

The Loft – Responses to Notice of Hearing

Applicant

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| Kerry Roach | |
| Hearing Unnecessary | N/a |
| Attending | Yes |
| Request to be represented by: | Kate Waddams – Solicitor – Vine Orchards LLP Faye Dunn – Paralegal – Vine Orchards LLP |
| Supporting documents | Submitted statement – Statement will be heard during the hearing. |
| Summary of key points | Submitted statement – Statement will be heard during the hearing. |

Other Persons

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| 1. | Tom Gordon |
| Hearing Unnecessary | No |
| Attending | Yes |
| Supporting documents | Original representation – see APPENDIX D |
| Summary of key points | <p>Prevention of crime & disorder The much-vaunted CCTV to supervise the entrances, bar and flat roof can't be practical and effective over 3 storeys, with no staff employed to monitor it, except perhaps during special events (there is a history of the cameras not working at all). My slate roof slopes up from just inches above the flat roof and will be damaged once again when drinkers/smokers sit on it, clamber up it etc. Police will be visible in the street below and unable to make surprise visits.</p> <p>Public Safety The Southern door and Northern door are both dangerous exits. Use of the 2nd floor flat roof will facilitate reckless roof clambering, danger for people below and cars as well as a fire danger for the bitumen flat roof from smokers. Unsupervisable, intoxicated people on such a high building is asking for disaster.</p> <p>Prevention of public nuisance Environmental officers objected to any use as a pub and wanted live/ recorded music banned. Planning requires the roof not to be used at all and all N,S &E windows to be insulated and fixed shut - that was only partially done. Nearby flats have been severely effected especially mine, where wall/joist insulation is nil. Moving smokers from the street to the roof will be counterproductive, leading to greater and more nuisances occurring plus added dangers.</p> |

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| 2. | Mr D W Peacock |
| Hearing Unnecessary | No |
| Attending | No |
| Supporting documents | None |
| Summary of key points | <p>She has been there for years and has almost never used the kitchen, no staff on the second floor means they can't effectively monitor the roof, so it will become a haven for unsavoury activities.</p> <p>Roof terrace unsafe, and out of licence area. An off-licence for roof must be refused, use of the roof must be refused, objects being thrown off and people falling from height, especially when intoxicated are ridiculous risks for customers and people below.</p> <p>Roof they will be noisily looking into our bedroom and lounge. As we have already experienced, windows are meant to be shut and double glazed but never have been. A lot of shouting after they close. Loud music in a residential area should never be allowed.</p> |

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| 3. | Mrs B J Peacock |
| Hearing Unnecessary | No |
| Attending | No |
| Supporting documents | None |
| Summary of key points | <p>History of anti-social behaviour with these premises regular shouting, aggressive and disorderly conduct late into night. Groups congregating in the street. A negative effect on residents in the area.</p> <p>Longstanding concerns regarding CCTV coverage and ineffective supervision of customers, particularly in upper (4th floor roof) areas of the building. Rear exit opens directly onto road and neighbouring residential property, increasing impact to disorder for nearby residents. Concerns have also been raised locally regarding suspected drug related activity in public view connected to the premises.</p> <p>Therefore granting this application would in my view create a significant risk of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour – contrary to Licensing Act 2003.</p> <p>I have very serious concerns regarding safety and suitability re proposed use of roof top terrace area, which wholly unsuitable to be used by customers consuming alcohol due to close proximity to neighbouring homes and overlooking into their living areas.</p> |

Appendix E

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| | <p>The obvious risk associated with intoxicated individuals using this elevated outdoor area with little or no supervision. Concerns regard falls from height, objects being thrown, overcrowding etc. The Licensing Authority has a duty to promote public safety.</p> <p>The premises is situated in a densely populated residential area and has historically caused unacceptable levels of disturbance to residents late at night (early morning) loud music, shouting, customers noise and activities i.e. using area as a loo.</p> <p>Since the premises has been closed a noticeable improvement in life quality for residents has been noted which strongly demonstrates the previous extent of nuisance.</p> <p>Therefore to licence this property in Church Street and grant the application would result in a return of unacceptable condition previously experienced by residents.</p> <p>While my primary concerns relate to public nuisance, crime and disorder, public safety, also note that repeated anti-social behaviour, intoxication, aggressive conduct and suspected drug related activity within this residential area, can have a negative impact on children and young people living nearby.</p> |
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