

Breese, Robert

From: William Gardiner [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 November 2015 14:33
To: M&CP - Licensing
Subject: LICENSING APPLICATION/HUMBLE GRAPE, 1 ST BRIDE'S PASSAGE, EC4Y 8EJ

Dear Sirs,

I am a resident at [REDACTED] Bride Lane EC4 and am writing to object to the proposed licensing application by Humble Grape at the above premises seeking to extend licensing hours to permit the sale of alcohol up to 1am Monday to Friday while permitting late night refreshment up to 1.30am on Saturdays too.

The smoking ban in licensed premises has resulted in an excessive amount of outside drinking from at least two premises in Bride Lane where patrons are permitted to take their glasses outside and drink on the pavement and at times in summer in the middle of the lane. The pavements operate as an informal extension of the two pubs in Bride Lane alone causing considerable noise after working hours especially in the summer months. There is also the length of time before drinkers disperse from the area.

The Humble Grape application seeks to extend its licensing hours while also permitting outdoor drinking for most of the evening before closing. I trust the City of London in its planning considerations will take into account that residents do expect a level of quiet enjoyment of their homes in the evening hours. We already have three licensed premises in Bride Lane and two in Bride Court. The addition of Humble Grape's licensing application is tantamount to turning Bride Lane into an "entertainment zone" completely at odds with the long term residents in the neighbourhood. Bride Lane is an extremely narrow thoroughfare which funnels noise up to the flats above. There is also the noise related to the dispersal of customers beyond midnight – the current application would inevitably lead to customers dispersing beyond 1am on most evenings. This is truly shocking. I have already complained to our common councillor for the ward about the worsening situation among existing licensed premises with noise and crowding in Bride Lane this summer utterly intolerable. Humble Grape's application simply makes matters even worse.

Yours Sincerely,

William Gardiner
[REDACTED] Bride Lane Flat [REDACTED]
London EC4Y 8DT

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