
From: Justin Hinchcliffe <

Sent: Thursday, 6 January 2022, 16:02

To: Licensing

Subject: The Broadway - 266, Muswell Hill Broadway, N10 2QR - new application under the Licensing Act (2003)

As a local ward councillor I urge you to refuse this new application for The Broadway Bar, which can only worsen the impact of the bar upon local residents, many of whom are families with young children. The current opening times are already problematic. Any extension of alcohol sales and live/ recorded music later into the night/early morning would make matters even worse.

Muswell Hill Broadway is a mixed commercial/ residential area--but mostly residential. Typically, one floor of retail with three floors of residential above. Over the years, some of these groundfloor premises have changed use from a principally daytime retail usage to an evening entertainment usage. This means they are noisiest at precisely the times when their residential neighbours most need quiet to have peaceful enjoyment of their homes, and to enable residents, especially children to get a good night's sleep.

Anyone running an entertainment business in a residential area must expect considerable constraints that they would not face in a city-centre entertainment district. It is part of the price of doing business in a residential area. If the applicants object that their business is only financially viable if they can have these longer hours and relaxed constraints, then they are either paying too much rent or trying to run the wrong kind of business in these premises. Either way, local residents should not have to literally 'lose sleep' over the applicants' financial challenge.

Therefore I wish to object to this in all four areas allowed by the Licensing Act (2003).

1) The Prevention of Crime and Disorder

I understand several residents have footage of anti-social behaviour (criminality) and the local police teams are aware of, and have responded to, 101 and 999 calls relating to patrons attending/leaving this venue (under the influence of alcohol or worse?). The bar's failures to get to grips with these problems is a cause for concern. I am not convinced extending hours here would help them with that task - especially when, due to funding issues, the thin blue line is now barely visible.

2) The Prevention of Public Nuisance

Residents have already reported how a mixture of allowing for live and recorded music and patrons failing to respect neighbours are already big concerns. Residents' sleep - and quality of sleep - are impacted. Many wake up, after a disturbed sleep, tired and agitated. This includes children. Surely the right to sleep and raise a family are basic human rights?

3) The Prevention of Children from Harm

This definition of 'Harm' is arguably broad and/or undefined. I would argue that many children's educational, emotional, mental and physical health are being jeopardised because they simply can't get a good night's rest/sleep.

4) Public Safety

Residents tell me that they and their homes don't feel safe -- especially at closing time -- 02:30 on a Friday to Saturday morning. Many patrons are fueled by, at best, alcohol (see above). We are in the middle of a global pandemic and our emergency services are already severely hampered by Covid infections, the need for key workers to self-isolate, restrictions and in the case of the NHS, bed shortages. Any local authority granting new extendable licences during this period should be mindful of public safety and act accordingly.

Cllr Justin Hinchcliffe,
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