

Harcourt Road
Brockley
London
SE4 2AJ

22nd July 2019

Crime, Enforcement and Regulation Service (Licensing Authority)
9 Holbeach Road
London
SE6 4TW

I am writing to object to the licensing application submitted by Brockley Brewery, Harcourt Road. I live close to the premises, so am directly impacted by their activities, which I have witnessed at close hand.

I am objecting for the following reasons.

- This is just the latest step on an ongoing road
- Any changes at these premises make a huge, binary, impact as it is the only business on the road
- The end time on the application is not the end time of the impact on local residents

In the past few years, The Brockley Brewery have extended and further extended their license. I don't know their exact previous opening times, no doubt you have a record of their past licenses, but I believe they used to be open on a Saturday until 6pm, then 7pm, then 8pm. At this time, they didn't open on Sundays but they do now; initially just some Sundays for two or three hours, but now more Sundays and later into the evening.

My concern is that if the noon – 9pm seven days a week is granted, and I don't believe they should be allowed to be open that long anyway, they will then apply for 11pm closing. Then they will apply for a music license, then a beer garden license, then a midnight license on special days, etc. The minor increase followed by minor increase, followed by this now major change request has to stop.

Brockley Brewery is the only business on Harcourt Road, which is a quiet residential street away from the main road. At the end of the road where the Brewery is, it is surrounded only by other quiet residential streets away from main roads. There are no shops, restaurants or other bars on Harcourt Road. This means that when the Brewery is operating as a drink-on premises it changes completely the tone and status of the whole road. When the Brewery is closed, there is no noise. It is possible to sit in your lounge with no TV or radio on, hear nothing and read a book. This is not possible when the Brewery is open as a drink-on premises.

Although the premises are small, they do seem to squeeze a lot of people in there. Often some people, mostly smokers, congregate outside on the street. The Brewery even place beer barrels with cushions on top out on the street for people to sit on, encouraging them to loiter there. There is a sign on the door saying no drinks outside, but we have seen people drinking on the street on a number of occasions, as recently as two weekends ago. Harcourt Road is a narrow street, with hardly any footpath, so anyone outside the Brewery, sitting or standing, causes difficulties for those trying to pass, especially for those with a pram or wheelchair. The people outside not only cause obstructions, but noise too. There is laughter and loud conversation as would be expected from people who have had a few drinks.

It is not just people outside that create a noise issue. The noise from the people inside also permeates out on to the street, especially in the Summer months, when the double doors are kept open and there is nothing to even attempt to keep the noise in.

The people in the street are not just there during the licensing hours. The impact of noisy, drink-filled people continuing to hang around on the street, talking, laughing, waiting for taxis extends to about an hour after the current Saturday night license of 9pm. Should the Brewery request and be granted extensions until 11pm, based on current events, we can expect noise until midnight.

To conclude, and in summary, I am objecting for the following reasons.

- This is just the latest step on an ongoing road
- Any changes at the premises make a huge, binary, impact as it is the only business on the road
- The end time on the application is not the end time of the impact on local residents

Yours Sincerely,