Hackney

London Borough of Hackney – Decisions taken by the Licensing Sub-Committee E on Monday Tuesday 7 December 2021

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Items considered in public

4	Minutes from the previous meeting	There were no minutes for consideration at the meeting.
6	Application to Vary a Premises Licence: Blondies, F205A Lower Clapton Road, E5 8EG	The Licensing Sub-Committee in considering this decision from the information presented to it within the report and at the hearing today has determined that having regard to the promotion of all the licensing objectives:
		The prevention of crime and disorder;
		Public safety;
		Prevention of public nuisance; and
		The protection of children from harm,
		the application to vary a premises licence has been partially approved in accordance with the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and the proposed conditions set out in paragraph 8.1 of the report, with the following amendments:
		Remove non-standard hours from the application.
		Condition 17 on the licence shall be amended and read as follows:

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"The sound limiting device shall be used at all times that regulated entertainment is taking place. No regulated entertainment shall be provided at the premises unless /until a sound limiting device has been installed to the satisfaction of the Council's Pollution Team".
And additional conditions:
 The Licensee shall hold and publicise liaison meetings with local residents every 2 months to attempt to address any concerns or complaints.
• The maximum number of smokers permitted at the front of premises at any one time shall not exceed 12 persons.
• At least one SIA registered door supervisor/s shall be employed at the premises from 21:00hrs on Thursday to Saturdays. Additional SIA door supervisors shall be employed on an operational risk assessment basis. All door supervisors shall enter their full details in the premises daily register at the commencement of their work. They shall record their full name, their SIA registration number and the times they commence and conclude working. If the door supervisor is provided by an agency, the name, registered business address and contact telephone number will also be recorded. This register will be made available to police or other authorised officers upon request.
 All doors shall remain closed at all times when regulated entertainment is taking place.

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	Topic	 Decision There will be no drinks at the front of the premises after the tables have been taken in at 2200hrs. There shall be use of the outside space after 2200hrs. The premises shall have a written dispersal policy. This policy will include the duties of staff and/or SIA to disperse patrons towards the nearest public transport hub quickly and quietly. Blondie operate "Ask Angela" and will further commit to all Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement Training as developed by Met Police, Safer Sounds & Safer Business Network Blondies is a signatory of the Mayor of London's Women's Night Safety Charter and will engage in all programs dedicated to
		 reducing crime against women. Door supervisors and other members of staff verbally request customers as they exit the premises to leave quietly and respect local residential neighbours. All bar staff who are engaged or employed as cashiers will receive formalised training in the sale of age restricted products and training records evidencing such training will be kept and maintained in the bar available for inspection by a representative of the statutory authorities for not less than 2 years. Such training is to be refreshed at intervals not exceeding twelve months.

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		• Where a person appears to be under the age of 25. Identification in the form of a passport, photo driving licence or a proof of age card bearing the PASS hologram will be sought and if not provided, service of alcohol shall be refused.
		• Prominent, clear notices shall be displayed at the point of entry to the premises and in a suitable location at any points of sale indicating that where a person appears to be under the age of 25, identification will be sought and if not provided, service of alcohol will be refused.
		• Children under the age of 18 year old shall not be allowed on the premises after 20:00 unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.
		Reasons for the decision
		The sub-committee heard representations made by the Metropolitan Police Service against the application. The sub-committee also took into consideration that there were 6 Other Persons (local residents) who made representations opposing the variation and 16 Other Persons who made Representations in support of the application.
		The sub-committee took into consideration the representations made by the Metropolitan Police Service whose main concerns were about dispersal from the premises, and later hours at the weekend. The Metropolitan Police Service acknowledged that the premises had run several Temporary Event Notices in the past without incident. They also highlighted a recent incident, that occured two weeks ago,

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where a number of people were congregating outside the premises in the early hours of the morning.
The sub-committee noted that the Environmental Protection had not made written representations in time, therefore their representations could not be taken into consideration.
sub-committee heard representations made on behalf of Other Persons, who raised concerns about the application and its potential impact on local residents and the community.
The sub-committee after carefully considering all the representations from the applicant's representative, the Metropolitan Police Service, and the Other Persons (local residents) found that the objections and representations made by local residents and the Metropolitan Police Service were credible and have been proven.
The sub-committee felt that they could only approve the amendment to condition 17 and add some conditions for the benefit of local residents. The sub-committee felt additional controls relating to noise would improve the quality of life for local residents in the area, in particular those local residents that reside very close to the premises.
The sub-committee took into consideration the representations made by Other Persons (local residents) who had concerns and welcomed regular meetings with the licence holder to try and resolve their concerns. The sub-committee was not persuaded that increasing the hours of the supply of alcohol would assist the local residents.

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		The sub-committee took into account that each application is considered on its own merits. Having taken all the above factors into consideration, the sub-committee was satisfied that by granting this partial variation to this premises licence, the licensing objectives would continue to be promoted.
		Public Informative
		 The licence holder is encouraged to engage in meaningful dialogue with the local residents to resolve any issues relating to the premises, and for the licence holder to play their part in reducing any impacts emanating from the premises, particularly during the evening and late at night.
		 If after 12 months (1 year) the local residents have not been able to resolve any issues relating to the premises with the Licence holder, the local residents can contact the Licensing Authority who will investigate their concerns.
		Councillor Sizer withdrew from the Licensing Sub-Committee for agenda item 7 as the TENs was at a premises located in her ward.
7	Temporary Event Notice: Browns, 1 Hackney Road, London E2 7NX	The Licensing sub-committee, in considering this decision from the information presented to it within the report and at the hearing today, has determined that having regard to the promotion of all the licensing objectives:

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		 The prevention of crime and disorder; Public safety;
		 Prevention of public nuisance; and
		 The protection of children from harm
		and in particular upon consideration of the 'objection notice' given by the Metropolitan Police Service, is satisfied that the proposed event would undermine the licensing objectives. Therefore, the sub-committee has decided to issue a counter notice.
		Reasons for the decision
		The sub-committee took into consideration the objection received from the Metropolitan Police Service to the Temporary Event Notice for the period from 02:00 on 15th December, and finishing at 05:00 on 19th December 2021, which contended that this event would undermine the licensing objectives, on the grounds of crime and disorder, public safety, and prevention of public nuisance. The sub-committee carefully considered the reasons for this objection.
		The sub-committee heard representation from the Metropolitan Police Service(the police) that there had been a significant increase in criminal activity and anti-social behaviour in Shoreditch since post-Covid re-opening, including alcohol-fuelled violence and public disorder. There were issues with large groups congregating in the streets dispersal and the exploitation of crowds of vulnerable drunk people. The sub-committee heard submissions from the police that longer opening hours of premises meant more alcohol consumed making patrons more vulnerable and/or at risk of causing nuisance.

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The sub-committee believes that the needs of the premises have been met by the variation hours that were previously increased. The sub-committee did not agree that the hours should be increased or that they should agree to allow opening hours to creep later in the Shoreditch Special Policy Area contrary to the Council's Licensing Policy.
The sub-committee felt that the premises user's legal representative gave no assurances about how dispersal would be dealt with and how the premises use would prevent the cumulative impact in the Shoreditch Special Policy Area. The sub-committee felt that the premises user did not take on board the current increased anti-social behaviour, and the impact it was having on Shoreditch Special Policy Area.
The sub-committee therefore considered that allowing the event to take place in accordance with the Temporary Event Notice would undermine the licensing objectives. It determined that it was therefore necessary and proportionate to issue a counter notice.