

Dunleavy, Ben

From: Mina Lad [REDACTED] >
Sent: 21 June 2022 18:40
To: M&CP - Licensing
Subject: M Lad

THIS IS AN EXTERNAL EMAIL

From: Mina Lad, [REDACTED] London House, 172 Aldersgate Street, London EC1A 4HU

Dear Sir/Madam,

Ref: Application for Premises Licence from The Pavilion Bar and Restaurant Ltd, Retail Unit 3, 200 Aldersgate Street, London EC1A 4HD

I have lived and worked in the City of London for over 20 years. London House consists of 80 apartments with a variety of residents (young children, elderly, disabled, retired, working from home etc.) and is located two doors away from the proposed premises.

I find it concerning that as the closest residential block, we were not made aware of this application (only the blue notice on the window of the premises) and there is no mention of residents in the application. There were no details on the City on London website regarding this application until I contacted the Licensing Team to make them aware of this. The information was finally available late afternoon on 1st June, just before the 4 day Platinum Jubilee weekend, leaving a small window of opportunity for comments to be submitted.

The applicant has made no reference at all to any residential blocks in the area. London House is a large residential block just a few meters away and there are many more residential dwellings - Spencer Heights, Aldersgate Court and Barts Square are just located behind. Diagonally opposite is the Barbican Estate (closest to the proposed premises - Mountjoy House, Thomas More House and Seddon House) and in the other direction, Little Britain. The applicant states that there are no schools in the near vicinity. I believe Hatching Dragons Nursery and Pre-School, located diagonally opposite, should be considered as "near". The City of London Girls School should also be considered "near", especially the sports ground which is located diagonally opposite.

I am writing to **OBJECT** on the following grounds:

(1) PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE:

A license past 11pm on any evening is taking away our right to quiet enjoyment of home and the right to a peaceful life between the hours of 11pm-7am. With reference to the Licensing Policy: "Residents have a reasonable expectation that their sleep will not be unduly disrupted between the hours of 11pm and 7am".

Alcohol fuelled anti-social behaviour will create high levels of noise, disturbance and nuisance beyond the levels that could reasonably be expected. Local residents would also be subjected to urinating and vomiting on our pavements.

The smoking ban inside any premises will certainly see many customers outside on the pavement. In bad weather, many will congregate under canopies. London House has a relatively large canopy which would be attractive especially when raining. Regardless of their behaviour, this would cause a nuisance and be potentially unsafe for residents trying access either our staircase entrance, the main entrance or accessing our keypad/video entry system on the wall.

Aldersgate Street is a very quiet and peaceful street in the evenings and weekends, which we all thoroughly enjoy, so any noise during this time is amplified. Even more so as London House does not have air conditioning and therefore ventilation is achieved by opening windows. If the application is granted, the premises should only be allowed to operate until 11pm and only Monday to Friday. Promoted Events should not be allowed. Consuming alcohol outside the premises, whether standing or tables, should not be permitted at all. However, even a licence up until 11pm will still cause local residents nuisance for some time after 11pm as people are leaving the premises, many would loitering, smoking, chatting, all of which creating noise and disturbance.

It must be noted that the previous owner of this unit and the next two premises down towards London House (EAT, Abokado & The Natural Kitchen) did not operate at the weekends, with the exception of EAT which closed by 4pm on Saturdays.

Noise created from the extraction equipment will also disturb residents at the back of London House (half of the 80 apartments). These back facing apartments overlook an enclosed triangle of space. The two other buildings of this triangle (160 & 200 Aldersgate Street) are both huge flat brick building which act to circulate and contain any noise produced within. Any noise at all, reverberates around and can be heard by all back facing apartments.

If this licence is granted, it would impact negatively on the residential amenity of London House.

(2) PUBLIC SAFETY:

During working hours, the pavements are already very busy with commuters, tourists, school groups (from Barbican station going towards Museum of London, St.Pauls), prams, scooters etc. so any outdoor seating would narrow the pavement, causing a safety hazard.

(3) PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER:

Alcohol fuelled anti-social behaviour is a concern as London House is without 24-hour concierge. Uncontrolled gatherings and loitering would be an issue, especially when coming back home late at night alone. As a female returning home alone late at night, I certainly would not feel comfortable.

(4) PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM:

Hatching Dragons Nursery/Pre-School and the City of London Girls school are in near vicinity. There are also babies, toddlers and young children residing in London House.

I appreciate that we live in the City which is a mix of business and residential units and understand the importance of commerce in the area. However, this also has to be balanced against the residents.

I urge the Licensing Committee to refuse this application.

Yours sincerely,

Mina Lad