

Heron, Andrew

From: Ben Hopkinson [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 October 2018 13:08
To: Heron, Andrew
Cc: Steve Burnett; Ludi
Subject: Hop King - 16 Druid Street

Hi Andrew,

I am the applicant for the license at 16 Druid street, and just wanted to let you know I will be taking over from my solicitor Steve Burnett.

I was hoping to hold a meeting at the premises for the people objecting to ask any questions and talk through their concerns face to face. I was going to suggest 6pm on Thursday (but if anyone can't make it at that time then I will be available all day Thursday if they want to pop in for a chat). I would hope that some may remove their objection once they know more about what our plans are. Perhaps you could pass on the information below to ease some of their concerns?

I would definitely like to change the proposed hours to bring them in line with the Southwark licensing policy, so down to 22:30 with closing at 23:00.

I would also like to accept the suggestions of Jayne Tear with regards to conditions on the license; That is:

- Any 'off sales' of alcohol shall be provided in sealed containers and taken away from the premises
- That clear legible signage shall be prominently displayed where it can be easily seen and read, requesting that alcohol sold as off sales should not be opened and consumed in the vicinity of the premises
- That no drinks in opened containers shall be allowed outside the premises, which includes the area directly outside the front exit door

I also wanted to give you a bit of information on ourselves, the company and how we plan to use the premises, should anyone not be able to make Thursday.

Background

So we are Hop King, The UK's only beer and skateboard company. We produce skateboards, clothing and have a professional skate team as well as producing a single beer - a 4.2% pale ale (this will be the only beer available on draught in the taproom and will not be brewed on site). The premises on Druid street are being used primarily for storage and distribution of our beer and skateboard merchandise as well as an office for our team of 5 since we moved in a few months ago. We are also already using the skatepark to shoot video content with our pro team and this is why the premises are being used currently as the bar is not the building's main use. The taproom takes no more than 20% of the total space and as such is a ancillary to the main uses of the building.

The skatepark will be free to enter and hopefully will be a really positive impact for the local residents who can now have somewhere dry and warm to skateboard in the winter. In order to avoid the risks of children and alcohol coming together, The skatepark will be adult only for the majority of the week, opening to kids only on Saturdays and Sundays as long as they are chaperoned by a parent/adult. We will be offering skate lessons on these days for various standards which are very hard to find in this area of London. We also have aspirations to raise some money to refurbish the skatepark next door.

We really want to make skateboarding accessible to all and have seen a huge change in the sport over the last few years. The sport is becoming more and more professional, with the best skateboarders in the world all promoting weight training and exercise to improve health and balance. With skateboarding being in the Olympics in 2020, we want to promote the positives of skateboarding and want to teach people how to be an athlete, as well as skateboarder.

Noise

We are confident that we will not add to noise pollution that the local residents have to endure and we will put various policies in place to ensure this. Firstly it is worth noting we are 30m away from the closest resident and between us is a busy road and a train line going overhead. The alleyway to the back of the arches will be a complete "no go" area for customers and only 10 people will be aloud outside the front at any time (with no drinks). The shutters to the back of the premises will remain shut, opening only to receive deliveries (daytime hours). In order to stop noise pollution escaping out of the front we will be building a timber shopfront with UPVC door inside the current shutter. We will also display signage reminding customers to keep quiet.

Experience

I am the owner of another Southwark licensed property, The Beer Rebellion, on Queen's Roa, Peckham. This is a late licensed venue that we have always managed very diligently and in a friendly manner and as a result have never had any issues with drunk and disorderly people. We pride ourselves on our connection to the local community and will continue this with Hop Kingdom. The current General Manager for The Beer Rebellion will also be overseeing the taproom at Hop Kingdom, so you can be rest assured that we will operate responsibly and with the local community in mind.

Many thanks

Ben Hopkinson
Hop King



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