

Introduction

The premises was formally a strip club/sexual entertainment venue, but has now been converted into a karaoke bar.

The operators believe that it is of significant cultural and social benefit to the area to have a reduced number of sexual entertainment venues, especially when replaced with alternative premises whose primary focus is not the consumption of alcohol.

However, given the nature of the previous venue, the premises licence had some unusual commercial hours – not opening until 5pm, and not opening at all on Sundays.

The operator appreciates the concerns articulated in relation to its application by the police, licensing team and local residents, and hopes that the compromises and additional conditions and actions set out below will enable to parties to work together to progress the application.

This documents sets out revised application details (in red), and additional conditions offered by the applicant (in blue).

1. Proposed Operating Hours:

- **Monday to Saturday: 14:00-03:00 (applied for 14:00 to 05:00)**
- **Sunday: 17:00-00:00**

Given that our venue operates as a karaoke bar rather than a strip club, and it principally hosts intimate gatherings of friends or family-oriented events such as birthday celebrations and holiday events, it is not a high-intensity bar nor nightclub. We seek this extension to allow greater flexibility in accommodating our guests while maintaining a safe and welcoming environment.

Having listened to concerns from the Met Police and local residents, the applicant no longer seeks an extension to its Monday to Saturday hours beyond its current licensed hours.

The applicant does still seek the additional hours on Sundays, for which the premises is currently closed.

To address any potential concerns from the council regarding neighbourhood impact, we propose to implement and strictly adhere to the following additional conditions:

2. Entry Restrictions

The operator proposes the following entry restrictions to the premises as conditions to the licence:

- Sundays: Reservations only, no walk-ins
- Monday to Saturday: After midnight, only pre-booked guests, no walk-ins.
- This policy to be clearly set out on the operator's website

3. Capacity Reduction on Sundays:

On Sundays the capacity of the premise will be reduced from 200 to 100 guests.

4. Measures to Minimize Impact on Surrounding Residents:

Acknowledging Camden area's security considerations and the residential nature of Parker Street, we propose the following measures:

- Inform guests upon booking to use Kingsway Street, rather than Parker Street, for pick-up/drop-off.
- Require guests to wait for transportation inside the venue rather than on the street.
- Display clear pick-up/drop-off guidelines and notice at the entrance to remind all guests to be considerate when leaving the venue.

5. Noise from Premises

The operator is surprised by the comments as to increased noise coming from the premises, as significant efforts were made during the refurbishment to reduce sound bleed as much as possible – this is vital in a karaoke venue because the customer experience would be ruined if separate groups could hear each other.

As such, the premises has seven private rooms, and all guests sing, and consume alcohol in their own private rooms so as not to interfere with or disturb other groups. The inner walls of the premises have been completely soundproofed, as have each of the seven karaoke rooms.

There is a public area, but the only music played here is light background music without bass, and the operators are therefore confident that there is no sound bleed from the venue.

The operator has heard music coming from the bar next door – Simon's Bar, and respectfully suggests that any instances of music being heard in the area is from that premises, and not that of our client.

6. Summary

The variation application is amended as follows:

- The only extension of hours is to allow Sunday operation from 17:00 to 00:00
- The following additional conditions are offered on the licence:
 - The premises will be closed to walk in guests on Sundays and will only admit customers with advance bookings;

- The premises will only be open to pre-booked customers on Mondays to Saturdays after midnight.
- The pre-booking policy will be displayed on the operator's website.
- On Sundays the capacity of the venue will be limited to 100 people.
- Upon booking, all guests will be informed to use Kingsway rather than Parker Street for pick up and drop off.
- The operator will require guests to wait inside the premises for transportation, and not on Parker Street.
- The premises will display clear pick-up/drop-off guidelines and notices at the entrance to remind all guests to be considerate when leaving the venue
- That conditions 25 (relating to striptease acts) and 48 (relating to external advertising) are removed from the licence.