

APPENDIX C

Stone, Derek

From: Kathy Grant [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 August 2023 17:42
To: Licensing Shared Email
Subject: Re: 23/02674/LAPREM 161-165 Highland Road, Southsea PO4 9EY

[REDACTED]

I wish to make a representation/objection to the proposal by Southsea Dog Café Ltd to open a licensed premises at the above address. This is based on:

Sect 5. This claims a “focus on being a community based premises” but there has been no attempt by the Applicant to actually communicate with the neighbours who will be affected by this application. She wants her license to start from 28 Aug 23 but the (unnumbered) notice of application in the premises window only appeared 2 weeks ago and there has been nothing else posted locally.

Sect 10. Live music. The premises are all single pane glass on the front and down one side. The live music area is at the front of the building in front of the glass; how is this to be soundproofed? I live in Kimberley Road and we are already bombarded by noise from the Broadway Coffee Roasters cafe blaring across the cemetery (which ought surely to have a right to peace and quiet). What will make this any different – and they want to extend the license to 0100 on ‘special occasions’. Why should the neighbours have to put up with this?

Sect 15. The notice on the premises window clearly states alcohol sales from 0800-2300 every day of the week. This is far in excess of normal licenced premises, eg pubs. Sales will be for consumption off the premises making it an off license and increasing the likelihood of alcohol bottles and cans ending up in local streets/gardens together with the associated disturbance. And they will have to sell a lot of alcohol to make the rent on a property of this size, which suggests ‘happy hours’ and other ways of encouraging customers to buy.

Sect 18. There are a number of issues here. 1. The Applicant states that alcohol sales will cease 15-30 minutes prior to closing to allow customers to leave in a ‘quiet and orderly manner’. But she has no way of enforcing this statement; it’s just nice words. 2. It is stated that external lighting will be used to avoid nuisance to nearby residents; but elsewhere it is stated that the outside seating area will only be used during the day so what is the intention here? 3. It is further stated that crowds will be controlled and door supervisors will be employed. If they anticipate crowds large enough to merit door supervisors, this does not suggest a ‘café’ type operation – and how are these crowds to be controlled once they head off into local streets causing a noise or disturbance at 0100? This section also states that ‘Customers will not park their cars over any residents’ driveways or block the main road’. Again, this is just words, probably lifted from other applications. These premises are on a busy junction right next to a zebra crossing. There are no driveways in the only roads where customers can park, these are terraced houses. We have only recently started to be able to park in our own roads with the introduction of parking zones and this is likely now to be undone with customers cars instead. Finally, Hellyer and Kimberley Roads are too narrow to accommodate large delivery lorries and unloading from the main road (Highland Road) would cause traffic disruption and risk the safety of those trying to use the crossing.

Finally, I would have no objection to someone wanting to open a genuine café here but this is quite clearly anything but. It is actually a licensed entertainments venue more suited to the Guildhall Square.

Kathy Grant
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