

### **History**

For many years this premises traded as 'Liam Ogs', and was little more than a traditional pub which provided discotheque entertainment during the evening at weekends.

About a year ago, the venue changed hands and the trading name was changed to 'Banana's Bar'. The business became more of a bar than a pub and started to provide discotheque entertainment on most nights. It would appear that there were some problems regarding 'late-trading', excessive noise, as well as some crime and disorder issues. The aforementioned activities created difficulties for the Authorities and had a negative impact on the quality of life of some local residents.

In March 2010, the venue was acquired Minho Montalegre Limited (*'the Company'*). The Premises Licence is now held by the Company, who are re-branding it and re-launching the business in the new name of Banana's Tapas Bar Restaurant.

### **The Company's Proposals**

- 1) Minho Montalegre Limited are proposing to remodel and re-launch the above venue, providing a new Leisure offer for Walworth, and helping to regenerate the area and local economy.
- 2) The Company is planning to convert the existing operation, creating a combined Restaurant and Cabaret venue.
- 3) It is proposed that the Restaurant will be open from lunchtime every day until midnight on weekdays, 03.00 am on Fridays and Saturdays and 01.30 am on Sundays. The Restaurant will provide 'Latin-American' and Continental cuisine of a very high standard. A family friendly restaurant which will suit all tastes and all ages.
- 4) The live, evening entertainment will include tasteful and laid-back Latin-style jazz, professional Tango and Salsa dancers, Latin bands, and the Disc Jockey will also provide Latin-style dance music such as Salsa and Samba.
- 5) This new Restaurant will benefit and appeal to the local community both during the day and in the evening for business lunches, dinners or social occasions.
- 6) The later evening entertainment and restaurant facilities will not only appeal to local people, but will also provide leisure facilities for people who themselves work in the Catering, Hotel and Leisure industries (those who do not finish work until 11.00 p.m. or later). These include persons from the Italian, Spanish, Colombian, Portuguese and Brazilian communities.

### The Improvements To Date

- 1) The Company's Licensing Consultant has advised upon additional licence conditions and other measures which will more properly regulate the operation, and better address the four (4) Licensing Objectives.
- 2) The Company has appointed the Company Secretary (Susana Alves) to work at the venue as the General Manager and oversee both the Restaurant, Cabaret and Bar activities. Susana is an experienced Manager who has worked in the Leisure Sector for more than ten (10) years.
- 3) The Company has changed the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS). Bartlomiej Gasior is a Personal Licence Holder and also an experienced Manager.
- 4) The Company also employs a second Personal Licence Holder, which will ensure that at least one Personal Licence Holder is available during the evening.
- 5) The Sound Limiting Device (SLD) has been set at an appropriate level. This device limits the volume levels of the sound equipment. In addition, the Company is perfectly willing to add the following conditions to any new Licence that may be granted:
  - a) No external sound systems shall be imported onto the premises; any imported musical instruments requiring amplification shall be amplified via the existing sound system (controlled by means of the Sound Limiting Device).
  - b) There shall be no removal and loading of equipment from the premises between the terminal hour and 08.00 hours.
  - c) After 22.00 hours, no more than ten (10) patrons shall be permitted to use the smoking area at any one time.

Please Note - Southwark's Environmental Protection Team advises that there have not been any complaints regarding Noise Nuisance since 01 November 2009; and, in any event, not since the Company took over the venue.
- 6) The Company intends to open the new Restaurant in May 2010, providing a new catering choice for local people and others.
- 7) In due course, the existing Door Security Company will be replaced by another Security provider that has been well established in the Southwark area for more than 10 years.
- 8) The crime and disorder issues referred to above have been and are being addressed.
 

Please Note – Walworth Police advise that there have been no major issues since Christmas 2009; and, having considered the additional measures that are being implemented, have not made a Representation opposing the application to vary the Premises Licence.

### Future Improvements

- 1) **At some considerable cost, the Company will install acoustic secondary glazing – as an additional measure to obviate any sound breakout or noise nuisance.**

### Residents' Concerns

**Given the history of this premises under its previous Proprietors, the concerns expressed and the issues raised by Residents are quite understandable. However, this is a new enterprise who are substantially changing this operation with the intention of providing a different type of Leisure Offer for Walworth. In addition to having proper regard to the Licensing Objectives, the Company wants to work with and serve the local community, take on-board Residents' concerns, and, wherever possible, take steps that will directly address and remedy those concerns.**

**The Company takes its responsibilities very seriously. Many of the residents who have expressed concerns will not be aware of the measures that the Company has already proposed to address those concerns and other issues raised. The Company's proposals are :**

**“ P Describe any additional steps you intend to take to promote the four licensing**

**objectives as a result of the proposed variation:**

**a) General – all four licensing objectives (b,c,d,e) (please read guidance note 9)**

**The Applicant is familiar with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 and with the provisions of the four Licensing Objectives. They are equipped to and fully intend to promote those objectives (as outlined below).**

#### **b) The prevention of crime and disorder**

1. That SIA registered Door Supervisor, shall be employed at all times after 22.00hrs until the terminal hour that the premises are in use under this licence and provided with hand held metal detection units in order to ensure that searches are carried out in respect of all admissions to the premises, whether members of the public or performers and their assistants and Mechanical counting devices to ensure that the maximum accommodation limit of the premises is not exceeded.
2. That signs shall be displayed in the entrance foyer to the premises that state 'Drugs Free Zone' and 'No Search No Entry', 'Management reserve the right to refuse entry'.
3. That all matters relating to drugs shall be in accordance with the Metropolitan Police Best Practice Guide on the handling of drugs in pubs and clubs.
4. That suitable notices shall be displayed and announcements made requesting people to leave the premises in a quiet and orderly manner so as not to disturb local residents.
5. That the CCTV system be at the premises and be maintained in good working order and be continually recording at all times the premises are in use under the licence. The CCTV System must be capable of capturing an image of every person who enters the premises.
6. That all CCTV footage shall be kept for a period of thirty one (31) days and shall, upon request, be made immediately available to Officers of the Police and the Council.
7. That the Licence Holder shall require any regular and external promoters hiring the premises to complete the 'Venue Hire Agreement' provided by Southwark Council and, once completed, you shall ensure that a copy of the agreement is provided to the Police and Licensing Unit a minimum of fourteen

days prior to the date of hire.

8. That a Personal Licence holder is on the premises and on duty at all times that intoxicating liquor is supplied.

**9. That the Premises Licence holder and/or Designated Premises Supervisor join and support a local Pub Watch Scheme should there be one in existence for the area in which the premises is located.**

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10. Customers shall use no outside area after 22.00hrs other than those who temporarily leave the premises to smoke a cigarette. Those who do temporarily leave for this reason shall be subjected to the requirement of a further search.

12. There will be a 'cooling off/drinking-up' period each night, with the premises closing 30 minutes after the cessation of all licensable activities.

13. That there shall be no new admissions after 01.30 am.

**c) Public safety**

A First Aid Kit shall be available at the venue.  
An Incident/Accident Book shall be kept and maintained.  
The premises has an Emergency Lighting system.

**d) The prevention of public nuisance**

The Proprietor will minimize sound volumes to ensure that there is no sound breakout which might cause a noise nuisance to local residents or local businesses.

**e) The protection of children from harm**

Children will be welcomed but only when accompanied by a parent or responsible adult. Staff will remain vigilant and ensure that young persons are not able to purchase alcohol. In cases of doubt, staff request proof of age ID such as a Passport, Driving Licence (bearing a photograph) or the Southwark Proof of Age (SPA) Card. No person under 16 years of age is permitted to remain on the premises after 9.00 pm. ”