

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

At a hearing of **LICENSING PANEL A** held on **THURSDAY, 20TH MARCH, 2025** at 7.00 pm, which was held remotely via Microsoft Teams.

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL PRESENT

Councillors Shah Miah (Chair), Tricia Leman (substitute member) and Jonathan Simpson (substitute member)

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL ABSENT

Councillors Pat Callaghan and Sharon Hardwick

The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the hearing. They are subject to approval and signature at the next hearing of Licensing Panel A and any corrections approved at that hearing will be recorded in those minutes.

MINUTES

1. GUIDANCE ON REMOTE MEETINGS HELD UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003 AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

RESOLVED –

THAT the guidance be agreed.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Callaghan and Hardwick, and it was noted that Councillors Leman and Simpson were present as substitute members.

3. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF STATUTORY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, COMPULSORY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND VOLUNTARY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY)

Webcasting

The Chair announced that the meeting was being broadcast live to the internet and was recorded and later made available on the website. Those addressing the meeting were deemed to be consenting to having their contributions recorded and broadcast.

Application Resolved

The Chair announced that the application for Go Puff at Item 7 on the agenda had been resolved and so would not be considered at this meeting.

Additonal Documentation

The Chair drew the attention of those present to the fact that a supplementary agenda had been published in relation to the application for Kinkally at Item 6 on the agenda, which contained a resident representation that had been omitted from the main agenda and photos and a dispersal policy from the applicant.

5. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT

There was no notification of urgent business.

6. KINKALLY: 43 - 45 CHARLOTTE STREET, W1T 1RS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director Supporting Communities detailing an application to vary a premises licence under Section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003.

The Licensing Officer summarised the report and drew Members' attention to the additional representation which had been omitted from the main agenda in error and subsequently circulated on the supplementary agenda.

Nick Semper, representing the applicant, confirmed that there were no amendments to the application.

Gary Sollof of Colville and Crabtree Residents' Association, an interested party, then summarised their representation in objection to the application as set out in the agenda.

Licensing Panel A - Thursday, 20th March, 2025

Clive Henderson of the Charlotte Street Association, an interested party, also representing Andrew Smith, an interested party, summarised their representations in objection to the application as set out in the agenda.

Nick Semper, applicant's agent, and Alex Militski and Diana Khromova, the applicants, then summarised the application and responded to questions as follows:-

- The application was to the extend the hours of the small speakeasy-style bar in the basement in order for existing patrons to stay later.
- The ground floor and two thirds of the basement area was used as a restaurant and the bar itself was only around 25m² in size.
- There was already a robust operating schedule and more conditions had been added along with a dispersal policy.
- Apart from one occasion on 8th February, there was no evidence of any disturbance arising from the operation of the premises.
- The Police were fully aware of the application and had no concerns.
- There would not be a DJ and it was unclear where that idea had come from. The background music would be inaudible from outside the premises.
- The premises had operated under numerous temporary event notices from December to February, remaining open until 2am on Fridays and Saturdays.
- The bench located outside the premises was too heavy to be brought inside at closing time.
- There would be no vertical drinking and no dancing. The reference to 'grooving the night away' on the website was simply marketing.
- The cocktails served were expensive, which impacted the type of clientele, and the ambition was to be included on the list of the 50 best cocktail bars in the world.
- There was a host at the door who turned people away if the venue was full and would also help patrons find taxis. They were encouraged to leave quickly and to move away from the venue and towards public transport. As the capacity of the bar was only 15 people, it was rare for more than five people to be leaving at any one time.
- It was not the type of venue that attracted people who were already intoxicated.
- Patrons had never been seen heading into Colville Place after leaving the venue, but staff would be happy to tell patrons not to go there, although this would be difficult to enforce.
- Though customers were not expected to be exclusively those who had eaten in the restaurant, but also those who had eaten in other local restaurants, 60 to 70% of people visiting the bar had been more than twice and could be considered regulars.
- There was no application to increase the capacity of the bar area, which would remain 15 people.

The Licensing Officer confirmed that there was a plan of the premises on file and there was a designated bar area.

Mr Sollof then made some brief closing remarks.

Mr Semper then made some brief closing remarks.

Decision and reasons

Panel Members confirmed that they had been able to follow and understand the discussion in relation to the application.

Members observed that there was little evidence to suggest that the venue was causing any issues, although there was clearly some concern about dispersal of patrons and there might be some merit in considering the provision of additional staff on the door. It was however noted that it was a very small venue, that there was no representation from the Police or from Environmental Health and there were extensive conditions in place.

The Legal Adviser confirmed to Members that there was an existing condition requiring the provision of a contact number for use in case of any disturbance to local residents and a further condition specifying that deliveries must take place between 8am and 8pm. There were CCTV conditions, a condition that no noise should emanate from the premises and a condition preventing the use of outside tables and chairs after 10pm. The dispersal policy that had been submitted stated that there would be no more than 5 people outside the premises at any one time.

On balance Members considered that the licence could be granted, subject to an additional condition requiring the provision of an incident book, and they encouraged the licensees to work with local residents. Licensing officers were also encouraged to monitor complaints in relation to this premises.

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT a variation to the premises licence be granted as follows:-

Supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises

11.00 to 23.30 Monday to Tuesday
11.00 to 01.00 Wednesday to Thursday
11.00 to 01.30 Friday to Saturday
11.00 to 22.30 Sunday

Late night refreshment

23.00 to 00.00 Monday to Tuesday
23.00 to 01.30 Wednesday to Thursday
23.00 to 02.00 Friday to Saturday

Opening hours

08.00 to 00.00 Monday to Tuesday
08.00 to 01.30 Wednesday to Thursday
08.00 to 02.00 Friday to Saturday

08.00 to 23.00 Sunday

- (ii) THAT the following additional conditions be added to the licence:-

Conditions consistent with the Operating Schedule

- 1) Let's Communicate – Staff need to feel comfortable to speak up and approach colleagues and management about any form of harassment that they may witness or be subjected to themselves and know the processes available to them to express their views and concerns.
- 2) Supporting Each Other – Ensure that you and your staff are aware of the various support campaigns available such as Ask Angela and that these are clearly displayed around your venue.
- 3) Training for All – Staff training on how to report any issues, what to say and do should they witness or be subject to harassment and how to identify harassment and those who may be vulnerable and make them aware of your internal policies.

Conditions Agreed with the Metropolitan Police and Environmental Health

- 4) On-sales of alcohol beyond Camden Council's Framework Hours will be permitted for up to 20 customers using the basement bar area only.
- 5) The premises shall operate a dispersal policy and all staff shall be trained in its implementation. The policy shall include staff remaining on the premises until the effective dispersal of patrons from the immediate vicinity of the premises.

Additional condition offered by the applicant.

- 6) The premises shall operate a dispersal policy and all staff shall be trained in its implementation. The policy shall include staff remaining on the premises until the effective dispersal of all patrons from the immediate vicinity of the premises.

Condition added by the Licensing Panel

- 7) Incident book – the premises shall maintain an incident log detailing the nature of all incidents and complaints relating to the premises. The incident log to be available for inspection by responsible authorities on request.

7. GOPUFF: ARCH 43 CASTLE MEWS, LONDON, NW1 8SX

This application was resolved prior to the hearing and was, therefore, not considered by the panel.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

There was no urgent business.

The hearing ended at 8.28pm.

CHAIR

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MINUTES END