previous operators of the commercial unit below our building. They were the Slug & Lettuce, The Hogshead and then The English Pig. The problems were many and well documented with the CoL so I will not go over them again but needless to say they were all related to antisocial behaviour, noise, disruption/prevention of sleep, vibrational sound penetration through the fabric etc etc. I cannot see where this application varies in terms of the likely impact on us as residents from probably all of the above. I accept that the building is next door and not underneath but this would make little difference to rowdy patrons in the street and noise/vibrations emanating from the restaurant.

Perhaps I can list a few observations/requests:

There are no double doors/lobby onto the street shown on the plans. Even if the music was low the sound would simply waft out everytime the door is opened. I would suggest that noise attenuation equipment is a must and it must be used. I would suggest a lobby with double doors is a must.

I am not sure where smokers would be directed but we do not want them congregating underneath our canopy and the smoke wafting up into our apartments. What would happen in the rain?

I don't understand the claim to be a restaurant where there is a bar area for over 70 people. This does not make sense unless the bar is going to be a very significant part of the business. Bars serve alcohol which fuels all of the above. If the claim is that the bar area is for where the clients wait to be seated for their table then this is clearly misleading unless there is no booking system. I know of other bar/restaurants where the bar is as much of a draw to the establishment as is the restaurant, which is not what we want here. These other establishments evolve as the evening progresses to more resemble clubs not restaurants.

Why does the application cover live music and dance if this is a restaurant?

The closing hours are much too late for this area, next to a residential building accommodating many families with young children. I do not fully understand the references to the sale of alcohol but I would request that the guests are leaving the building by 23:00 latest and therefore will hopefully have dispersed very soon thereafter. I therefore think alcohol sales should finish by 22:30. It is in our lease to be quite between 07:00 and 23:00 and I believe those are the same hours that the CoL aim to provide its residents peace and quiet so there is no reason to breach these hours. 23:00 should be the same for every day of the week with no exception and that is closing time not last orders. To be very clear, it should be quite on the street after 23:00.

Although not directly affected by the proposed plant at the back I know my neighbours on the back side will be and I therefore object to any additional plant which will further add to their woes of already massive plant noise, much of which has been added with the refurbishment of 200 Aldersgate. If there is to be plant then it should be completely out of the way (on top of the building?) and not contributing in any way further to the already high noise levels. The area at the back of our building is very enclosed so it really is not suitable for more plant. It should be noted that

London House does not have air-conditioning and so relies on being able to open windows and veranda doors where fitted.

I should also point out that there has been no effort to engage with us and it is only by chance that one of my neighbours saw the notice. This hardly fills us with confidence that they will engage in the future if and when there are problems.

If there is any further information that you need then please do ask me. I look forward to hearing more and if there is a hearing to discuss this then I will hope to attend.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Dennis

Office:

Mob:

Email: