



HILLINGDON
LONDON

Meeting:	Licensing Sub-Committee	
Date:	16th September 2015	Time: 14.00
Place:	CR6	

ADDENDUM SHEET

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<i>Amendments/Additional Information:</i>		<i>Officer Comments:</i>
Further representation to include in Appendix 4		

[REDACTED]

Subject: FAO: Stephanie Waterford: Application to Extend Licensing Hours: LBHIL476/05 – 163 Field End Road, Eastcote trading as The Re Bar
To: licensing@hillingdon.gov.uk

Dear Licensing,

**Re: Application to Extend Licensing Hours
LBHIL476/05 – 163 Field End Road, Eastcote trading as The Re Bar**

Further to our petition, I am writing to highlight some of the reasons why the residents of The Close are against the extension of hours for the Re Bar.

Our main concern is regarding our quality of life and the impact such an extension would have on this. Eastcote is a family centric area - the focus here is on community and the feeling of safety that this brings. Re Bar has been the subject of many disturbances in the past: fighting, noise pollution, drunken behaviour both to the front and rear of the establishment, etc. I fail to see how the management will control this at 2.30am if they cannot control it at 12 midnight.

Below I copy the main points of argument, as submitted by Sarah West. I and other residents echo these points and are prepared to attend meetings to discuss further.

1. **The Prevention of Public Nuisance**

The Re Bar state in their application that they will be no access to the rear garden from 8pm - Monday to Sunday. Access is currently via two routes. (1) via the front door and through the bar (rear door adjacent to bar) or (2) from the service road/car park – (gated locked door). For the purposes of this letter, we are assuming the Re Bar mean there will be no access to the rear garden via both routes from 8pm Monday to Sunday, effectively closing all access to the rear garden from 8pm.

From a noise point of view, we would absolutely love the rear garden to be closed from 8pm every day! However, we find the concept of the Re Bar suddenly agreeing to close their rear garden access at 8pm questionable. The reasoning behind this is as follows:-

The Re Bar play music on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and sometimes Sunday nights. The Re Bar garden is roughly 30 metres from the rear of our gardens. The bar currently has 10pm deadline which was agreed with the Council after a series of complaints received between September 2013 and February 2015 (**The complaint was regarding the rear door opening every 10/20 minutes for people wishing to go outside and smoke from 9.30pm until 1am. Loud music and people shouting could be heard during these hours**) they finally agreed to shut their rear garden door.

On at least five separate occasions in 2014 (despite their agreement with the Council) they ignored the regulations, and kept opening their rear garden door after the hours of 22.00pm which ultimately resulted in the Council taking action against them.

Unfortunately, due to their repeated failure to adhere to the regulations enforced by the Council, we find it very doubtful and questionable they would suddenly adhere to their own new ruling of 8pm, as the anti social issues which drove the 10pm closing condition still exist.

The most recent complaint was on 20th August 2015, when the door was opened again on five separate occasions between the hours of 11pm and 1am.

During the summer of 2014, there was an increase in more noise in the early evenings (after work) and match days. On both occasions there was groups of men shouting, and swearing in the garden. Some evenings it was impossible to sit in our garden without hearing shouting and swearing coming from the Re Bar garden.

My neighbour has complained directly to the bar about this and also complained under the recent planning application notes.

(a) We would also be interested to know why they could not shut their door at 8pm two years ago? Instead, we have been subjected to their constant noise.. If they do adhere to closing the garden at 8pm? How will they enforce this? More importantly, how will they stop people from opening the door at 2am in the morning!

At the moment, there are two A4 laminated posters on the back of the door saying “no smoking” and “in the interests of our neighbours please shut the door”. There are currently no security guards on the back door ensuring that customers do not go into the garden and this has been witnessed by members of the Council, and additionally, this has been proved by the fact that on endless occasions including the weekend of 20th August 2015, the door was opened between 11pm and 1pm on five separate occasions.

(b) Their current planning application for redevelopment work states that the new patio/garden area is going to be refurbished. Surely, then this is going to be used? Are they saying they are doing refurbishment works to their garden but it is only going to be used part of the day? What about during the summer evenings? Although, it is a separate matter, nevertheless the refurbishment works will subject residents to more noise from the bar, during normal working hours and on Saturdays. **(Incidentally, I have to point out a majority of us never received notice about the planning application, which we will be asking for it to be noted on the records to that effect)** once that work has finished we will be potentially subjected to further noise in the evenings if the extension of hours is permitted.

2. Setting a precedent in the local area.

Eastcote is a residential area with a good balance of amenities within the town centre. Taking into account bar opening times within the London Borough of Hillingdon, there no bars within the immediate vicinity that stay open until 2.30am. We are also not aware of any others within a 4 mile radius of the area (Ruislip, Northwood, Harrow, Harrow on the Hill, Ickenham, Uxbridge, Hatch End, Rickmansworth) that are open beyond this time and are within a residential area.

Therefore, we feel if you agree, to allow this extension to go ahead, you will effectively be setting a precedent for other bars within Hillingdon and possibly neighbouring areas to apply to open late night hours. Ultimately, tipping the balance of late night amenities in the local areas.

We are deeply concerned as residents, that once you open the door to late night openings in residential areas, it will be hard door for you to close, and this could essentially ruin the fabric of what is a nice residential area in the long term. We do not wish Eastcote to turn into the next Ibiza!

3. The prevention of public safety and the prevention of crime and disorder.

The Re Bar have quoted in their application that they are going to be “making sure customers leave the premises quietly and no hanging around”.

With respect, we would like to know how the Re Bar think they are going to control customers after they have been drinking all night and more importantly, how they think they are going to stop them from “hanging around” by saying they will be extending their security.

We hardly think that two security officers will be enough to handle groups of people under the influence of alcohol.

Once the general public become aware of the fact that this is a late night bar open within a four mile radius, you will give rise to a situation of people coming into the local area from neighbouring areas.

Other than taxis and cars, there is no provision for these people to leave the area at 2.30am in the morning. If they are leaving by car they will be using the adjacent car parks either side of The Close, after 2.30 am in the morning, encouraging people to loiter even longer in this area. Not to

mention the additional noise, from people entering into a residential area late at night.

As residents of The Close, we already have to tolerate noise from gangs of people arriving in their cars and revving their engines on a frequent basis at weekends often this is during the early hours of the morning. Frequently, neighbours are asking youths to politely remove their vehicles away from the boundary line adjacent with the Devonshire Road Car Park and The Close.

Taking all of the above evidence into account, we would strongly urge you to refuse the extension of hours.

Many thanks for your attention

Caroline Blackmore

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