

To whom it may concern

Please find below our representation.

The premises licence for The Rising Sun, 25 Harlesden Road was reviewed in 2009 at the request of Brent Police Licensing Unit, on the grounds of prevention of public nuisance. The Alcohol & Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee re-granted a licence but outlined specific measures to prevent noise and public nuisance.

The agenda, decision & minutes can be found here

<http://democracy.brent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=134&MID=1176>

We are unclear as to whether these measures are still a requirement for the pub (given they do not have a licence), but currently the pub does not do enough to prevent

- public nuisance and noise
- crime and disorder
- the safety of residents

See below for a list of incidents and ongoing issues we have faced in the last 6 months concerning customers from the pub.

- Loud noise from customers talking, shouting and singing at the front and side of the pub. This happens during the early evening through to after closing time. It is caused by customers being at the front and side of the pub. It does not make a difference whether they are smoking, drinking area or doing both. It occurs most evenings during the week until late (00.30, sometimes later if the customers stay on the street after closing).
- Loud noise is significantly worse and prolonged at weekends, including Sunday night. The disturbance goes on later at weekends because of the later opening hours.
- Customers drinking/smoking directly in front of resident's houses. Sitting on resident's garden walls.
- Glasses, bottles, cigarette butts, general litter left on the walls, hedges and in gardens.
- Customers fighting at the side of the pub (2 incidents in the past 2 months). Physical violence and abusive language have made residents feel unsafe.
- When the pub gets very busy (usually at weekends) customers use the front of the pub and pavement in front of residents houses to drink. After the recent Champions League final customers took seats from inside the pub and were sitting on the pavement directly outside the entrance to our property, for most of the evening.
- The same night, a customer entered our property and urinated at the side of our house, next to our front door (11pm, Saturday 1st June).
- The same night (11.30pm, Saturday 1st June), 3 customers entered our garden at the front of the property and used our bins to use consume drugs. When approached the customers refused to leave the garden and were aggressive towards myself and my wife.
- Events held each weekend (Live music, DJs and parties) in the beer garden have excessive levels of music playing from mid-afternoon to 11pm. We should not have to keep our patio door closed (particularly in summer when it is hot) to be able to hear ourselves talk and watch television. While we expect music to be heard from time to time, every weekend for the whole afternoon and evening is unacceptable.
- The pub does not have enough commercial waste bins. Frequently the blue bin is left open (because it overfilled) and refuse bags are left at the side of the pub. Each night bags are ripped open (presumably by foxes) and food/waste is dragged down the street and into our garden.
- Noise from customers and music played inside the pub late at night. This occurs because doors to the front and side of the pub are left open.

We would also like to make the following suggestions

- specifically request that an extension to licensing hours is not granted. We feel this would exacerbate the current issues we face.

- Licensing hours are reduced from
  - 1100-0000 to 1100-2300 in the week
  - 1100-01.00 to 1100-00.00 on Friday/Saturday
  - 1100-00.00 to 1100-2300 on Sundays.
- Stop customers from being at the front and side of the building at all times. Whether they are drinking, smoking or doing both.
- Close the beer garden at maximum 2200 during the week and Sunday. Friday and Saturday at 2300.
- Allow customers who need to smoke to use a small area of the beer garden (after beer garden closes) to do so, on the proviso that no shouting, singing or any noise occurs. Someone from the pub should be responsible to monitor the noise<sup>1</sup>. This is preferable to the front of the premises which has the most exposure to the local residents.
- Ensure customers leave the premises quietly.
- Windows and doors to the front and side of the building be closed after 2200 to prevent noise from inside the pub.
- No live music or DJs in the beer garden.
- Additional commercial waste bin, both kept at the side of the premises and clear of the public paths.

We urge the committee to consider residents when reviewing the licence terms. The incidents listed above cause nuisance, stress and on occasions have threatened the safety of residents. If the committee can set explicit conditions to prevent/mitigate such incidents, and the pub can realistically enforce these measures, we would have no objection to the licence being granted.

---

<sup>1</sup> The beer garden as a smoking area is preferred to the front of the premises, as it has the minimum exposure to residents. The beer garden is surrounded by the pub to the front and side, a warehouse directly behind the beer garden.