



Brent Licensing Team
Brent Council

Harlesden Town Centre Team
Harlesden Police station
76 Craven Park
Harlesden
NW10 8RJ

Telephone: 0208 733 3835

Email: p234380@met.police.uk
www.met.police.uk

Your ref: Palm Island Lounge -
Application: 27896
Our ref: Representation

04/05/2023

To whom it may concern,

Regarding the licensing application for Palm Island Lounge, formerly Vybz Bar, at 1, Craven Park Road, NW10 8SE.

I am one of the Police Sergeants on the Harlesden Town Centre Team. I have worked in this role for about 15 months and spend most of my policing days within Harlesden's Town Centre. When I do work elsewhere, I am often posted with the borough's response team officers. In conversation about my work these officers often tell me 2 things; That they feel like they don't get called to Harlesden as much any more and that they are glad Vybz bar is shut because they don't get called to serious assaults outside Vybz bar at 5am almost every Saturday and Sunday morning involving it's drunken patrons. In my experience no other venue on the borough has anywhere near such a reputation for serious violence as Vybz Bar. I am told that 1 Craven Park Road is still owned by the same people and although the name of the proposed licensee and proposed name of the venue has changed I have every belief that being under the same ownership will lead to the same problems.

Craven Park Road, and Harlesden in general, is not well served by public transport in the early hours of the morning for the patrons leaving the proposed Palm Island Lounge. In my experience, while Vybz Bar was open it attracted people to drive there from all over London and it's patrons were responsible for most of the cars parked in the vicinity. I can only imagine Palm Island Lounge will attract the same clientele. This is obviously concerning for a business whose main income is from the supply of alcohol and no doubt will lead to drink driving and it's known dangers.

Harlesden Town Centre, although it is a busy high street type environment, is actually a largely residential area. Most of the shops have 2 floors of flats immediately above the business. Usually there are 3-6 flats above each business. I have visited a number of these flats in the course of my duty and found they contain anything from single residents to large families with many children. This means that any business causing issues affects a large number of residents that would not be the case in other town centres such as Harrow or Uxbridge where there are far fewer dwellings. I cannot imagine what the residents living above and near Vybzs Bar went through having broken sleep every weekend with drunk people shouting and fighting outside all through the night. It is not suitable to have a night club surrounded by residential premises.

I have noticed on patrols recently that by 11pm almost all the businesses in the Harlesden Town Centre have shut and the footfall and traffic have largely died off. This is no doubt a great relief to the residents of the area.

In short, a late night bar is not in keeping with the area. If this license were granted it is likely to lead to an increase in crime and disorder that will need police resources to deal with. It is highly likely to lead to ASB experienced by the large number of residents in the area every night the premises is open and this ASB will be of the nature that has a significant detrimental impact on the residents of the area.

Respectfully submitted for consideration.

Sergeant Chris Millar 376NW
Harlesden Town Centre Team
Harlesden Police Station.