

Decisions taken by the Licensing Committee on Thursday, 12 December 2024

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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Part A – Items considered in public

A1	Minutes	Agreed.
A2	Declarations of Interests	None.
A3	Meta Fried Chicken and Pizza, 640 Downham Way London BR1 5HN	<p align="center">DECISION NOTICE</p> <p>1. Aruthavarasa Sutharsan (“the Applicant”) applied for the variation of a Premises Licence on 10th October 2024. for Meta Fried Chicken & Pizza, 640 Downham Way, London BR1 5HN (“the Premises”).</p> <p>2. The application was amended by the Applicant and reserved on all Responsible Authorities on 22nd October 2024. The Premises was currently licensed for late night refreshment on and off sales, between specified hours Monday to Sunday. The proposal was to vary the licence to include the sale of alcohol for consumption off the Premises for:</p> <p>11:00 – 01:30 Monday 11:00 – 01:30 Tuesday 11:00 – 01:30 Wednesday 11:00 – 01:30 Thursday 11:00 – 02:00 Friday 11:00 – 02:00 Saturday 11:00 – 01:30 Sunday</p> <p>3. Representations were received from a Responsible Authority, the Police, and a written representation was received from a local resident. These were on the grounds</p>

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		<p>of the prevention of crime and disorder, prevention of public nuisance, and the protection of children from harm, and from the local resident, public safety.</p> <p>4. The Licensing Committee held a hearing on 12th December 2024 to consider the Application. An agent attended and spoke on behalf of the Applicant company and a legal representative attended and spoke on behalf of the Police. The local resident did not attend to speak to their written representations opposing the variations.</p> <p>5. Shortly before the meeting the Applicant’s agent volunteered additional conditions, which, at her request, were circulated to all members of the Licensing Committee for consideration as part of their application at the hearing. When it was pointed out that some conditions offered were less stringent than the standard Police ones, she said the Applicant would accept whatever conditions the Committee chose to impose.</p> <p>6. In making its decision the Committee has considered all the papers contained in the report pack together with the oral submissions and evidence presented on behalf of the Applicant and the Resident at the hearing. The committee has also considered the Council’s own Statement of Licensing Policy 2020-25 and the latest Home Office Statutory Guidance, revised in December 2023.</p>

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		<p>7. The Committee’s decision is to refuse the application in the terms submitted. Its reasons for refusing the application are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Committee notes the Premises are situated on Downham Way, a busy thoroughfare served by local bus routes, close to the junction of Baring Road, which has Grove Park BR Station. It is in a retail unit in a row of shops that have residential flats above and nearby roads leading off are wholly residential. b. The Committee took note of the evidence in the witness statement of PC Court an officer in the Safer Neighbourhoods Team (‘SNT’) for Grove Park Ward, who said: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downham Way/ Baring Road is a recognised ASB Hotspot for SNT patrols and which the crime database shows lies in a high crime area. • Homeless people and others loiter in the area around the shops and the station, street drinking, begging, using drugs, and are the subject of frequent reports and complaints from local businesses and residents.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Public Spaces Protection Order ‘PSPO’ had recently been put in place to combat street drinking, which is a breach of the order. c. The Committee considered that if alcohol was allowed to be sold with takeaway food it would exacerbate the existing problems of noise, littering and adverse behaviour from people congregating outside disturbing residents and this continuing into the early hours. In particular, patrons occupying the number of benches outside the shop in the middle of the pavement are a noisy and intimidating presence to passers by and those waiting at the bus stop. d. Despite the Applicant offering to include further conditions the Committee did not think that these, nor any other additional conditions, would be capable of sufficiently supporting the promotion of the licensing objectives to allow the granting of the requested variations to the licence.