

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 05 December 2024 14:36

To: Mckenna Lorna: H&F <Lorna.Mckenna@lbhf.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Agenda - L'ami Jac, 96 Shepherd's Bush Road London W6 7PD

Hi Lorna,

Now that I have read the Committee Report, this additional information may assist the Licensing panel:

- The committee report states that there are no previous enforcement issues/cases associated with number 96 Shepherds Bush Road. For a number of years and until recently, this property operated as a hairdressers 'Ocean Hair' before closing down earlier this year. This explains why there had not been any previous noise or nuisance complaints associated with number 96.
- The current business operated by M. Stiquel at number 94, immediate next door to 96, originally operated as a wine shop (off license) selling to wine customers to be consumed off the premises, before expanding to sell wine to customers to be consumed on the premise as well.
- The physical size of the premises for numbers 94, is very small, this means customers also sit and stand outside, and their chatting and laughter can clearly be heard by residents in the flats above and along this parade. Similarly, the premises at number 96 is very small and tables and chairs are now set up outside for customers.
- Shepherds Bush Road on most nights is very quiet after about 8pm, the traffic is light and as most vehicles are electric (including buses), there is hardly any noise, so noise from people talking loudly and laughing can clearly be heard by residents in the flats along this parade. I suspect it also impacts on the residents in the sheltered accommodation Baradell House which, is directly across Shepherds Bush Road facing this parade of shops.
- As the current business at number 94 became more popular, and it is an asset to the neighbourhood, there have been a number of noise nuisance incidents reported for this premise, as more people consume alcohol on the premises. As we know from experience, people who have consumed alcohol tend to speak more loudly and this increases over the course of the evening. The tables that are set up outside are not always vacated or removed by 22.00, as set out in the current licensing terms. These customers are chatting, sometimes laughing loudly so can be heard by residents in the flats above and along the parade. I also am aware that drinking does continue inside the premise beyond this time causing a noise nuisance to residents.
- The request for the extension of the operating hours to 00.00 every night, is highly likely to cause further disruption and be the source of increasing noise nuisance to residents and complaints to the council. I therefore recommend that the applicant and the committee reconsider this application for operating hours so both numbers 94 and 96 are closed promptly and all customers have departed by 23.00 Sunday to Thursday and by 00.00 on Friday and Saturday. I would also urge the committee to remind M.Stiquel of his responsibilities to cease the sale of alcohol to those customer who have already consumed too much, as well as to ensure his customers are not causing a noise nuisance,

and that under the terms of his license, he ensures all his customers have departed the area by the agreed times as set out in his license.

- The application also requests 'for the exhibition of films' until 00.00. However, in the committee report this is explained as 'Landscape, clips on you tube, rugby on BBC or ITV', The principle of watching a big screen to view a sporting event during the daytime or early evening i.e. up to 20.00 is reasonable, as is You tube clips (depending on the nature of the material to be shown). Any later than this is likely to disturb families and anyone trying to sleep in the flats above and along the parade as these premise do not have appropriate sound insulation. I would therefore urge M. Stiquel and the committee to reconsider his application so this is limited to sports events and You tube clips up to 20.00. The use of landscape pictures, assuming these are without sound is not a problem.
- M. Stiquel is friendly and polite, as noted his business is thriving and is an asset to the community. However, his amiable nature may make it difficult for him to properly manage those noisy customers who have had a lot of alcohol to drink, so do not adhere to his request to be quieter or indeed to leave the area after closing time. This business needs to operate in a way that it recognises and respects the residents in the properties above and in this area, and so does not become the focus of further distress and complaints which could ultimate result in the closure of this business. We all want to see it succeed and remains a positive contributor to our neighbourhood. I would therefore urges both M Stiquel and the committee to reflect on the residents concerns, the advice of officers as set out in the committee report as well as the needs for this business, and instead consider more appropriate hours of business, e.g. Sunday to Thursday, closed and all customers departed by 23.00, and Friday and Saturday, closed and all customers departed by 00.00. I would also request that the council monitors the number of complaints received by residents for these premise to enable it review the license terms in the future.

Regards,

