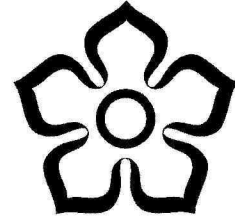


MEMO

Leicester
City Council
Noise Team

TO: Amy Day
Licensing Team

FROM: Chris White
Noise Team
Regeneration and Culture
37 3059

OUR REF: 23/14491/PNCNLI
DATE: 19th December 2023

Licensing Act 2003 – New Application.
Application Ref: 159459
Prevention of Public Nuisance.
Palmarina
109 King Richards Road

I wish to make a representation in connection with this application as I consider this proposal will be detrimental to the licensing objective of preventing public nuisance.

The Palmarina Café/bar is situated on King Richards Road in a row of shops and a which also contains a hot food business. There are several residential properties within the immediate area including flats directly above the premises and a large number of flats at the rear of the premises.

The high traffic volumes at the front of the premises produced relatively high noise levels but this reduces quickly after about 23.00. The background noise levels at the rear of the premises are much lower as the building act as a sound barrier from the traffic noise.

This application raises serious concerns about the impact on the nearby residents especially the flats directly above the premises.

The applicant is applying to vary their licence to open both early in the morning and late at night from 07.00- 23.00 Monday - Thursday, 07.00-01.00 Friday – Saturday and 07.00-00.00 hours on and Sunday night. They are also looking to have later opening on special holidays until 02.00 hours.

It is clear from the application form the applicant is looking to play music at a high volume as stated in the application.

Any music played before 10:00 and after 23:00 will be soft relaxing background music only. High volume music will not be played before 10:00 or after 23:00. Also, our premises have been fitted to a very high insulation standard, 300 mil.

When the venue played loud music, we received a large number of complaints from both the flats above the premises but also properties at the rear on Kate Street. We have also witnessed a noise nuisance from the music and people noise. It is likely further nuisances would have been witnessed as the site, however as the premises was operating without a licence or planning consent other teams within the council were dealing with problems.

The applicant does mention they have tried to insulate some thing but has not provided any details just stated, "our premises have been fitted to a very high standard of insulation 300mil."

300mil of what and where has this been applied? it is likely this is some form of rockwork or flexible insulation which is not very good at reducing music or other low frequency noise such as bumps and bangs. To retro fit sound insulation to adequately protect the flats above will be complicated and expensive and think it is unlikely that this has been adequately done to protect against the high-volume music that the applicant wishes to play.

Another major area of concern is the "on street activity" associated with this sort of venue. The on street activity is the noise from people coming and going, taxis/cars pulling up, people talking laughing while smoking etc. This type of noise is almost impossible to control and even just 2 people standing outside at 01.00 hours is enough to disturb the flats above especially in the summer when they are likely to have their windows open.

The rear yard of the property already has a condition stating it cannot be used after 23.00 hours to protect the flats from late night noise. This means the smokers must use the front of the premises directly under the flat above.

While it may be possible to increase the insulation or control the music in other ways such as noise limiting device that is set by the Noise and Pollution Control Team, I do not think it is possible to protect against all noise that this extensions to hours would create.

Looking at the position and location in relation to the local residents, along with the previous history with the premises, I must strongly recommend refusal of this licence application as it stands.

Kind regards



Chris White
POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER
NOISE & POLLUTION CONTROL TEAM