

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

MINUTES of the meeting of the LICENSING COMMITTEE, which was open to the press and public held on WEDNESDAY 21 DECEMBER 2022 at 7pm and held remotely via Microsoft Teams.

Present

Councillor Wise (Chair) Councillor Anifowose (Vice-Chair) Councillors, Brown, Hayes, and Shrivastava.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Huynh, Howard, Kestner and Warner.

Also Present

Matt Lewin – Counsel – Legal advisor
Alfene Rhodes - Crime, Enforcement and Regulation Officer

Unit 5, Goldcrest House, 32-64 Lee High Road, London, SE13 5FH

Agent for the Applicant – Mr Lake

1. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 29 November 2022 be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee.

2. Declarations of Interests

None.

3. Unit 5, Goldcrest House, 32-64 Lee High Road, London, SE13 5FH

- 3.1 The Chair welcomed all parties to the Licensing Committee. She introduced those present and outlined the procedure to be followed for the meeting. She then invited the Crime, Enforcement and Regulation (CER) Officer to introduce the application.

Introduction

- 3.2 The (CER) Officer said that the application was in respect to an application for a new premises licence for Unit 5, Goldcrest House, 32-64 Lee High Road, London, SE13 5FH. It was a basement premises situated in a large mixed-use building. She outlined the application. Two representations had been received from local residents on the grounds of the prevention of public nuisance, prevention of crime and disorder and public safety.

- 3.3 Objections had not been received from responsible authorities because conditions had been agreed. The powers available to members when making their decision was then outlined. The premises had been operating under Temporary Event Notices (TEN) over 24 days in the current calendar year. No complaints had been received in respect of any of these events. The premises had a maximum capacity of 85 people.
- 3.4 Councillor Brown said that an email dated 25 November 2023 referred to a previous email which had not been included in the agenda. The (CER) Officer said that it had been excluded because the content referred to another premises. Councillor Brown asked officers to check that all future information submitted to this committee was relevant to the application.

Applicant

- 3.5 The Agent, Mr Lake, spoke on behalf of the applicant. He said that he was satisfied that the correct process had been followed. The views of objectors were important. If the application was granted, he hoped that they would come into the premises and enjoy the facilities.
- 3.6 At the weekend, security at the premises would be given due attention. Sound would not escape because it had been tested physically. Unit 5, Goldcrest House was ready to open when the licence was granted.
- 3.7 Councillor Shrivasa asked whether the capacity of the venue was 85. Mr Lake said that it was 100 and this number was based on one person per square metre.
- 3.8 Councillor Shrivasa asked the applicant for information about the TENs hosted at the venue in the last 12 months and what events would be held in the venue. Mr Lake said that Unit 5, Goldcrest House was a basement café. It was cosy and separate from noise and traffic. The premises licence holder was of Latin American heritage and offered an array of snacks for friends and co-workers, with many other people coming to the venue because they had heard about the events from friends and social media.
- 3.9 Mr Lake said that the applicant had applied for TENs before a new licence, because he wanted to gauge how successful the events were and to promote these events. There was potential to host birthday parties and create a club atmosphere.
- 3.10 Councillor Brown asked about the hours of the TENs and why the applicant wanted a premises licence until 4am. He also asked for details of the smoking area on the pavement outside the premises and how it would be enclosed. Mr Lake said that staff had not been asked to smoke by patrons. Smoking was not encouraged, and a sign would be displayed stating that vaping and smoking were not allowed. Security would manage patrons on the pavement. Events would not always end at 4am but the opportunity to open late was available if business increased on a Friday and Saturday.
- 3.11 Ms Rhodes clarified that TENs were applied for until 4am. They did not always end at this time, but there had never been any issues.

- 3.12 In response to a question from the Chair, Mr Lake said that the premises was in the basement with its own ground floor access and reception. He confirmed that there were not any safety issues.
- 3.13 Councillor Shrivastava understood that the events at the premises would attract people of Latin American heritage. He asked what the venue would mean to Latin American people in the area, whether many patrons were local or whether most travelled. Mr Lake said that the premises was frequented by people with friends or family connection. The applicant was well known for the events he had hosted he had a number of followers and was an influencer.
- 3.14 In summary, Mr Lake said that the Temporary Event Notices enabled the applicant to consider whether to apply for a permanent licence. He realised that he had to advertise his business and encourage local residents to the venue. The applicant had considered claims of noise nuisance from objectors. He encouraged everyone to attend events at the venue including councillors.
- 3.15 There were no objectors present at the meeting.
- 3.16 Members confirmed that they had been present throughout the meeting and had not lost connection.
- 3.17 A decision letter would be sent out within 5 working days. She thanked all parties for their attendance, and they left the meeting.

Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED that under Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (A) of the Act, as amended by the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (Amendments) (England) Regulations 2006 and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information:

3. Unit 5, Goldcrest House, 32-64 Lee High Road, London, SE13 5FH

The following is a summary of the item considered in the closed part of the meeting.

Unit 5, Goldcrest House, 32-64 Lee High Road, London, SE13 5FH

The application for a new premises licence was APPROVED.

The meeting ended at 7.20pm

Chair