

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

MINUTES of the meeting of the LICENSING COMMITTEE, which was open to the press and public held on THURSDAY 20 JUNE 2019 in Room 3 Civic Suite, Catford Road, Catford SE6 4RU at 8.05pm.

Present

Councillor Stamirowski (Chair), Councillor Elliott Councillors Anwar, Campbell Handley and Hordijkeno.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Howard and Wise

Also Present

Petra Der Man – Lawyer
Jay Kidd-Morton -Lawyer
Lisa Spall - Crime, Enforcement and Regulation Manager
P.C Nick Gerry

1. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 29 May 2019

2. Declarations of Interests

None.

3. Zero Degrees 29-31 Montpelier Vale SE3 0TJ

Ms Spall advised members that conditions had been agreed and the application had been withdrawn.

4. Bell Green Food and Wine 66 Bell Green SE26 4PZ

Ms Spall advised members that conditions had been agreed between the agent and the licensing authority and the application had been withdrawn.

5. Oregano Leaf 98 New Cross Road SE14 5BA

5.1 Ms Spall said that members were being asked to consider an application for the review of a premises licence for Oregano Leaf 98 New Cross Road SE14 5BA.

5.2 Ms Spall gave members a background to these premises; it has a long history of non-compliance. In 2017, it was discovered that they were opening 3-4 hours after their licenced hours. There were 472 licensing offences, which means that they were open 472 times after their licensable hours. Lewisham's Enforcement policy states that officers should educate before taking enforcement action. Ms Spall and licensing officers have met with management on several occasions to explain the responsibilities of having a premises licence. After this, the licence was transferred

from brother to brother and they received education on this issue. Over the past two years, a report on Oregano Leaf has been submitted to this Committee 4 times. The last time was on 30 January 2019, when an application was made to extend their licensable hours. This was refused.

- 5.3 Ms Spall said that traders who persistently fail to uphold the licensing objectives are put on a routine visiting list by police and licensing officers. During one of these visits, on 20 April 2019, the premises was trading at 0104, when it should have shut at midnight. A delivery driver was on site as well as a customer. An order was taken in front of officers
- 5.4 On 14 April 2019, an order was received at 0228. Ms Spall said that she has written to Oregano Leaf on three occasions because their premises licence is not on display. On 20 April 2019, the licence was still not displayed.
- 5.5 Ms Spall said that Oregano Leaf show a total disregard for the four licensing objectives. Yesterday, she heard that the business has been sold. Ms Spall said that officers were not told about this sale. She rang the new premises licence holder who did not know about this review.
- 5.6 Councillor Elliott asked whether officers had heard from Oregano Leaf since Ms Spall's letter sent to them on 25 April 2019. Ms Spall said that she had not received a response. When she spoke to the new owner, Omar, he said that he wants to extend his hours for the sale of refreshments
- 5.7 Ms Spall said that whenever she has visited Oregano Leaf in the past, she has witnessed a breach in the conditions on their licence. On 19 January 2019, she asked for a copy of the CCTV. They did not have it. P.C Gerry said that the business has been sold many times to different members of the family.
- 5.8 Members of the Committee then withdrew to make their decision. When they returned it was:

RESOLVED that the premises licence be revoked.

The meeting ended at 8.20pm

Chair