



Licensing Sub-Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on Friday 7 December 2012 at 10.00 am at Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Sunil Chopra (Chair)
Councillor Lorraine Lauder MBE
Councillor Althea Smith

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: James Fisher, applicant
Hannah Bury, applicant

OFFICER SUPPORT: Sarah Newman, environmental protection officer
Farhad Choudhary, health and safety officer
Debra Allday, legal officer
Andrew Weir, constitutional officer

1. APOLOGIES

There were none.

2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

The three members present were confirmed as the voting members.

3. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

5. LICENSING ACT 2003 - UNIT 5, 12-16 BLENHEIM GROVE, LONDON SE15 4QL

The licensing officer advised that the applicant had submitted a revised operating schedule. This was circulated to all parties.

The licensing officer presented her report. Members had no questions for the licensing officer.

The applicant addressed the sub-committee. Members had questions for the applicant.

The health and safety officer addressed the sub-committee. Members had no questions for the health and safety officer.

The environmental protection officer addressed the sub-committee. During her presentation the environmental protection officer advised that she lived in the same locality as the premises. Members had questions for the environmental protection officer.

All parties were given five minutes to sum up.

The sub-committee went into closed session at 11.15am.

The sub-committee resumed at 12.10pm and the chair read out the decision of the sub-committee.

RESOLVED:

That the application submitted by James Fisher for a premises licence in respect of Unit 5, 12-16 Blenheim Grove, London SE15 4QL be deferred to a future date to be determined.

Reasons

This was an application by James Fisher for a premises licence in respect of Unit 5, 12-16 Blenheim Grove, London SE15 4QL.

The licensing sub-committee heard evidence from the applicant who advised that he had lived in the area for approximately 20 years and that he and his family lived very close to the premises. He emphasised that the premises would be run as a food led café and bar. He further advised that the premises would be targeting a customer base of 25 years and above.

The licensing sub-committee noted the written representations from the two local residents who were not in attendance today.

The licensing sub-committee heard evidence from the Southwark Council health and safety team who advised that they had been unable to gain access to the premises as the applicant and the freeholder had not finalised the lease of the premises. The applicant advised that once the lease had been signed, access would not be an issue.

The licensing sub-committee heard evidence from the Southwark Council environmental protection team. During the course of the officer's presentation, the sub-committee heard

that the officer lived in the same locality as the premises. Whilst the officer maintained that she was not biased in her dealings with this application, the sub-committee were concerned that she lived in the same locality as the premises and the local objectors and decided that an alternative environmental protection officer should be allocated to this application and a fresh representation from the environmental protection team should be submitted to the future hearing.

In the interest of transparency, the sub-committee felt that the decision to defer was necessary.

Appeal rights

That the licensee and any person who made relevant representations in relation to the application may appeal against the decision. Any appeal must be made to the magistrates court for the petty sessions area in which the premises are situated. Any appeal must be commenced by notice of appeal given by the appellant to the justices' chief executive for the magistrates court within the period of 21 days beginning with the day on which the appellant was notified by the licensing authority of the decision appealed against.

The meeting adjourned at 12.14pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: