## Save Local Jobs & Promote Our Community #2

## Petition to:

Kayode Adewumi, Head of Democratic Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer at London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham

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Councillor Natalia Perez, Chair, Licensing Sub-Committee of London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham

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Greg Hands, Member of Parliament for Chelsea & Fulham

We, the undersigned, are supporting the application of Mr Robert Radojcic of Fulham Kitchen @ 228 Munster Road SW6 6AZ to have a level playing field of opening hours with the neighbouring other licensed establishments (Locale, Convivium, L'Amour etc), specifically a 23:00 closing time, 7 days a week, <u>outside</u> to effectively curb the spread of Covid 19, protect local jobs, and allow affordable community conviviality in our locality. To that end we support the application to extend the hours, and we call on Hammersmith & Fulham Council and our local MP to:

- 1. support the extension of the current licence
- 2. to keep local jobs with affordable food and drink
- 3. deliver one of the few culturally diverse, community-centric meeting places
- 4. to help stop the spread of Covid 19 through use of the external spaces

Fulham Kitchen (previously Kafana and Monty's) has become a beacon on Munster Road over the last decade, a gathering place from breakfast through to evening for both Fulham locals and visitors alike, offering affordable food, beverages and a friendly, family-centric meeting place. Its clientele includes (but is not limited to), local tradespeople, retired gentlefolk, TV presenters, aspiring boxers, students, young and mid-life professionals, IT specialists, Olympic sports stars, international footballers, platinum selling music artists, authors, plumbers, national media journalists, business-people, traffic wardens, bankers, estate agents, aspiring politicians and those between jobs!

During lockdown other nearby licensed premises just locked their doors, took furlough payments and sat back counting the government subsidies — and they may or may not survive; Fulham Kitchen realised its vital place in the local community and local economy and worked within the government restrictions to stay open as much as it could — first as a take-away and then using the front terrace for seating a mere handful of people. This put a huge financial strain on the owners, but the huge take up is testament to its appeal of good, honest, home-cooked food of generous portions, including a fully vegan menu, and place as a community centre.

Fulham Kitchen has evolved into an open house attracting all parts of the community, from the Fulham 'born and bred' to more recent residents of all ages, to those just visiting Fulham; it supports local jobs and suppliers and brings together people from different generational, socio-economic, racial and ethnic backgrounds. It really is an extraordinary place, come and have a look. It has become a community focal point which fulfils a pivotal role for residents in the Munster Village area.

Fulham Kitchen is also well aware of its place in the local community and its potential to contribute. In particular, it has hosted charity fund-raising events for both Prostate Cancer and the Diabetes Wellness & Research Foundation.

Over the years we have lost many local establishments to residential flats or mini supermarkets: The Cottage, The Salisbury Tavern, The Wheatsheaf, Jolly Brewers and the Imperial Arms to mention a few; we need to act now in order to support this extraordinary community-centric meeting place.

We ask you to voice the support you have shown to our Fulham Kitchen. To preserve its financial viability, it needs to be allowed to have the same opening hours as neighbouring establishments. Please support by signing below!

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