

# Appendix C

**From:** Maidment, Richard  
**Sent:** 02 November 2020 13:52  
**To:** Robson, Debra  
**Subject:** FW: Application for premises licence - 77A Castle Road  
**Attachments:** IMG-7946.jpg; IMG-7945.jpg; IMG-7947.jpg; Consent of individual to being specified as premises supervisor Darren Swann- April 2017.doc; Scan\_Robson\_Debra\_20201015-170832\_2617\_001.pdf

I wish to make representations regarding this application on the grounds of prevention of public nuisance.

The premises are located within the ground floor of a late Victorian / Edwardian building with residential dwellings directly above at first and second floor level and there are also a number of residential dwellings directly opposite the venue less than 10 metres from the front façade.

The current operation is a café / sandwich bar which is only open during the day whereas the description of the proposed premises and the comparative size of the bar shown on the plan leads me to believe that this will now be a drinking establishment open until 23:00hrs.

Historically we have experienced significant problems with new licensed premises being structurally attached to existing residential dwellings due to poor sound insulation between the separating structure and the inevitable level of noise associated with the operation of these establishments. There will also be a potential impact upon residents living in the dwellings opposite due to external activities and breakout from the front façade.

My concerns with this application include the following:

- Modern bars are generally very reverberant spaces so when the bar is at capacity, noise from customers talking within the bar and any exuberant or rowdy behaviour increases to significant levels as people compete to be heard.
- The introduction of The Live Music Act means that any licenced premises has the right to play amplified music including performances of live bands as entertainment until 23:00hrs seven days a week.
- Noise travelling via the structure to the first floor dwelling due to inadequate sound insulation.
- Noise breakout from the front façade which is entirely glazed and an acoustic weak point in the structure.
- Rowdy behaviour from customers loitering outside smoking.
- The use of an outdoor seating area on the pavement which will be used by customers for drinking until 21:00hrs.

Section M of the application form indicates that little thought has been given to noise management or sound insulation other than that music will be kept low after 22:00hrs, which intimates that it will be loud prior to that.

The Good Practice Guide on the Control of Noise from Pubs and Clubs published by The Institute of Acoustics states : "Extreme caution should be exercised in permitting developments that result in pubs, clubs and other similar premises being structurally attached to noise sensitive properties. Such development should not be permitted without it being clearly demonstrated that acceptable noise levels can be achieved and maintained at and in the noise sensitive properties".

Consequently based on the information submitted I am not confident that the premises will be able to function without causing nuisance to the residential dwellings above and opposite the proposed venue.

regards

Richard Maidment  
Principal Regulatory Services Officer

Regulatory Services  
Portsmouth City Council  
Civic Offices  
Guildhall Square  
Portsmouth  
PO1 2AL