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The Licensing Authority

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Your ref: 13614

Our ref: 01QK/454/18/157

Brent Borough Licensing Department

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Date: 24/10/2018

Police representation to Premises Licence application for Puyricard Ltd trading as 'Triangle' 248 – 252 High Street, Harlesden, NW10 4TD.

I certify that I have considered the application shown above and I wish to make **representations** that the likely effect of the grant of the application is detrimental to the Council's Licensing Objectives for the reasons indicated below.

Officer: **Nicola McDonald**
Licensing Constable PC 157QK

An officer of the Metropolitan Police, in whose area the premises are situated, who is authorised for the purposes of exercising its statutory function as a 'Responsible Authority' under the Licensing Act 2003.

The application has been made for a premises licence under section 17 of the act.

The Police representations are concerned with prevention of Crime and disorder, protection of Public Safety and prevention of public nuisance licensing objectives.

On 23rd October 2018 I visited the premises, it is currently abandoned and requires a vast renovation project.

This premise is located at the end of a parade of shops and small business premises with substantial residential properties above and behind. **The building is very old with no sound proofing.** There is no other late night licenced premise in the area. The roads in the immediate neighbourhood are either double yellow lines or resident parking only. There is a small plot of land approximately 1m X 4m outside the entrance door marked out by metal barriers. The entrance door opens on to a tiny landing and the stairs descending into the 'club' directly behind. There is a small triangular reception area to the right.

The stairs are steep and unlit with a hand rail only on one side, these stairs are not suitable for two way pedestrian traffic, especially for customers under the influence of alcohol, in a disorientating environment with flashing lights and music.

There are two fire escapes that lead to the rear of the premises, access from Clifton Road.

There are residential premises directly outside the fire escape.

There is a small kitchen area however it is not supplied by Gas, electric only. There is no mention of food safety or hygiene within the operating schedule.

I met with one of the directors of This Way Entertainment (the applicant). He gave his name as Mr Amer ALKACHACH. During a conversation with him he informed me, there is a second

director of the business Mr Samir ASKOUL who is the proposed designated premises supervisor. Neither director have any experience of operating a 'night club', however Mr ASKOUL has worked in hotels and on 'city cruises'. They will use promoters to organise events. They wish to provide a 'good old fashioned service' to customers with alcohol music and snacks, attracting customers both locally and from far afield. There will be a dance floor with DJ's, a raised VIP area where customers can have bottles of champagne and spirits served at the tables.

Mr ALKACHACH considers the premises to have a capacity of 240 persons, he indicated smokers would be allowed outside the front of the venue, but only 4 or 5 smokers at one time. This is not feasible in my experience of a venue with such a large capacity. This suggestion is inconsistent with the operating schedule that suggests the fire exists that lead to the rear of the premises would be used. *'SIA door staff will also be employed at the Fire Exits, to ensure those who are outside smoking do not cause a nuisance of any kind'*. **There is no scope for the rear of the premises to be used by smokers, this will cause unacceptable pollution of noise and smoke to residents.**

I asked how he would maintain a free flow use of the stairs for the safe egress and access for his customers. Mr ALKACHACH's response was that it would be managed by security. The intention is to hold customers at the entrance at the top of the stairs to permit people coming upstairs. This will cause congestion in the very small entrance landing pushing customers out on to the street. **There would have to be security in permanent positions at the top and bottom of the stairs, this will add to the security costings and a minimum of four required.** He also indicated 'security' would escort customers away from the venue in a quiet orderly manner as to not disturb the residents. This is not realistic. Mr ALKACHACH said that security will hold customers back at the bottom the stairs in order to allow customers to leave in more manageable numbers. **If this is to be used Police suggest a 45 minute time between the conclusion of licensable activities and the time the premises close to the public.**

There is no segregated private area for customers queuing, to be searched, to enter the premises. **This must be a consideration to prevent obstruction and public nuisance.**

In addition Mr ALKACHACH told me he would be using an ID scanner, this is not suggested in the operating schedule. ID scanners are usually implemented in licensed premises that have encountered crime and disorder with customers.

Mr ALKACHACH informed me that the VIP area would incorporate a waiter/waitress service and customers would be able to purchase and have bottles of Champagne and spirits on the table. **Police object to full bottles of spirits being purchased by customers. This leads to drunkenness and difficult for staff to manage consumption volumes.**

History of the venue

The venue was previously known as Jet Sete and before that Palm Beach. During its operation the venue has had numerous incidents of serious crime and disorder including shootings. A trident specialist crime prevention officers assisted the differing managements to design out crime. The premises licence was reviewed firstly in June 2010, then in May 2015, then again in June 2017 and finally January 2018 when the licensing committee decided to revoke the premises licence.

Even with 44 conditions attached to the premise licence the venue was unable to uphold the licensing objectives.

Police consider this application and business model to be a reflection of the previous premise licence and will inherit the same issues detrimental to the licensing objectives. This venue in its current state is not suitable to be a night club. Police object to the provisions of entertainment, music live or recorded, provision for dancing. If with the conclusion of suitable, approved building works, Police consider that licensable activities should cease at 2315 hours and the premises close to the public at 0000hrs. This would minimise any disturbance to residents from customers leaving, starting up engines and banging car doors of vehicles parked in surrounding roads. Trains and regular bus services are still operating at this time to disperse customers more efficiently.

Yours Sincerely
Nicola McDonald PC157QK