

APPENDIX C

Objections/representations received from interested parties

REPRESENTATION 1: ETERNAL BEAUTY (UK) LTD

49/50 East Street is our commercial premises, from which we have conducted our business for the last 4 and a half years, reliant upon a professional and peaceful environment. We have an office space as well as training facility which would also would suffer from disturbances that may come from the hours requested under this application.

We therefore make the following representations. Playing music during normal business working hours will be detrimental to our office environment adjacent to the premises requesting the licence

The proposed licence hours for the service of alcohol from 08.00am are excessive and likely to lead to anti-social behaviour in the immediate environs of our business property. For breakfast and morning coffee trade, there should be no requirement to serve alcohol.

The late night hours proposed are likely to lead to anti-social

behaviour in the immediate environs of our business property, including noise and fouling of the footpath between our business property and the subject property. Playing music until 02.30 am and will be detrimental to the town centre environment as a whole, including to other residential properties in the immediate vicinity. We respectfully request that the licence application as drafted is refused, and that a revised application with reduced hours in keeping with the immediate environment be promoted. Also we would expect to see stringent conditions attached to any licence granted to include the provision of door staff to control customer behaviours, and a realistic limit on the time music is permitted, and on noise measured outside the premises during the working day so as to limit disruption to our business.

REPRESENTATION 2: ROSALIND WENT

I am the freehold owner of 49/50 East Street, Taunton, the property adjacent to the application site.

My property is occupied by an estate agent on the ground floor with professional office users above.

I have the following serious concerns about the licence application:

1. Music playing during office hours will not be conducive to a professional environment.
2. If alcohol is available from 8am it will lead to anti-social behaviour. The breakfast and coffee trade are surely not reliant on the sale of alcohol.
3. The late night hours proposed are likely to lead to anti-social behaviour, fouling of the lane between the two properties and dropping of cans, etc.

Can I ask that you review the licence application as it stands. Please can conditions be attached to the licence to include door staff to ensure considerate behaviour and prevent fouling in the surrounding area. If there is fouling or rubbish dropped this should be immediately cleaned up. There should be a restriction on the volume of the music so it does not affect the neighbours' enjoyment of their own premises.

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REPRESENTATION 3: DAVID WHITE, HATFIELD WHITE LTD (on behalf of occupiers of 49/50 East Street)

My Firm is retained by the freehold owner of 49/50 East Street, Taunton, property adjacent to the application site, in connection with property management matters.

49/50 East Street is a commercial premises, fully occupied by an estate agent and two professional office users, reliant upon a professional and peaceful environment.

On behalf of my client, and their commercial occupiers, I make the following representations.

Playing music during normal business working hours will be detrimental to the office environment adjacent.

The proposed licence hours for the service of alcohol from 08.00 am are excessive and likely to lead to anti-social behaviour in the immediate environs of my client's property. For breakfast and morning coffee trade, there should be no requirement to serve alcohol.

The late night hours proposed are likely to lead to anti-social behaviour in the immediate environs of my client's property, including noise and fouling of the surrounding area and in particular the footpath between my client's property and the subject property. Playing music until 02.30 am and will be detrimental to the town centre environment.

On behalf of my client, and their commercial occupiers, I respectfully request that the licence application as drafted is refused, and that a revised application with reduced hours in keeping with the immediate environment be promoted. Also we would expect to see stringent conditions attached to any licence granted to include (i) the provision of door staff to control customer behaviours, (ii) a realistic limit on the time music is permitted, (iii) an upper limit for noise measured outside the premises and (iv) ensuring any fouling in the surrounding area (and in particular the footpath between my client's property and the subject property) is prevented and/or immediately cleaned.

REPRESENTATION 4: KAREN WHITE, TAUNTON HERITAGE TRUST

The Taunton Heritage Trust is the freehold owner of Grays Almshouse, a Grade I Listed Building of significant historic importance and which adjoins the application site. Grays was built in the 1600's to provide homes for local people in need in the town. The building still provides homes for people today, and consists of almshouse flats for elderly and in some cases, vulnerable people, on low incomes. Grays also has a beautiful chapel with a historic hand painted mural ceiling.

One of the main priorities for the Taunton Heritage Trust, when providing housing is to ensure Residents feel safe and secure in their own homes and in a Residents survey carried out in May 2022, 87% said they did so.

In the past the Taunton Heritage Trust has experienced a lot of issues with this neighbouring building when it traded as both Happy Harry's and The Retro bar in terms of anti-social & drunken behaviour and loud and thumping music into the early hours. As you would expect, this has caused a lot of distress for our Residents. There were a number of occasions when vomit and urine/excrement were deposited on their doorsteps as drunken people spilled out of the adjoining building.

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Whilst we acknowledge that having the adjoining property empty can attract anti-social behaviour, we are concerned that the extensive licensing hours requested and the extensive hours for live and recorded music, well into the night, could cause significant disruption and distress for our Residents.

If you consider this to be an appropriate use of the building, we request that the licensing hours be reduced to more sociable hours in order to minimise the impact on our Residents lives and that conditions be imposed to include provision of security staff to ensure loud and anti-social behaviour does not spill out onto the curtilage of Grays Almshouse. We would also like the provision of sound monitoring to protect our Residents quiet enjoyment of their homes and beautiful communal garden to the rear of the almshouse.

REPRESENTATION 5: DAVID WHITE, HATFIELD WHITE LTD (on behalf of occupiers of Grays Almshouse)

My Firm is retained by the freehold owner of Grays Almshouse, a Grade I Listed Building adjoining the application site, in connection with property management matters.

Grays Almshouse is an historically important property dating back to the 1600s and still today used as almshouses for people in need in the Taunton area. The almshouses provide secure and sheltered residential accommodation for elderly and vulnerable people.

On behalf of my client, and their residential occupiers, I make the following representations.

Playing live or loud music during normal daytime/evening hours could be detrimental to the residential environment adjacent and would certainly be detrimental if played to 2.30 am in the morning.

The proposed licence hours for the service of alcohol from 08.00 am are excessive and likely to lead to anti-social behaviour in the immediate environs of my client's property. For breakfast and morning coffee trade, there should be no requirement to serve alcohol.

The late-night hours proposed (until 2.30 am) are likely to lead to anti-social behaviour in the immediate environs of my client's property, including noise and fouling of the public footpath and entrance steps outside my client's property. Historic licenced use of 48 East Street has resulted in people urinating and vomiting on the doorsteps of Grays Almshouses requiring additional cleaning by residents/staff.

On behalf of my client, and their vulnerable residential occupiers, I respectfully request that the licence application as drafted is refused, and that a revised application with reduced hours in keeping with the immediate environment be promoted. Also we would expect to see stringent conditions attached to any licence granted to include the provision of door staff to control customer behaviours, and a realistic limit on the time music is permitted, and on noise measured outside the premises.