



I am Mark Marshall, currently employed as the Head of Licensing for South Ribble Borough Council, duly authorised by David Whelan, Head of Legal Services to submit representations on behalf of the Licensing Authority.

An application was received on the 25th October 2018 for a new premises licence relating to 1a Fleetwood Street, Leyland PR25 3NL. The premises is located on the 1st floor of the building and entry is gained through a single width door on Fleetwood Street.

On the 12th November 2018 the premises was visited by Licensing Officers, at this time construction work was still taking place but the overall layout was very apparent, a single fire exit door is located to the rear of the first floor which provides access onto a steel staircase which leads down into a rear yard.

The premises currently still benefits from a Club Premises Certificate allowing the supply of alcohol to 01.00hrs at the weekend and recorded music till midnight.

The new application seeks to sell alcohol till 02.00hrs and offer recorded music till 02.15hrs.

The Licensing Authority have numerous concerns;

Public Safety

The operating schedule which is included with the application indicates that a capacity of 150 is proposed, given the fact the fire exit door on the first floor is approximately 750mm wide this would have an impact on the time that it took to clear the building in the event of fire. General guidance on fire safety which is readily available indicates that 100 capacity would be advisable especially given that the majority of the customers will be in drink. It is possible to increase capacity if the exit door is slightly wider than 750, for every 75mm above 750mm there guidance suggests that an increase of 15 people would be permissible. Lancashire Fire and Rescue agreed that 150 capacity for such a premises is ambitious, and suggested a figure closer to 100.

Protection of Children from Harm

A technical point with the operating schedule has been noted in that the applicant has suggested that no unaccompanied children under 14 will be on the premises after 7pm.

Section 145 of the Licensing Act 2003 prohibits children under 16 being on specified premises at any time unless unaccompanied. This premises is exclusively or primarily used for the sale of alcohol on the premises so the no child under 16 would be permitted at any time unless accompanied by an adult.

Prevention of Public Nuisance.

The entrance to the premises is very close to residential property (approximately 20 meters) from the nearest house, the street comprises of terraced housing and the noise from customers entering and dispersing the area would easily carry down the street, a break in the housing, trees and walls would all act as a barrier for the noise but on this street there is no environmental protection.

This point was raised on the 12th November 2018 with the applicant and some suggestions were made regarding the installation of a quieting system and last entry condition, however neither have these have been offered in this initial application so can only be imposed by the applicant volunteering it or the Committee imposing it.

Sound insulation in the building has not been considered so the impact of recorded music or live bands has not been established, residents who have submitted objections indicate that they suffered noise nuisance when the previous club had live bands so the same position should be assumed with this new operation. This matter could be rebutted by the submission of a suitable noise assessment, at the time of writing no such document has been lodged with the application.

A further concerns exists regarding the potential changes to neighbouring commercial premises, there are at least 4 late night takeaways on Chapel Brow all within about 50 meters from the premises, the latest terminal hour for these takeaways is 01.30 hrs. With a late night licensed premises proposing a closing time of 02.30hrs it is likely that some or all of these nearby takeaways will want to take advantage of more customers in the area and therefor apply for later opening. Typically takeaways seem to operate for about 30-45 minutes after neighbouring licensed premises close, this could protract dispersal from the area of Chapel Brow to 03.00hrs.

There is limited infrastructure in place around the locality for taxis, a small 2 bay taxi rank exists on Chapel Brow which is time limited between 7pm and midnight, after midnight private cars could legitimately park on the this rank which could mean that customers choose to pre book taxis, unless well controlled the arrival of numerous private hire vehicles could lead to noise nuisance problems from cars doors banging vehicles turning or waiting in Fleetwood Street or the possibility of arguments over who booked which vehicle. Again the operating schedule has failed to consider the impact of large numbers of people dispersing in the early hours of the morning onto what is currently a quiet residential street.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

The anticipation of an increase in crime in the area can be assessed by the previous problems encountered by residents. When the premises ran as a member's club anti-social behaviour such as rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour, urinating in nearby alley ways and general disturbance from smokers as well as people arriving and dispersing were all matters of annoyance.

With proposed later opening hours and potentially a different demographic entering the area late at night it is more than reasonable to envisage problems will occur. The applicant is proposing 2 door staff to be on duty, one on the front door and one inside the premises, on busy night's one member of door staff will not be able to manage the issues in the immediate vicinity of the premises, it should be noted that in the immediate vicinity there are numerous residential properties.

Yours Faithfully.



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