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Letter of Objection

To whom it may concern:-

Regarding the application from Humble Grape re "Variation of Premises License".

As a venue adjacent to the Humble Grape we, St Bride Foundation, wish to object to the application for the following reasons.

It is noted that the proposed area is on St Bride Passage, but that this is subject to another a further License being agreed by the Corporation of London.

Our objections are thus:-

- The encouragement of the use of the outside space and the inevitable impact on the use of the institute, both conference and events room hire and theatre, could lead to an actionable nuisance. - We would reference previous issues where former occupiers of the Humble Grape premises allowed smokers to linger outside, which caused considerable adverse noise interruptions for our clients.
- Movement of patrons – The issue here being control of congregation in the small external area immediately outside the Humble Grape entrance, which happens to be immediately in front of the Fire Exit from the theatre. Without control, and again we site previous issues, large congregations in this area have led to concerns re:- evacuation from the theatre. We note there is another route, that being, onto the lower patio area then up to St Bride Passage.
- It is not clear what would happen if the License for Tables and Chairs on St Bride Passage is not obtained, if the "Variation of Premises Licence" is obtained? - Surely this has to be addressed first? Again, concern is re the area outside the main Humble Grape entrance as per above.
- We see no provision, "patron management" in the application i.e. to both transfer of patrons from main entrance to area on St Brides Passage and subsequently management upstairs in the area, although we note the statement "Policies will be revised in discussion with the responsible authorities and local neighbours"

Regards

Peter Silver
Chairman of the Governors of St Bride Foundation.