

Party 1

From:

Sent: Friday, June 29, 2018 11:57 AM

To: Regen, Licensing

Subject: Fw: Underdog review grounds.

LICENCE HOLDER: UNDERDOG ART COMPANY LIMITED Railway Arch 6 Crucifix Lane SE1 3JW

DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR NAME: Sammy James Forway

GROUND'S FOR REVIEW OF LICENCE -

As a resident of Crucifix Lane I hereby support the application for the review of the Premises Licence granted to Underdog Art Company Limited trading as The Underdog ('Underdog') situated at Arch 6 Crucifix Lane, SE1 3JW.

The section of Crucifix Lane in front of the underdog is a narrow road. I live the Underdog entrance with my 2 young children. Two of our bedrooms and the living room to the Underdog's entrance.

Late club nights are routinely held at Underdog mainly but not only at the weekends. The Underdog also hosts club nights till 04:00 or 05:00 in the morning, outside its permissible licensed hours, sometimes on consecutive nights.

We as a family have long been experiencing persistent nuisance as a result of the noise from both live and recorded music played at the Underdog. Crowds of revellers shouting and jeering inside and outside the venue compound this disturbance. I also experience groups of people standing and smoking in front of my house and playing games such as pulling up the potted plant leaves and jumping to swing my hanging basket, there are hand prints all over the wall where this game is regularly played by revellers.

This collecting of people from the venue is not limited to the frontage of my house. There is often loud talking, laughing and shouting from large groups of people loitering, smoking and urinating outside the premises and in the tunnel. Closing time is often the peak time for these issues and it lingers on for some time after the event has finished - unchallenged by staff.

Underdog bouncers are very unresponsive and rude when I have tried to talk to them in the past. On one occasion insisting there was no one for me to talk to about the noise, no management on site and refused to let me inside. I felt very intimidated by them. On another occasion they were derisive, inviting me in for a drink! When I have had the noise police attend my property in the past I feel intimidated as it is very public for me to complain due my proximity to Underdog. The bouncers always take an interest and as they have been difficult and uncooperative in the past i feel uncomfortable. In fact I feel uncomfortable/vulnerable writing this letter. I live alone with my 2 children since losing my husband to cancer 2 years ago. I have not complained either in person or to the noise police about issues at Underdog since.

I am also disappointing that there is no soundproofing at the venue despite this being discussed at the last meeting that residence were invited to.

Finally I would like to confirm that on 11th/12th May 2018 until very late there was loud music and shouting.

I am in agreement with the local community in feeling that Underdog present an unacceptable noise nuisance. They negatively impact our ability to sleep and to enjoy our daily life in our homes. In granting the licence to Underdog to play live and recorded music the Council fails to protect its residents and fulfil its 'prevention of public nuisance objective'. I call for the exclusion of live and recorded music, by way of an additional condition to the licence if necessary, as an activity that the Underdog is authorised to undertake. Further, the licensed opening hours should be restricted to 09:00 to 23:00 on all days of the week.

Yours faithfully,

On Fri, 29 Jun 2018 at 12:17, Regen, Licensing
<Licensing.Regen@southwark.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear ,

In order for us to accept your representation we will need you to provide us with your full postal address.

Kind Regards,
Sarah

From:

Sent: 30 June 2018 07:20

To: Regen, Licensing

Subject: RE: Underdog review grounds.

Hi sorry about that it's:

Many thanks,

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Party 2

From:

Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 4:15 PM

To: Regen, Licensing

Subject: Application for licence review - Underdog Gallery

Dear Sir

I am fully supportive of the application for licence review of Underdog Gallery as submitted by my neighbour and endorse all the points raised in the application. Please keep me informed of your considerations and intended actions.

Many thanks.

Yours sincerely

From: Jerrom, Charlie <Charlie.Jerrom@southwark.gov.uk> on behalf of Regen, Licensing
<Licensing.Regen@southwark.gov.uk>

Sent: 25 June 2018 15:22

To:

Subject: RE: Application for licence review - Underdog Gallery

Hi

For us to accept you email as a support for review you will need to provide more detail in relation to the four licensing objectives below.

- prevention of crime and disorder
- prevention of public nuisance
- public safety
- protection of children from harm

Regards

Charlie Jerrom

Service Support Officer

Licensing Team

Tel: 020 7525 5718

Postal address: Southwark Council, Licensing Team, Regulatory Services, 3rd Floor Hub 1
PO Box 64529, London, SE1P 5LX

Office address: Southwark Council, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH

From:

Sent: Wednesday, July 04, 2018 12:03 PM

To: Regen, Licensing

Subject: Re: Application for licence review - Underdog Gallery

Hi Charlie

Further to your email as below I re-submit my support for licence review of Underdog Gallery.

Events held at this venue are notably disturbing due to the loudness of the music. Specifically I have already complained about a particular event on 11/12 May as an example. Even though I live down the street about 60m away, the music can still be heard and be disruptive for sleep especially late into the night. The event of 11/12 May went on till about 4 or 5 in the morning. I would cite this as a public nuisance. Underdog seems to be operating as a nightclub rather than an art space contrary to expectation and reassurance received at public meeting in 2014 regarding their licencing.

I am also concerned about the number of people outside the venue, smoking or just hanging around. The pavement is often blocked sometimes spilling into the street and affecting traffic. Again objectionable because of public safety, disorder and nuisance.

I hope you will accept my support for application to review Underdog's licence.

Best wishes

Party 3

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 2:33 PM

To: Regen, Licensing

Subject: Underdog gallery, Arch 6 Crucifix

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to make a representation in support of review application number 863705 in regards to Underdog Gallery, Arch 6, Crucifix Lane, SE1 3JW.

As a resident of Crucifix Lane I submit this representation in relation to the prevention of a public nuisance.

My understanding of the Underdog is that it is ostensibly a gallery, which planned to host occasional events and performances to coincide with its exhibition program. When the application for its licence was motioned to residents this was the premise. Most galleries host opening events for new shows and some occasionally involve music, either live or recorded, and some form of party atmosphere.

My actual experience of living near the gallery is that it is primarily used as an event space and bar in and out of the specified hours of operation

Before the Underdog opened Arch 6 had long been home to the Pierre Garoudi gallery, which hosted art and fashion exhibitions and the occasional live catwalk event. I attended these events on several occasions and Pierre was a welcome and active part of the local community.

As far as I understand, the Underdog gallery has been granted a licence to remain open from 09:00 till 23:30 from Monday to Thursday, till 01:00 on Friday and Saturday and till 23:00 on Sunday. Hardly gallery hours!

As far as I understand, the licence permits the performance of live music and the playing of recorded music indoors during these hours. This seems contrary to the concept of a gallery and to me more akin to that of a bar or club. If the Underdog operates in this way then I would expect that it follow strict guidelines and protocol as to how to do this without affecting the lives of local residents. I have friends who run music venues and appreciate the efforts and means they must go to avoid falling foul of the terms of their licence and or disturbing their immediate community.

In my mind, the Underdog operates without this due care. And when neighbors have been upset by the subsequent noise little respect has been shown to them and little action taken to avoid this disturbance.

Since opening, club nights have been routinely held at Underdog but not only at the weekends. In fact I would suggest that there have been many more music or performance related events at the gallery than exhibitions. The Underdog has also on occasion, hosted club nights till the early hours, outside its permissible licensed hours, sometimes on consecutive nights. I do not have specific evidence of this but can assure the fact. The problem is compounded by the type of music represented by the promoter which is generally guitar and drum based, heavy stoner doom rock and psych-noise. The frequencies of sound created by this kind of music are hard to contain in the type of space the underdog occupies and cannot fail but to disturb the local area.

Sound checks and audience reaction add to this.

Residents have long been experiencing persistent nuisance as a result of the noise from both live and recorded music played at the Underdog. It seems to me that the venue is not equipped for this type of event with little sound proofing or baffling and or control of its pavement side activities, with crowds on occasion blocking the entire section of Crucifix lane and Shand street tunnel.

Underdog is also often hired out to third party organisers who charge fees for entry to the event. This peaked a couple of years ago when there were club nights back to back from Friday to Sunday and a totally different clientele attending.

I must state that I am not against live music or events in London or even on my doorstep but in this case it seems to me that there is a blatant misuse of the licence and the gallery's managements behavior takes little care or interest in the well being of its neighboring community.

I have met Sammy on several occasions and found him to be fine but on many occasions he is not or has not been present or in control of the events. For several years the gallery was run day to day by another individual who seemed to me, to take great pride in presenting an aggressive and intentionally noisy and disruptive approach to running the space. This particular individual would listen to extremely loud music whenever he felt like it, even when the gallery was closed and often til 2am or on Sundays. I once asked him to close the doors to the venue during a particularly loud heavy metal sound check on a Saturday afternoon and was told to "f... off, I will do what I what..." and personally and aggressively insulted. This anti-social "punk" attitude underlies the gallery's MO and while I am not against "punk" ideals or alternative musical culture at all I think it is contrary to the premise of the Underdog being a fine art gallery.

Since that time the events have been less frequent but not less disruptive.

I would ask that the gallery decide what it wants to be, a gallery for art and occasional events or a live music venue and bar. And in that I believe the licence granted to the Underdog should be under review based on its flagrant abuse of the terms of its issuance.

In my mind you cannot be both a gallery and a live music venue on a tiny quiet mostly residential street in central London. I of course want to support the cultural diversity of the area but must point out that it is increasingly becoming an area driven by the late night economy of eating and drinking and with this comes a lot of noise and nuisance.

Yours sincerely

Parties 4, 5 & 6

From:

Date: 16 July 2018 at 18:40:01 BST

To: licensing@southwark.gov.uk

Cc:

Subject: License Objection & Noise Complaint - Underdog Bar & Club

Dear Madam / Sir,

We live at _____, the Underdog bar, toward Bermondsey Street, and our room window is c.10 metres away from the bar.

The bar opens until late and plays loud electro / deep house music (with very strong bass) up to [4am](#) (in a similar fashion to an electro nightclub), with only a slim glass entrance door partly covering the noise. What's more this door is only intermittently closed given the number of people entering and exiting all the time.

On to of that people speak loudly on the pavements, being drunk or having consumed other substances.

Enclosed is a recent video, taken at 21.15 on a [Sunday night](#) this July.

From:

Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 6:44 PM

To: Regen, Licensing

Subject: Re: License Objection & Noise Complaint - Underdog Bar & Club

Please also see our details below:

Flat
London

Thanks,

Begin forwarded message:

On 27 Jul 2018, at 12:41, McArthur, Wesley <Wesley.McArthur@southwark.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear _____,

Please can you confirm whether you meant your initial email to be a representation in support of the application to review the premises licence issued in respect of Underdog Gallery, Railway Arch 6, Crucifix Lane, London, SE1 3JW (our ref: L1U 863705), or whether it is a separate complaint.

If the email is a representation in support of the review application please confirm that it is being submitted in regards to the prevention of public nuisance.

Regards,

Wesley McArthur

Principal Enforcement Officer
London Borough of Southwark

E-mail: wesley.mcarthur@southwark.gov.uk

General: licensing@southwark.gov.uk

Phone: 020 7525 5779

Fax: 020 7525 5705

Address: Licensing, Health & Safety, Hub 1, 3rd Floor, 160 Tooley Street, SE1 2QH

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/community-safety/let-s-talk-about-women-s-safety>

From:

Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 12:48 PM

To: McArthur, Wesley

Cc:

Subject: Re: License Objection & Noise Complaint - Underdog Bar & Club

Hi Wesley,

I confirm our complaint is in relation to premises licence review issued in respect of Underdog Gallery, Railway Arch 6, Crucifix Lane, London, SE1 3JW (your ref: L1U 863705).

I also confirm our email was submitted in regards to the prevention of public nuisance.

Thanks,