

WILLEDEN GREEN TOWN TEAM LTD
London NW2 4JX

Head of Service
Regulatory Services
Brent Civic Centre
Engineers Way
Wembley
HA9 0FJ

Via email: business.licence@brent.gov.uk

29th August, 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

Application Reference Number: 13072

Address: Lezziz Charcoal Grill, 13-15 Walm Lane, Willesden Green, London NW2 5SJ

Proposal: Sale of alcohol consumption On/Off premises Monday to Sunday from 11:00am to 02.00am. Late night refreshment: Sunday to Thursday from 23.00pm to 04.00am /Friday and Saturday from 23.00pm to 05.00am. Opening Hours: Sunday to Thursday 11:00am to 04.00 am / Friday and Saturday 11.00am to 05.00am

We are writing on behalf of Willesden Green Town Team (WGTT) and concerned residents, to raise our objections to the application for a new premises licence at Lezziz Charcoal Grill, 13-15 Walm Lane (detailed above).

Willessden Green high street which is a conservation zone, comprises of a large number of residential properties. On this section of Walm Lane alone (eg. numbers 9-15) there are flats above the parade of shops, Rutland Park Mansions directly opposite and houses backing onto the parade from Dean Road. It is important therefore, that any business licensing decisions are made with strong consideration for this demographic. We believe that these extended opening hours for alcohol consumption, seven days a week from 11.00am to 02:00am, are wholly inappropriate and detrimental to the community. Likewise, the extremely long shop opening hours, 17 -18 hours every day, would mean that residents have very little opportunity (7-8hours a day) for quiet enjoyment of their homes.

A late night drinking / refreshment venue would undoubtedly attract clientele from the nearby Adult Gaming Centre (AGC) at 9A Walm Lane, in addition to other Gambling outlets along the high street such as the Ladbrokes at 27 Walm Lane. By providing this alcohol and late opening licence, the Council will be encouraging associated antisocial behaviour - criminal damage, noise nuisance, violence and drug use, which are already big problems for the community and local police. We would therefore strongly recommend a more limited alcohol licence and opening hours in line with other local businesses such as Habaneros, The Social, Beer and Burger and the Queensbury Pub. This would mean a restricted alcohol licence for example : Monday to Thursday 11.30am - 11pm, Friday to Saturday 11.30am – 12am, Sunday noon – 10pm and reduced opening hours for example: Monday to Saturday 11am – 12.00am, Sunday 11am –11pm.

It is also important for Brent Council Regulatory Services to take into consideration past activities of the Owner/Managers of Lezziz Charcoal Grill, when making their decision. Unfortunately, this business has a long history of operating with little regard for residents and openly flouting Brent Council's planning and licensing regulations. Several households above the parade of shops on Walm Lane (particularly 9 – 15 Walm Lane) and those on Dean Road have been directly affected by noise, antisocial behaviour, poor waste management and flytipping, vermin infestation, health and safety issues, smoke and smell produced by this business over many years. Over this time the residents, Councillors and the Town Team have repeatedly complained to Brent Council who have taken action that addresses the symptoms (ie. collecting rubbish, arranging pest control) but not the cause of the problem. For some this has been too little, too late and as a result forced a number of residents and families to move away. The new and much larger Charcoal Grill premises, together with long opening hours (if granted) would further exacerbate these problems.

We are working with the community, businesses and Brent Council to make Willesden Green a family-friendly, attractive and safe place to live. Other businesses on Walm Lane operate very successfully within 'standard' opening hours, within Planning/Licensing guidelines and with respect for the community. At present there is a great deal of frustration and anger amongst residents who feel that Brent Council have tolerated and even rewarded the actions of this business, at the expense of the community.

We hope that you will take on board our concerns, consider the welfare of the community and restrict the opening hours and alcohol licence for this business.

Please treat personal contact details provided to you as **confidential**.

Thank you

Yours faithfully