

Appendix 2.8

In the matter of 'The Clifton', 96 Clifton Hill, London NW8 0JE

Application to review premises licence under s. 51 Licensing Act 2003

Statement in support of application to review the premises licence

1. My name is Charles F Lek. I live at 3 Clifton Hill Studios, 95a Clifton Hill, Saint John's Wood, NW8 0JP. I have lived here for 1.5 years. I live with my wife Olesya Lek and my daughter Susan Lek.
2. This statement is written in support of the application by Clifton Hill Residents Group (CHRG) to review the premises licence for 'The Clifton'. I am a member of the CHRG.
3. My house is opposite the pub down a path behind Clifton 95. My guest bedroom and daughter's bedroom are located on the ground floor.
4. This statement sets out my own personal experiences of i) nuisance emanating from the Clifton; ii) the impact it has on my life; and iii) efforts to resolve the issues. I deal with these in turn:
 - i) The pub opposite my house has disrupted my neighbourhood and lifestyle by creating limited parking, noise which seems to last into the night, drunken patrons stumbling the street in search of their cars. In addition, I need to pay particular attention to Ubers that often park illegally in front of my house blocking access to my gate.
 - ii) I am concerned about the number of drunken patrons and why the pub is not able to keep its patrons within the designated areas. On at least one occasion (picture attached), I have seen a man in the middle of the street talking loudly (possibly due to over intoxication) yelling on his mobile phone. In addition, you can see from the picture that a group of people have congregated next to the rubbish bins, talking loudly.

I am concerned that the pub is allowing patrons to use the low wall as a seating area, and allowing empty pint glasses to rest unattended.
 - iii) I live directly across from the pub, and each morning when I leave to work I often times see rubbish and boxes pouring out of the rubbish bins of the pub. In addition, I must take extra precaution when walking the streets, especially on summer days and at night when patrons may overflow onto the streets. I feel uncomfortable about the number of drunken patrons, shouting, and worry that these persons may be leaving the pub intoxicated.

In addition, I often find it hard to park my car, and have witnessed on at least one occasion an uber using my gated area to park his car whilst he waited for a possible client in the pub.

I understand that a pub is an entertainment venue. Furthermore I understand that pubs can be noisy. I run a small firm in London, and I know how hard it is to grow a successful business. However, part of growing a business is having the appropriate procedures, and staffing in place so as to promote a healthy and compliant business.

However, I am concerned that the owners of the pub do not have the procedures and controls in place to stop patrons from using the Clifton Street road as an extension of their premises. The pub is plenty large inside, and I do not understand why patrons are often found outside the pub on the pavement and street.

5. I attach the following documentary evidence in support of my application: e.g. noise log/photos/correspondence with management etc.

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I am aware that this statement will be used in support of an application to review the premises licence, and that as supporting documentation it will be seen by the licence holder and will be available to view on the City Council's Licensing Register, and will form part of the Report to Sub-Committee which is a public document.

Signed: Chel L

Address: 3 Clifton Hill Street, St. John's Wood, NW8 7SA

Date: Sept 12th, 2017

