

33A Alleyn Park
Dulwich
London SE21 8AT

16 October 2009

The Health and Safety Licensing Unit
London Borough of Southwark
Chaplin House
Thurlow Street
London SE17 2DG

Dear Sirs

Premises Licence Application 830618 by Dulwich College Preparatory School

I have only recently been made aware of this licence application.

I first wish to register my strong objection to the fact that this was not brought to my attention in the appropriate way by letter from the Council. This is a matter which could well seriously affect me, other residents in the area and the value of my property. Please make my objection known to the appropriate individuals and/or committees in the Council.

Secondly, I wish to object to the licence as at present requested. I live immediately opposite the premises concerned and already suffer from the noise and parking problems caused by the premises, both at the normal school hours and when meetings and functions are held out of hours.

Those parts of the proposed licence to which I particularly object are as follows:

- The provision of live music and dancing outside the buildings late at night and 7 days a week:
- The sale of alcohol and refreshments until 11pm every weekday and to midnight every weekend:
- Seeking a licence for every day of the year when current usage is very much smaller.

The terms in general also seem excessive. Is it envisaged by the school that they are to have live music and/or dancing (even inside) on most nights of every week? Is it envisaged that the premises are to be hired out for such purposes? That would have a very serious effect on the whole area. If this is not envisaged, why are the very wide terms sought?

The grant of a licence in the very wide terms of the application could give rise to disorder and risks to public safety, and is likely to lead to public nuisance. There are no appropriate parking facilities for any greater use of the premises – indeed the present parking at normal school hours leads to great danger both to pupils and families, and to the public.

A licence in the very wide terms sought is not necessary or desirable for an educational establishment. I have not been consulted on, nor informed of, the application by the School and therefore have no idea why it is sought. In my view it is entirely out of proportion to the needs of the school and inappropriate for this area which (other than the two schools) is wholly residential

I have no particular antipathy to the School (indeed my son was a pupil there some years ago. I can however see no reason why such a licence is needed or should be granted. The area is residential and there can be no good reason for a preparatory school to need a licence on such very broad terms. In my view, the present system (which I believe requires permission for each event of this type) works satisfactorily.

I ask that Southwark reject the application in the very wide terms in which it is currently framed.

Yours sincerely

CJN Williams

43 Alleyn Park
London SE21 8AT

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21 OCT 2009

Health & Safety Licensing Unit
London Borough of Southwark
Chaplin House
Thurlow Street
London SE17 2DG.

15 October 2009

Dear Sir,

Premises Licence Application 830618 by Dulwich College Preparatory School (DCPS)

I am writing to register objections on my behalf and on behalf of my wife, to the licence application in its current form. If granted in its current form, the licence is likely to lead to public nuisance and might cause public safety and disorder issues to arise.

Overview

The context of this objection is as follows:-

We live almost opposite DCPS and whilst there is some traffic congestion associated with parents ferrying their children to and from school, our experience of DCPS is that it manages - so far - not to disrupt neighbours greatly.

We do have one concern, and this is relevant to our objections, about the way in which DCPS deals with parents who fail to comply with parking regulations - in particular cars parked on double yellow lines obstructing sight lines and therefore putting pupils at risk. This is relevant to our objections to the licence because this suggests that any restrictions which DCPS may offer to impose would not be effectively enforced (this is particularly relevant to the music and alcohol aspects of the proposed licence).

I also write as a former (generally satisfied) parent of a DCPS pupil, Our experience was that there were very few occasions on which DCPS would have needed an alcohol licence nor, so far as I am aware, any circumstances in which DCPS' justified musical reputation involved concerts outside.

Specifics

As a general point, I see no need for the DCPS, in furtherance of its activities with pupils and parents, to have a licence extended to the use of its premises outside term time. Specific applications for specific events and uses could be made in the normal way, provided adequate publicity was given to the use out of term time, although I would have hoped that those considering the application would bear in mind DCPS is in a residential area.

Dancing

Any dancing outside is likely to be accompanied by music and hence disturb neighbours (particularly in Seeley Drive who do not benefit from the bulk of the buildings which might ameliorate any noise transmission). I would have thought, too, that dancing should be restricted to a limited number of events per annum in term time. (Perhaps connected with parent/teacher association events), so there seems to be no reason why the DCPS should not

apply for individual licences. (If the licensing unit was minded to permit use, on Fridays and Saturdays it should be limited to 11.00 pm : 10.30 would be preferable as departing guests may congregate noisily in the road on their way back to their parked cars or leaving the area).

Facilities for making music, recorded music and live music

This should be limited to indoors. If the unit was minded to permit external "making music" - which as noted above was not our experience while our son was at DCPS - this should be limited to items which do not require amplification or connection to "speakers". Even then, the noise from unamplified percussion instruments can be quite disturbing. No external recorded or live music outside should be permitted.

As regards indoor sporting events, apart from suggesting that this should be limited to 2300 hours on both Fridays and Saturdays, I do not object for term time use.

As regards late night refreshment - I believe this should be limited to indoors events only in term time (and even then guests will be minded to open windows and so potentially disturb residents).

I would hope Southwark would reject the license sought in its current form, taking account of the likely risks associated with public safety, disorder (associated with alcohol consumption) and public nuisance.

Yours faithfully,



G-R Richards