

Minas, Aggie

From: Dimitri Varsamis [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 May 2018 17:21
To: M&CP - Licensing
Cc: dimitri varsamis
Subject: Enoteca London Wall Place license application

Dear Licencing team,

I am emailing you to make a representation in relation to a live application, and I am giving notice to your by email, giving ground of my objection.

Regarding the application "To permit the sale of alcohol on and off the premises 11am – 12pm Monday to Saturday. 12pm – 10pm Sunday.", I want to object and state:

*** Nature of the business being the consumption of alcohol:**

As per the name of the wine bar chain, Enoteca, which stands for wine shop, the focus of their brand and what they promote is the consumption of alcohol in the form of wine.

In the application, the applicant has called the wine bar an "Italian cafe and restaurant". This is completely false of what how the wine bar other premises operate and now what people go to a wine bar for. Certainly people don't go to a "cafe and restaurant" for a coffee or a meal at midnight or anything near that time. It is therefore false and disingenuous to provide such a description in the application.

*** Consumption of alcohol as a public health issue:**

As a national health policy expert, and having worked at EU level representing the UK (England), and while not claiming to be a public health consultant or expert, I would be very surprised to see the City accept this application. Alcohol consumption brings no benefit to the City residents, workers or visitors and is detrimental to health in its own right and due to the many other issues of other physical and mental health it contributes to or exacerbates. More widely, while patterns and levels of alcohol consumption in the Mediterranean and specifically Italy may ease the effect it has at individual or population level, opening an Italian style wine bar in London will have a very different effect:

The "Total alcohol consumption per capita in litres of pure alcohol in Europe in 2015" is 6.1lt in Italy and double that, 12 litres, in the UK. Also, the "Self reported number of times the equivalent of one bottle of wine or five pints/bottles of beer or five measures of spirits on one drinking occasion was consumed in the past month" is 0.6 times in Italy and more than 2 in the UK.

Therefore, opening a wine bar that may present itself as a relaxed innocent place to enjoy a glass of wine in the Italian style will be a very different type of establishment when operated in the centre of London.

The City of London is claiming to be concerned by the levels of alcohol consumption and smoking of workers and residents, but allowing yet another alcohol licence is proof of the opposite.

Sources: (<https://www.statista.com/statistics/590026/total-alcohol-consumption-per-capita-europe/>,https://ec.europa.eu/transport/road_safety/specialist/knowledge/alcohol/prevalence_amp_rate_of_alcohol_consumption/alcohol_consumption_en)

*** Food element of the business:**

Regarding food, as per the wine bar's website (<https://enotecadaluca.co.uk/about/>), they offer "small plates to share" of "delicious meats, cheeses and Italian specialities".

The same page proudly states that "Unlike our menu, our wine list is extensive".

Therefore, the wine bar applicant does not offer "substantial food" as claimed in the application, but nibbles to help customers drink more.

*** Music as public nuisance**

Regarding music, Section 13/21 states there will be no music, but in section 18/21 under public nuisance, the wine bar applicant states that music will be played as background music. Unsure which is correct or genuine..

* Public nuisance due to operating until late as a wine bar: issue with sale of alcohol and opening and closing times
There is a block of 90 flats that sits right next to the London Wall Place development. That is 90 families and households whose rights to enjoy their home and life will be taken away by the City if it grants this license. The Roman House design of the flats, that the City granted for development, mean that there are top to bottom and left to right windows and virtually no walls, leaving very limited noise insulation. The City is therefore equally responsible now to ensure that the residents of the residential block of flats it allowed to be built are able to live a normal life with no nuisance of loud noise, loud drunk people, bottles being emptied in bins, drunk people walking around in the very open public spaces of the area, until late in the night. There are people, like me, who go to our jobs in the NHS at 6a.m., and need some decent night's sleep. Why is the City considering taking away my human right to a quiet and peaceful life that I have had for the past 3.5 years in this property?

For all the above reasons, I oppose the granting of the license and the long opening hours of the wine bar. I propose that as the applicant has another wine bar just 2 blocks away, on Basinghal Str, with no residential blocks of flats in its vicinity, so it may want to extend the opening hours and days of its other premises instead? Finally, I propose that the City should consider taking care of the health and peace of its residents and workers by considering a better use of such spaces.

Public nuisance is against my human rights to live a normal peaceful life. I reserve my rights to bring a legal claim in breach of my Human Rights, a tortious claim for nuisance and an injunction to prevent the disturbance caused to me.

Sincerely,

Dr Dimitri Varsamis

████████ Roman House, Wood Str, City of London