

London Borough of Islington

Licensing Sub Committee D - 8 October 2024

Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Sub Committee D held at Committee Room 4, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 8 October 2024 at 6.30 pm.

Present: **Councillors:** Graham, Jeapes (Chair) and Spall (Vice-Chair)
and Phil Graham

Councillor Clare Jeapes in the Chair

15 INTRODUCTIONS AND PROCEDURE (Item A1)

Councillor Clare Jeapes welcomed everyone to the meeting and Officers and members introduced themselves. The procedure for the conduct of the meeting was outlined.

16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item A2)

There were no apologies for absence.

17 DECLARATIONS OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item A3)

There were no substitute members.

18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item A4)

There were no declarations of interest.

19 ORDER OF BUSINESS (Item A5)

The order of business would be as per the agenda.

20 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item A6)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 6 August 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

21 PREMISES LICENCE VARIATION APPLICATION - COLLECTIVE ACTING STUDIO, 2 TILTMAN PLACE, LONDON, N7 7EE (Item B1)

The Licensing Officer was asked to report any additional updates to the Sub-Committee. In response, the Sub-Committee was informed that supporting documentation had been forwarded to all parties. The existing premises licence was

Licensing Sub Committee D - 8 October 2024

provided to the Sub-Committee ahead of the meeting as this was omitted from the papers. There were representations made by a resident, but they were not able to make it to the meeting. The Sub-Committee noted that no other representations were made.

The Sub-Committee noted that the applicant would need a new planning application first to the Council to amend the planning condition No.11 on a permanent basis so that the hours of opening of the bar/café were increased to 23:00 hours. This was because the increase in hours for alcohol consumption at the café to 23:00 hours would be contrary to Page 10 condition No.11 of the original planning permission.

The applicant presented their key points and stated that the premises was a drama school with commercial operating theatre. The theatre put on productions and prioritised working with underrepresented groups. Theatre shows would typically go on until 9:30/10pm. It was noted that the bar and café drove income to support the production team. The theatre was also used by local communities including local schools. The applicant stated that there was also an opportunity where they could provide more events and bring different groups of people together, particularly residents.

The Sub-Committee noted that the applicant did not initially apply for a planning permission to amend the planning condition No.11 of the original planning permission. The applicant advised that the cost of this was high and the applicant wanted to know if a licence variation could be granted without new planning permission. The applicant mentioned that if there was a need to seek for planning permission, then they would choose not to extend the opening hours for the bar/café.

In response to a question, it was noted that the theatre was not catered specifically to younger people and the target audience was young adults between 18 -25 years of age.

In response to a question regarding the dispersal policy, it was noted that there was a staggered approach to dispersal with around 10 patrons leaving the premises at a time. It was also noted that the bar/café would be closed at that time and there would be an additional member of staff allocated to overlook orderly dispersal of customers.

The Sub-Committee noted that the dispersal policy stated that there would be 30 minutes before closing time to allow patrons time to finish their drinks and prepare to leave. The applicant agreed to the suggested additional condition of "*The sale of alcohol shall cease 30 minutes before the premises close to allow for orderly dispersal.*" This new condition would need to be added to the licence.

In summing up, the applicant stated that they wanted to create a safe space for creators in the Finsbury Park area. Applicant also added that they would like to work collaboratively with local resident and want to make the business as viable as possible.

RESOLVED:

That the premises licence variation application, in respect of Collective Acting Studio, 2 Tiltman Place, London, N7 7EE be granted as applied for and as agreed at the hearing, for the licensable activities during the hours as follows:

The sale of alcohol, on the premises:

- a) Sundays to Thursdays from 12:00 to 22:30
- b) Friday and Saturdays from 12:00 to 23:00

The Premises opening hours:

- a) Sunday to Thursday from 09:00 to 23:00
- b) Fridays and Saturdays from 09:00 to 23:30

Conditions detailed in the report shall be applied to the licence as set out in Annex 5, with the removal of Annex 2 conditions No's 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8,13,14, 23, 24, Annex 3 conditions 27 and 28, adding the suggested Condition number 1 as agreed at the hearing –

- 1) The sale of alcohol shall cease 30 minutes before the premises close to allow for orderly dispersal.

Reasons for Decision

The Sub-Committee listened to all the evidence and submissions and read all the material. The Sub-Committee reached the decision having given consideration to the Licensing Act 2003, as amended, and its regulations, Home Office revised guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 and the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy.

The Licensing Authority received one letter of representation from a local resident which can be found at Appendix 2. The Police have been in consultation with the applicant and have agreed conditions and do not oppose the application. The agreed Police conditions include the amended licence conditions, and the further conditions set in in Annex 5. The Police also agreed to the removal of the conditions as applied for and set out in the report.

Conditions have also been agreed with the Council's Noise Service. On receipt of the representation the applicant wrote to the objector inviting them to attend the premises to meet and discuss their concerns and provided copies of the policies and procedures put in place to prevent and noise and nuisance, which can be found at Appendix 3. The objector subsequently replied, and a copy of the email is at Appendix 4.

The Sub-Committee noted that the hours sought were within the hours specified in licensing policy 6.

The Licensing Officer was asked to report any additional updates to the Sub-Committee. In response, the Sub-Committee was informed that supporting

Licensing Sub Committee D - 8 October 2024

documentation had been forwarded to all parties. The existing premises licence was provided to the Sub-Committee ahead of the meeting as this was omitted from the papers. There were representations made by a resident, but they were not able to make it to the meeting. The Sub-Committee noted that no other representations were made.

The Sub-Committee noted that the applicant would need a new planning application. The Planning and Development section suggest an application to amend the planning condition No.11 on a permanent basis so that the hours of opening of the bar/café were increased to 23:00 hours.

The applicant presented their key points and stated that the premises was a drama school with commercial operating theatre. The theatre put on productions and prioritised working with underrepresented groups. Theatre shows would typically go on until 9:30/10pm. It was noted that the bar and café drove income to support the production team. The theatre was also used by local communities including local schools. The applicant stated that there was also an opportunity where they could provide more events and bring different groups of people together, particularly residents.

The Sub-Committee heard from the applicant that they did not intend to operate under any licence until the planning application had been sorted out and planning was in place. The applicants explained that the planning process was expensive for a small business, and they decided to apply for the licence variation first.

The applicants agreed with the suggested condition that the sale of alcohol shall cease 30 minutes before the premises close to allow for orderly dispersal. This is consistent with the operating schedule. The applicants confirmed that the application for the sale of alcohol, on the premises on Sundays to Thursdays is from 12:00 to 22:30 (amended from 23:00).

In response to a question, it was noted that the theatre was not catered to younger people and the target audience was young adults between 18 -25 years of age.

In response to a question regarding the dispersal policy, it was noted that there was a staggered approach to dispersal with around 10 patrons leaving the premises at a time. It was also noted that the bar/café would be closed at that time and there would be an additional member of staff allocated to overlook orderly dispersal of customers.

The Sub-Committee noted that the dispersal policy states that there would be 30 minutes before closing time to allow patrons time to finish their drinks and prepare to leave and the applicant agreed to the suggested condition of "The sale of alcohol shall cease 30 minutes before the premises close to allow for orderly dispersal." And this new condition would need to be added.

In summing up, the applicant stated that they wanted to create safe space for creators in the Finsbury Park area. Applicant added that they would like to work collaboratively with local resident and want to make the business as viable as possible.

Licensing Sub Committee D - 8 October 2024

The Sub-Committee concluded that the granting of the licence with the agreed conditions would promote the licensing objectives. The Sub-Committee noted that the hours sought were within the hours specified in licensing policy 5 and 6. The Sub-Committee was satisfied that granting the premises licence was proportionate and appropriate to the promotion of the licensing objectives.

The meeting ended at 7.15 pm

CHAIR