

## **Conciliation Meeting: Pulse, 1-4 Blackfriars Arches, London SE1 15.10.09**

### **Present:**

Mark Ames – applicant (MA)  
Kristie Ashenden – Principal Licensing Officer (KA)  
Councillor Morris – local Councillor (CM)  
Councillor Noakes – local Councillor (CN)  
David Harris – interested party (DH)  
Patricia Elliott – interested party (PE)

---

MA introduced himself and described his business. He stated that he operates a members club which is currently located at The Arches, 51 – 53 Southwark St, London SE1. He said that he initially hired The Arches then purchased it. He is very proactive regarding people arriving and leaving the venue. MA stated that he will be living opposite the club in the Jumeirah Building once it is completed, so it's in his best interests to ensure that the club operates responsibly.

MA explained that the new venue is to be the members club on Wednesdays and Saturdays and to be available for corporate hire at other times for major corporate entertainment either daytime or evenings. He stated that it won't be a 'traditional' nightclub.

PE asked about the regular nights on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

MA responded by explaining that by staying open later the leaving times are staggered. 40-50 people stay until 6am to wait for trains. Customers will be encouraged to park at The Arches further down the street. They give sweets to customers as they are leaving to keep the noise down. The door staff are very friendly and encourage people to use taxis and be very quiet. He wants to work with local residents rather than cause problems.

KA discussed the current premises licence for Invicta Plaza, 1-4 Blackfriars Arches. A 24hr premises licence was granted in August 2008, so the premises already has a licence. The licence could be transferred however the applicant applied for a new licence in order to tailor the licence to his operations. KA explained that the Police have conciliated, with the addition of a number of conditions. KA stated that the Environmental Protection Team were still in discussion regarding noise conditions.

DH asked what efforts were made to ensure that there is no antisocial behaviour by people leaving the venue.

MA responded by explaining that their members club operates on Wednesdays and Saturdays. They are an older crowd, not troublemakers. There is zero tolerance on rowdy behaviour. They have a number of security around the premises to ensure customers leave safely and quietly. Sweets also assist in people leaving quietly.

PE asked what is the age group of your clientele?

MA stated that the average age is 30s – 40s; they have had older but it's an over 21s club.

PE asked if there was a condition relating to no under 21s.

MA responded – he thought there was a condition on The Arches. There is no tolerance for drugs. The security team are trained to look out for dealers and drug taking.

PE explained that parking is a serious issue and a concern for residents.

MA stated that there is a car park in the arches behind the club – may look into parking there for customers. Alternatively the car park at The Arches club could be used with a shuttlebus.

CM asked if there were plans for off sales.

MA states that they don't do off sales, and don't need to. The door staff don't allow people to leave with open drinks.

---