

Representations

Representation 1

I write with reference to your application for a minor variation of your license. Environmental Health has been asked to consult on this application.

We have concerns that you wish to have live music including DJ music on site. As we understand you are currently a café where background music only would be more appropriate for the venue.

Should you wish to have live music, you must first produce a noise management plan to be approved by this department. This plan must state how you are going to mitigate and protect nearby residential neighbours from being unreasonably disturbed by loud music. Such mitigation may involve a noise limiter.

As I understand, there are residential premises directly above your premises, which will make it difficult to mitigate, particularly as we currently do not know the level of acoustic insulation between the properties.

I have also been advised that there are planning condition on your premises, preventing live music on site for the purpose of protecting the amenities of nearby residential premises. This will need to be resolved as well.

Due to time constraints for this application, Environmental Health will object to this application at this time.

Kind regards

Mr. Wai Tse
Environmental Protection Specialist
Environmental Protection

Representation 2

I would like to make my objections to the premises licence grant application made by the Nook, 43 Tontine Street, CT20 1JT.

The issue that I have with the above is that it includes weekdays. Especially if they intend to use the area out the back in the summer as it is almost directly underneath me. I have two children aged 4 and 2. They both go to bed at 7:30pm. The noise caused by the loud music, inebriated and sober people alike standing outside talking/shouting will undoubtedly be disruptive to my family.

At present, we already have to contend with the jam jar and old buoy - most noise is caused by the people having loud conversations with little regard for residents. But at least they tend to restrict this from Thursday to Saturday.

Can you confirm whether the Nook intends to sound proof the building in any way? Otherwise the vibrations from the music and bass will be felt in the buildings where people live.

Do they plan to keep the seating area out the front? Because when people congregate, given the acoustics of this road, it can be unbearably loud. During the summer months this will mean that we can't have our windows open if we want to hear our TV or have comfortable conversations.

What do the Nook plan to do with regards to security? At present the jam jar has strict entry rules, CCTV and SIA security when needed. Will that nook being doing any of this? If not, how do they plan to ensure the safety of residents?

Moreover, I do not wish my children to be exposed to the shouting and violence that comes with venues like this.

(A small amount of text has been redacted for data protection reasons)

If this licence goes ahead, what can residents do when the noise becomes above an acceptable level? How do you measure and decide what an acceptable level of noise is?

As a further complaint, I would like to remind Folkestone and Hythe council that there are still many residents living on Tontine street. We are usually low income, single parents, immigrants or all of the above. We therefore do not have the means to relocate. So it becomes particularly upsetting when no thought is given to our quality of life when say the quarter house wants to hire a DJ for payers park, when the quarter house hosts a party outside which is enormously loud, when licences are given to venues that allow them to have outside seating until late, or when sandwich shops need to expand their business at the expense of local residents.

I'm sure all the people who attend these venues have a lovely time but for those of us who are trapped in poor quality housing, without the funds to be a part of the noise, watching the world around us become gentrified as we become forgotten and unconsidered is really very galling.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards,

Stephanie