

MINUTES OF THE LICENSING (HEARING) SUB-COMMITTEE

HELD ON MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 10am

APPLICANT: Fit Kitchen
PREMISES: Basement & ground floor, 43-45 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1JA

Sub-committee:
Mary Durcan (Chairman)
Deputy John Fletcher

Officers:
Town Clerk – Jayne Moore

Applicant:
Amar Lodhia

Making representation:
Mr Tim Godsmark

Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005

A public Hearing was held at 10am to consider the representations submitted in respect of a temporary event notice application for 16 Eldon Street, London, EC2M 7LD.

The Sub-Committee had before it the following documents:

- Hearing Procedure
- Report of the Executive Director Environment
- Appendix 1: Copy of Application
- Appendix 2: Counter Notice and Cover Email
- Appendix 3: Conditions Consistent with the Operating Schedule
- Appendix 4: Representations from Other Responsible Authorities (i)
- Appendix 5: Plan of Premises
- Appendix 6: Map of Subject Premises

The Hearing commenced at 2pm.

At the commencement of the Hearing, the Chairman introduced herself before asking the other panel member, the City of London Corporation officers and the other parties present to introduce themselves.

The Committee noted that Fit Kitchen, whose main business is serving healthy food, has been operating since 2015, and that the only alcoholic drink the business was planning to serve at Eastcheap was low-alcohol beer and, possibly in the future, sulphite-free wine as a table service. The business is also planning to generate additional revenue by renting out the premises for events such as weddings.

The Committee noted that people were likely to use a new entrance to the premises that did not impinge on the Church itself.

The Committee noted the objection from the neighbouring church (Saint Margaret Pattens) together with a letter dated 25 February 2023 from its church warden noting that four people (out of seven) had voted to maintain the objection at a General Church Council meeting on 16 February 2023. The Committee noted that the church warden of that church may be offering the church space to Fit Kitchen over the summer.

The Committee also noted the conditions set out by the City of London Police, noting also that security measures would be introduced for all events regardless of the outcome of the hearing.

The Committee sought clarification on the maximum capacity of the premises, and heard that the maximum capacity was around 50 people standing, or around 20 seated attendees. The Committee heard that many of the events were expected to be in support of the Fit Kitchen Foundation that supports children in need of humanitarian aid, whose remit encompasses support with healthy living and tackling child obesity.

A Member asked for further information on an objection around windows being opened, potentially enabling a noise nuisance. The meeting heard that the windows could not be opened.

A Member asked for further information on the nature of the music. The meeting heard that it was expected to involve acoustic music that could not be heard outside the premises, and that background music was expected to be played.

The applicants left the room during the discussion on the decision.

The Committee noted the following points:

- The door supervisor condition requested by the City of London Police is not enforceable
- A single door supervisor is to be required for events
- A dispersal management plan is to be required
- No evidence was submitted around objections related to public nuisance or crime & disorder

RESOLVED, That the Committee grant the licence subject to the following conditions:

- Security is provided during any promoted event

The meeting ended at 10.35am

Chairman

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