

APPENDIX A

In considering the objection we would make the following observations.

- This premises operates on the ground and basement floor and it is only the basement that is subject of this application
- It is primarily a Restaurant and intended to remain so, always on the ground floor although it is possible that in the future there may be an application to the relevant authority changing it to allow slightly more freedom in relation to the consumption of Alcohol within the Basement confines.
- The current owners have been there for 12 years and have a good reputation and high standards, which they wish to maintain.
- Music currently played on the premises is intended to be background throughout, it is played at a comfortable level to accompany but not impose on customers eating and enjoying the food and social atmosphere, that is not intended to be changed.
- The applicant is more than willing to have a sound limitation placed on the equipment used and believes that any reasonable limit set will probably be above what is used now.
- There have been no complaints of music or other noise ever, to the applicant's knowledge.
- Since they took over the premises there has been a double sound insulation layer installed within the ceiling on the ground floor restaurant, which further minimised any escape of noise within the building. The style of music does not feature any heavy bass of the type which tends to travel through the structure of a building.
- There is no increase in the capacity of the premises, if anything there will be a slight decrease downstairs in the basement to 50. The ground floor remains at 75 covers.
- Currently customers can and do enter and leave the premises up until 0030hours on weekdays and midnight on Sunday.
- Church Road is a busy street, with a late-night takeaway next door to the restaurant stopping open into the early hours. The area outside is a wide pavement with a bus stop and double yellow lines.
- There is considerable on-street parking and car parks nearby and it is the applicant's experience that customers do not generally come to the premises by car to the doorway but walk from nearby.
- Those that arrive by taxi would continue to do so but a later opening does not mean later arrivals. Those customers who are staying later would already be there.
- When customers leave at the moment again from extensive experience about 80% walk away and the rest tend to go by taxi. If the premises stops open later this will effect on average some 10 persons from the basement who may want a taxi at the later hour, bearing in mind the customers will be tending to be from the same party and will travel together that is not more than say 3 taxis.
- At the moment as part of the high service delivered at this premises customers are generally said good night to at the door, if a PEL is issued a requirement will be for a Registered Door Supervisor to operate at the door and a requirement of the same PEL is to ensure that customers leave quietly, in other words the already high standard will be enhanced.
- On both the ground floor and the basement the current layout includes inner doors, these form a lobby between these rooms and the outer entrance door. The escape of noise from either floor to the street is therefore very low and in the case of the basement with a Door Supervisor operating can again be more controlled.
- The customer profile of this premise tends to be of an older age group with a few young people but mainly over 30years. During the 12 years that this premise has been operated by the applicant he has never had an incident of violence or had to call the police for any Crime and Disorder situation.
- Finally in support of the application there are a number of letters available and some signatures, which have been collected from the customers who use these premises.