

From: edwards alcuin [REDACTED]  
Sent: 14 October 2016 13:50  
To: Business Licence; tulip; oliver.denton  
Subject: The GoodShip

Good afternoon.

It has come to my attention that The Good Ship in Kilburn is threatened with closure due to unacceptable changes to the venue's licence conditions. I find this shocking.

I have been playing on the London music scene for almost eight years and have played at the Good Ship several times with two different bands as well as attending performances there by friends.

In all that time, I have found the Good Ship (which is sadly the only small independent music venue remaining in the whole of Brent) to be one of the safest and most delightful venues around, with a beautiful and unique stage and with the management taking every measure possible to ensure the safety of customers, performers and neighbours.

Venues like the Good Ship can and do bring customers to other businesses in the area who might never have been there otherwise. I lived in Kilburn briefly in 1982 but since then, I have only been there to attend or play at events at the Good Ship or occasionally to shop in the area in the daytime after seeing things in shop windows as a result of visiting the Good Ship in the evening.

I'm not a young man, in fact, I am coming up to retirement, but I have never felt threatened by the clientele at the Good Ship, no matter how late I have stayed. Neither have I seen ANY signs whatsoever of crime or disorder outside or inside the venue.

I hope that you will reconsider.

Best Wishes

Alcuin Edwards

From: Adrian Jeakings [REDACTED]

Sent: 25 October 2016 17:16

To: Business Licence

Subject: The Good Ship

Dear Brent Council

I am writing to protest about the proposed changes to the license hours of The Good Ship on Kilburn High Road. The proposed changes would severely damage and potentially kill the business which would damage the community fabric of the borough by depriving new bands, local charities and other groups of a venue as well as destroying an excellent comedy club. I have never witnessed any trouble at The Good Ship. Please do not commit this act of social vandalism.

Regards

Adrian Jeakings

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Annie Lorenzini [REDACTED]  
Sent: 19 October 2016 18:42  
To: Business Licence  
Subject: The Good Ship

To the Brent Licence Department

It comes as shocking news to myself and the wider community to hear The Good Ship is under threat of closure due to restricting it's opening hours.

In my experience, I have always felt the security was under control and very rarely was there any trouble. From my experience, situations are handled responsibly by security and bar staff. In fact, I would often frequent The Good Ship to watch bands and acts whilst I was pregnant, 9 years ago.

The crowd inside are genuinely there to have a good time but there are sadly a few who let it down for everybody else. I think this is the case with any venue or shop or any public space in fact. It could happen at any time of the day, anywhere.

I do not think it is fair that The Good Ship has to take the brunt of this and will be very sad and disappointed for the bar, it's lovely staff, new and upcoming bands and acts as well as the general community.

It would be sad knowing my child wouldn't have a chance to see live music to her local Brent area if The Good Ship did have to close.

The Good Ship offers something more to Kilburn unlike anything else I've experienced. I had the pleasure to see Adele and Kate Nash play there before they became a name. Closure of the Good Ship would be a disaster for Kilburn with it's dwindling number of cultural venues and general lack of 'things to do'. Please don't let it be another live music venue statistic having to close due to a small number of people. Many whom are passersby who have probably regretted their actions the next day.

Kind regards

A.Lorenzini

**From:** Adrian Papprell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 26 October 2016 14:34  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Subject:** Fwd: The Good Ship - Late Night Licence Renewal

Dear Sir/Madam,

I understand that the late night licence for 'The Good Ship' in Kilburn, is under review & I would like to add my experience to those that you are considering as part of this process.

We lived in Willesden for about 10 years, and spent a good deal of time in venues & establishments along the Kilburn High Road, in preference to trekking into & out from the West End. Searching back through my files, i can see emails relating to bands i saw at The Good Ship back in December 2004 and i suspect i went to many gigs before then.

Despite moving to Harrow some years ago, my wife & I continue to return to Kilburn & the The Good Ship on a regular basis - indeed we went twice last month. Except now when we go out, this usually entails a good dinner with friends at a local restaurant, typically either The North London Tavern, Small & Beautiful, or The Queensbury, prior to moving onto The Good Ship.

When considering the renewal of their licence, I ask you to consider two points:

Firstly, that in all my many years of visiting The Good Ship i have never felt threatened, nor seen violence on the premises. Indeed i would not be such a regular visitor were this not the case. On the very rare occasion of a tense situation occurring, the friendly & highly visible door staff have swiftly been on the spot to calm tempers & defuse the situation, well before it escalates into violence.

Secondly, were it not for live music at The Good Ship, then i doubt i would be visiting Kilburn at all, instead travelling to other live music venues. And so not only would The Good Ship suffer a loss of trade, but also other local businesses, from restaurants & bars to the inevitable taxi home.

Thank you for taking the time to read this note & i look forward to hearing of your decision,

Yours sincerely,

Adrian Papprell

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 15 October 2016 13:43  
To: Business Licence  
Subject: The good ship Kilburn high road

Dear sir / madam

I'm disturbed to hear that it is proposed to restrict the license of the good ship. While I don't visit the venue nearly as much as I used to I've always found it a pleasant, safe and fun environment. I'm not sure what specific issues the police have raised which have necessitated this call for restrictions but I'd hope that they could be worked through including with the local safer neighbourhoods panel.

Kind regards,

Colin

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 14 October 2016 12:18

To: Business Licence

Subject: The Good Ship

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you today with regards to The Good Ships threat of closure by the Police.

First of all, The Good Ship is one of the only live music venues in the entire borough of Brent- which is somewhat outrageous. Considering Brent's claim to being a culturally diverse community, having a venue such as The Good Ship, allows people to experience this diversity in the form of not only a live music, but through comedy and various other forms of art. The Good Ship has regularly become a hub for the community of not just for Kilburn, but the wider area...it has offered its venue for hire, for free (something local halls would not do), to local theatre groups, along with OAP Groups and various charities - The Good Ship has acted as a hub for the not just the arts community but the entire community as a whole.

Following the recent debate around the future of Fabric in Islington, Sadiq Khan has stated that London's venues are an essential part of it's cultural landscape. As a mayor, he is determined to do more to protect them - the Police threatening a small live venues seems somewhat conflicting with the Mayors views of the Live Music scene and they have not provided any form of evidence, where by there has been trouble inside the venue. Sadiq also goes on to state, "we all need to work together to ensure London thrives as a 24-hour city, in a way that is safe and enjoyable for everyone." In which the proposed restriction whereby The Good Ship would be forced to shut it's doors at 12, would vastly restrict the vision of London being a 24 hour city.

I have been to the venue many times, for a host of different events. The doors of The Good Ship are always manned by the security team, with someone signing people in. There are regularly sweeps by the the security team across the venue - this is on both live music nights or even the busier Friday & Saturday night events. I have never come across any trouble in side or outside the venue - which is a testament to the entire team of The Good Ship and how professional they handle everything. The Police have complained about trouble outside of the venue...however surely this would not fall within the limits of The Good Ship, but the Police themselves, as outside the venue constitutes quite a large area. The team at The Good Ship have always kept all punters under control, in the past having arranged cabs for people if needed, rather than having people hang about outside; they have asked people to keep their voices down if they are too loud and so on.

I have been to many pubs, restaurants etc. across the Kilburn area - from my experience The Good Ship, it has been the most professionally run venue in the entirety of Kilburn.

I myself work in the Music Industry, it was venues such as The Good Ship that allowed me to experience unsigned artists and it has played an important part in forming my love for Music as a whole. The Good Ship is a venue that opens it's doors to talent of all experience and skill...they do not take advantage of small bands and seek to provide everyone with an enjoyable experience. The proposed restrictions would ultimately force The Good Ship to close, taking away from the Music scene in London - where we've seen artists such as Kate Nash, Scouting For Girls and Daughters all flourish...and this is all down to venues like The Good Ship.

I plead with you to help support The Good Ship and to allow it to keep it's doors open!

Yours Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction mark covering the signature area.

To the Brent Licensing Team and Licensing Committee;

I am writing regarding the proposed reduction of licensing hours at The Good Ship, 289 Kilburn High Road (NW6). I am very concerned about this proposal, as it will have a huge impact on the only music venue left on Kilburn High Road. It will also stop the Good Ship from being the only late night venue left open on Kilburn High Road at the weekends.

This is in a context which has seen two other pubs on Kilburn High Road closed over the last few months- and with 2 further pubs also under pressure; in addition to this review of the Good Ship. This equates to over half of the pub premises in Kilburn (Brent). This is in contrast to the Mayor of London's understanding of London's nightlife as a key priority.

Kilburn High Road has always been a commercial high road with a diverse and active night time economy- provided by pubs, music venues and restaurants. Over the past 10 years this has reduced significantly and restricting the hours of the Good Ship will hasten this decline. The remaining night time spaces on Kilburn High Road are an integral part of the economic framework of Kilburn, and of Brent- as Kilburn is one of the key night time areas throughout Brent. Without late night venues like the Good Ship continuing to operate with openings hour beyond those proposed in this review- local residents and visitors to Kilburn will simply move their plans elsewhere and Kilburn will no longer benefit from the financial revenue brought by those planning a night out in Kilburn.

Noise is to be expected on a busy commercial high road- it is part of living on a road with 24hr bus and tube access and a variety of late night venues. The Good Ship however is on one of the least residential parts of Kilburn High Road – as it is a standalone building without flats above it and it does not stand on a corner with one of Kilburn's many residential roads. Furthermore, the Good Ship is opposite other licensed premises which operate until 2am and so the recommended restrictions will do little to improve perceived noise nuisance issues in the area.

I personally have been attending the Good Ship for 10 years. I return repeatedly because it is an excellent local venue in which I feel comfortable. It's location on Kilburn High Road also means that it is safe and convenient for many people to travel home from in the early hours of the morning.

Importantly, the Good Ship is also incredibly open to all in the local community. I have hosted and attended many community events and fundraisers at the Good Ship- the management are always welcoming and encouraging of these types of events and the success of these nights and reliability of the venue means it is always the first suggestion when planning local events. The Good Ship also provides a platform to up and coming and local music artists, with an affordable entrance fee- again sadly an ever decreasing rarity in London, and a huge draw to other people to visit Kilburn. As a late night venue, it has



enabled me and others who have been employed in shift work to still socialise when finishing work at late hours.

The level of licensing restriction proposed in this review will have a significantly detrimental impact on the options for affordable entertainment the Good Ship can provide and the very nature of it as a venue. This in turn will have a huge effect on the culture of Kilburn High Road and other businesses

Brent Council's own Pub Protection Policy states that pubs are part of the 'Social Infrastructure' of the Borough and play a vital role in supporting Brent's diverse community, reducing inequality & helping to promote social inclusion & cultural well-being. As outlined above, there are few places in Brent which embody this understanding of the value of a pub than the Good Ship.

I therefore ask that:

- Brent Licensing team and Licensing Committee recognise that a key part of the social value of the Good Ship is as a pub with late night opening hours provision- and work with the Good Ship management to find solutions which enable these hours to be maintained.
- Brent Licensing team develop conditions to the current license with the Good Ship management which support the venue to preserve its role as a cultural and community asset in the local area

Regards

Cllr Rita Conneely  
Kilburn ward; Brent.

From: Claire Munro [REDACTED]  
Sent: 24 October 2016 15:25  
To: Business Licence  
Subject: The Good Ship

Dear sirs

I am writing in support of The Good Ship. As a Kilburn resident for the past eight years I have spent many evenings in the venue, watching up and coming bands and dancing to the DJ. In all that time I have never seen any trouble inside or outside the venue and it has always been a friendly place to be. The door staff are polite and professional, something which cannot be said for many London venues.

As a music fan and someone who works in the music industry I am very aware of the struggles faced by small venues in our city. They need support not persecution and I am pleased to see the mayor taking a lead on this subject. Your support in this crucial area is needed, music and the wider creative industries play a great role in London's economy (and our social lives) and we need to enable this to continue.

Kilburn High Road has historically been a place to see great music and The Good Ship is the last vestige of that and should be protected. This venue provides an essential service for new bands and the venue owner, John McCooke, is dedicated to supporting them. John is also committed to supporting the local community and an important asset would go if a change in licensing rules forced the venue to close.

Regards,

Claire Munro  
[REDACTED] NW6 6AA

**From:** Denise Humphreys [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 26 October 2016 13:55  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Subject:** The Good Ship/London - Supporting Letter

To: Brent Government/Business Licence

D. Humphreys

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Wembley HA0 2QX  
[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Date: 26.10.2016

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Denise Humphreys,

I have been lecturing in Sound Engineering (for the last twenty years) and Music Business at Westminster University and at City of Westminster University in Central London.

I am writing to you to ask you to please look into the future of a venue that is very dear to me and my students, and might I say, that played a leading educational role in the formation of many of my ex-students.

Some of my ex-students are now working in prestigious places like the Royal Opera House and the Brit Awards.

We have been using the Good Ship as a venue where my students have been practicing the art of Sound Engineering and Stage Management; as the venue owner John McCooke has always been supportive and allowing me to take mature students to the venue and give them to practice their skills under our supervision.

Despite the area surrounding the venue being sometimes not at it best, the Good Ship is a very safe and incredibly rare little venue which nurtures young talent in an extremely safe environment.

The audience coming to the gigs is extremely well mannered and well behaved, just like each single member of staff working there (otherwise I would have never taken my students there).

I have been going there regularly for the last five years and I have never ever witnessed any incidents or misbehaviour that had to do anything with the venue, their staff or their clients.

Even the smoking area, just outside the venue, is incredibly safe and well monitored by the venue staff and there have never been any incidents or problems of any type. There are sometimes the occasional characters living in the area passing by on the Kilburn High Road, but they never engage in any activity outside the the Good Ship.

The owner has been supporting my students from City of Westminster College (Paddington Green, London NW2 1NB) for years now.

Also the fact that this is probably the only music venue left in London where the promoters give a 100% of the ticket sales to the musicians (after recouping a very modest fee for the sound engineer fees) shows John McCooke' good intentions, commitment, strong morality and philanthropic attitude towards the community.

I am of course available to be contacted to further discuss these matters, my details are at the top of this letter.

Sincerely Yours,

Denise Humphreys

Lecturer on:

HND in Music Production

@ City of Westminster College, London

Master Degree in Music Business Artist Management

@ University of Westminster, London

From: David Liam [REDACTED]  
Sent: 16 October 2016 19:49  
To: Business Licence  
Subject: The Good Ship

To Brent council

I understand there is a threat to limit or even withdraw the license of The Good Ship in Kilburn High Road. The Good Ship is my local bar and I write as a local resident to express my support of this excellent venue. I have been going to The Good Ship regularly since it opened over ten years ago and have never encountered any problems in the bar or outside it.

I consider myself very fortunate as a senior citizen to have a local bar serving people of all ages and backgrounds, where the atmosphere is friendly and everybody is made to feel welcome. I also enjoy the opportunity to see a range of live bands, as there is nowhere else in Kilburn which offers this.

I hope that there are no restrictions made to The Good Ship, which is strongly supported by the local community.

I am happy to be contacted:

David Dunkley  
[REDACTED]  
London NW6 7LY  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 14 October 2016 14:59

**To:** Business Licence

**Subject:** The Good Ship - Kilburn

Dear Sir / Madame

I am writing in response to Brent council's threat to reduce or even withdraw the current trading licence of the Good Ship on Kilburn High Road.

My wife and I have been regular visitors to the Good Ship since it opened eleven years ago and we consider it to be a vital cultural hub for the community, of the sort that is severely lacking in the Borough of Brent.

Even though we do not live particularly close to The Good Ship (we live in Kensington), we regularly attend live music, comedy, arts and charity fund raising events at the Good Ship and always feel very welcome and extremely safe and secure during our visits.

The staff are always very welcoming, friendly and professional and I have not once seen any kind of disturbances inside or outside of the Good Ship. Quite the opposite actually, the crowd that I experience at the Good Ship all seem to be enjoying themselves and interacting extremely well together.

North West London and in particular Brent, currently have a severe lack of live music and cultural / creative orientated venues. I actually understand that the Good Ship is the only live music venue left in the London Borough of Brent, which is really shocking!

I strongly believe that the Good Ship is vitally important in bringing some creative output to the area for both musicians and purveyors of music and arts and also for bringing some colour to an otherwise relatively bland high road that is full of pound shops and chain outlets.

My strong view is that reducing or even withdrawing the licence of the Good Ship would be a huge error of judgment by the Borough of Brent.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** emily capell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 22 October 2016 22:53  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Subject:** The Good Ship

To whom it may concern

I am a musician from north west london and I have just read an article in this weeks Time Out magazine about the closure of The Good Ship.

The idea that west london will lose that venue is just awful, there is nothing worse! Not only will you lose community but you will lose a slot of london musical history. There are fewer and fewer places left in london for musicians to showcase themselves and The Good Ship is so perfect for that as it is right next door to The ICMP! And the juke box in there is second only to the one at The Dublin Castle!

I am also a QPR season ticket holder and it is a QPR pub. The longest running QPR fanzine is sponsored buy The Good Ship and without its funds we will lose the fanzine too.

I urge you to help save our venues and help save London's music scene. Don't let this be like when they knocked down the Hammersmith Palais.

Close The Good Ship and they'll be chaos in Kilburn and no where for anyone any cool to go and play music, and we lose an iconic piece of london.

Please don't let this happen

Thank you

Emily Capell

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Georgia Grantham [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 17 October 2016 08:53  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Subject:** The Good Ship (Kilburn) - licensing changes

To whom it may concern,

It is with interest that I read of your licensing review of the Good Ship on Kilburn High Road. I am a local resident and although I have now moved closer to West Hampstead, I lived almost directly opposite the Good Ship for 2.5 years from 2012 - 2015, attending the venue on multiple occasions. I never experienced an anti-social atmosphere of any kind and in fact, on nights when I would be walking home from other venues the clientele of the Good Ship were a welcome presence on the High Road.

I would note the role that the Good Ship fulfils in supporting local and new music talent before considering altering licensing that could affect the venue's livelihood.

Kind regards

Georgia Grantham



**From:** Grace Moore [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 26 October 2016 22:34  
**To:** oliver.denton@parliament.uk; tulip@tulipsiddiq.com; Business Licence  
**Subject:** Appeal for The Good Ship

Dear all,

I have recently been made aware that the Good Ship is under threat of closure due to insistence that the venue must close at 2am - I would like to join the many in appealing this decision. I speak as both a former employee of the venue and lifelong Brent resident, that it would be a travesty to lose this vibrant venue from Brent. It is not merely a "club" it is a venue with the most fantastic variety of events which really brighten up the nightlife in the area. From comedy nights to live music, film screenings for the elderly to charity events (where John provides free hire), this is a venue that truly serves the community and has created an inclusive artistic hub which compliments the neighbouring Tricycle Theatre, where I worked as Marketing Assistant in 2015/2016.

Where Kilburn once had a famous thriving music scene, The Good Ship is the last venue providing live music which has been a fantastic addition to a run down high road. To shut the venue down due to police incidents is illogical, by this logic then the whole high road ought to be shut down as this is where the criminality comes into play. These incidents are by no means produced by the presence of the Good Ship, these are caused by the violence in the whole of Brent, which I'm sure you're aware is extremely dangerous and outwith the venue's control. To shut the place down means that one of the last glimmering lights of culture that remain in Kilburn will be removed, the only other being the Tricycle Theatre (which is under construction for the next year). I would suggest greater police presence in the area is a necessity, rather than scapegoating one popular business. Closing will not mean the end of criminality on Kilburn high road, it simply means the people causing incidents (who are refused entry) will move onto other pubs and clubs in the area.

Having worked in the bar I know how conscientious John McCooke, the bar staff and bouncers are on ensuring the safety of their patrons, which is implemented through very strict closing times on the door and a restrictive admissions policy. Working in the venue as a 19 year old I never felt at risk, I knew we had professionals on the door ensuring that troublemakers (a guarantee in NW6) were refused entry and arguments quickly squashed. Attending the venue I always feel safe for the very same reasons, if I didn't I would not put myself or friends at risk. As Marketing Assistant at the Tricycle Theatre I learned that the theatre has enjoyed a great long-standing relationship with the Goodship as fellow culture hubs of the community, who work together on reciprocal marketing (due to strong audience crossover) and reaching out to the youth of the community at various local freshers fairs.

The Good Ship is a venue that serves the community through various art forms and community events. Its presence should be encouraged to remain as it is one of the only culture hubs left in this impoverished borough. Having known John for five years I can vouch for his commitment to excellence in the venue, his treatment of staff and his generosity to the community through free venue hire, good wages and cheap ticket prices. His ethics are manifest in the Good Ship; its staff and the varied artistic programme that reaches out to a deprived neighbourhood. I am proud to have been an active part of both culture centres of Kilburn, long may they both continue.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, I sincerely hope the right decision is made.

Kind regards,

Grace Moore

**From:** Hannah Marie Gatt [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 17 October 2016 12:02  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Subject:** The Good Ship

Dear Brent council team,

My name is Hannah Marie Gatt and I am a vocalist and singing teacher based in North London who regularly performs at The Good Ship, and attends both music and comedy nights at the venue. I lived in Kilburn for 2 years myself, and found The Good Ship to be a warm, welcoming, safe and pleasant place, and a cultural jewel on an otherwise bland high road. The venue has been a life line- an encouraging, warm and friendly place that has benefited it's community for years, especially the budding musicians who attend the nearby Institute of Contemporary Music. The fact that it is the only music venue in Brent makes it even more valuable. It's presence is an asset and a symbol of cultural significance to young musicians and creatives that live in the area. To lose it would be sad and undoubtedly the borough would be less colourful and cultured for this loss. Simple things like the presence of a beloved music venue impact on how desirable an area is to live in, as people see their opportunities and identities reflected in such landmarks. As a musician who was new to London, I always felt at home at The Good Ship (a venue who also have a great reputation for their integrity and the fact they pay their performers fairly) I currently live in Kentish Town, and the Good Ship is always my reason to returning to Brondesbury/ Kilburn. Whenever I teach a new student who is fronting a band, I always encourage them to perform at The Good Ship, where they will receive a warm welcome, and in turn, share their talents with the people of Brent.

As a musician, teacher and proud resident of North London, I ask you to please consider the value and vibrancy that The Good Ship brings to the borough before making potentially damaging changes to the legislation/licensing.

According to the DCMS, The UK's creative industries are worth a staggering 84 billion to the UK economy. In light of this, we must protect our creative hubs and look to the future. Please don't let us lose another gem.

Yours Sincerely,

Hannah Marie Gatt  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Josh Barber [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15 October 2016 12:06  
**To:** Business Licence; tulip@tulipsiddiq.com; [oliver.denton@parliament.uk](mailto:oliver.denton@parliament.uk)  
**Subject:** The Good Ship

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you, as well as several others, after hearing the news that The Good Ship may be under threat of closure due to new license rules.

I am a professional musician, born and raised in London and The Good Ship is one of the reasons I can say that. For as long as I can remember The Good Ship has been a load bearing part of original music in London, offering a great space and experience for all manor of original bands and artists.

Over the years I have performed with various different acts at The Good Ship and have only ever experienced a great enviroment within the venue. Even when not playing at the venue, I have stopped by on the way home from performing elsewhere, knowing that The Good Ship would be one of the only places still open, full of good music and good people. Having a place like The Good Ship is so important, not only for the local community, but for the musicians community in London.

One of the main arguments put forward in wanting to change the license of The Good Ship is that there is a problem with public safety and anti-social behavior outside of the venue. What worries me is that recently there has been a number of different late night music venues in London closed down for the same reasons. As someone who makes their living playing at different venues all over the world, I can say that this problem should not be put on the establishments. If we do blame the venues, then we will start ourselves on a very slippery slope of simply closing down every late night establishment all together. As someone who has frequented The Good Ship for almost a decade, I can say that it is one of the best run and, for lack of a better word, safe venues I have ever been to.

What is being proposed would, without a shadow of a doubt, lead to the closure of The Good Ship, arguably extinguishing the last remaining flame of original art in northwest London. I began performing live music in venues when I was fifteen years old, since then I have had to watch London be slowly purged of its live music, high streets and areas becoming lifeless husks, venues replaced by new build flats and gastro pubs. In recent years London has lost Earl's Court, The Bull & Gate, Infinity, Powers Bar, The Luminaire, Passing Clouds, The Walthamstow Standard, The Peel, The Flowerpot, The Astoria, Madame Jojos, The Buffalo Bar, The Joiners Arms and countless pubs and bars that have succumbed to change in license and economic down turn.

I urge you to not make the proposed changes to the license of The Good Ship. Friedrich Nietzsche once said "Without music, life would be a mistake" please don't make the mistake of putting in motion a series of events that will force the closure of one of the last sanctuaries of original live music in London.

Regards,  
Josh Barber



From: James Bohrsmann [REDACTED]  
Sent: 27 October 2016 11:26  
To: Business Licence  
Subject: The Good Ship

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in regard to the potential license changes for The Good Ship venue in Brent, which I'm told may put the venue at risk.

I manage bands who have performed various nights at the venue over the past year and as such I have spent time in the venue itself, as well as working with the staff.

I'd like to write in support of the venue and to outline my experience of it, which has always been a positive one. On each occasion I've visited The Good Ship for an event, the crowd has been extremely friendly & well-behaved.

On the London music circuit The Good Ship is well-known as a fantastic breeding ground for up-and-coming bands, and as a venue that is always willing to give unknown artists an opportunity to perform. It is also a unique venue in regard to the layout - something that sets it aside from other London spots. They also promote all of their gigs in-house, which is time-consuming and challenging, and something they continue to do admirably. It is also the only music venue of it's kind in the area, and brings a very welcome and positive bit of character to Kilburn highstreet. Nowadays music venues such as this are sadly dying out and it's so important that we all do what we can to facilitate their survival - including regulations that support their success.

Overall The Good Ship is bringing many people to the area every week to perform and to attend gigs - people that would quite simply not visit the area otherwise. This, in my opinion, makes the venue an integral part of the local landscape and it should therefore not be subject to regulatory changes that may hinder it's ability to survive.

I hope my input can go some way to supporting the venue in it's attempts to move forward.

Best Regards,  
James

From: John Duffy [REDACTED]  
Sent: 14 October 2016 13:13  
To: Business Licence; tulip@tulipsiddiq.com; [oliver.denton@parliament.uk](mailto:oliver.denton@parliament.uk)  
Subject: The Good Ship

A quick note to all parties regarding the Good Ship in Kilburn High Road.

I have been going to this venue since it opened, and I am talking about one hundred times at least. I have never seen any bad or annoying conduct at this venue, and I think it would be dreadful for Kilburn High Road if it is forced to close down. When I have been there it has always been safe and secure, and I have never had problems returning to my house even after a late night. This venue gives some real life to a bland High Road, and I think as a place that gives chances to up and coming musicians like the students at the nearby Institute of Contemporary Music in Dyne Road must be allowed to remain open.

London is a great city with brilliant night life, and one of the reasons for this is because it contains bars like The Good Ship. Thank you for your time.

John Duffy  
[REDACTED]  
Kilburn NW6 7LY

From: Jim Hearn, Atlas Translations Ltd [REDACTED]

Sent: 17 October 2016 09:54

To: Business Licence

Subject: Please Save the Good Ship!



**From:** Jafar Hassan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 October 2016 17:52  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Subject:** Don't close The Good Ship

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to ask for your efforts to ensure The Good Ship remains an important part of London's nightlife, and especially to those living in and around Brent and Kilburn.

I want to tell you first why The Good Ship means so much to me and why I see the security of its future as something all of us need to be concerned about, and especially why none of us can afford to sit on the sidelines while London's nightlife continues to be dismantled.

I grew up in NW London, a community that often felt ignored and under represented in government. Despite Wembley Stadium which simply shuffles people from the surrounding stations into the venue and right out seemingly preventing anyone from actually experiencing the reality of the area we have often been an afterthought. There is no denying that.

I went to a school which had a head teacher who had received the highest honor from the queen. My mum, a single parent immigrant from Iraq, naively believed this put NW on the map, that this was indeed a good school. As you know, he was stealing money from the school and deprived us of a real education. He wasn't sent to prison, and neither were his accomplices (one of whom served as an adviser to David Cameron), so this is the sense of justice I became attuned to growing up and thus learned to accept.

I've lived with the pervading sense of despair, the council's inability to do anything about the hundreds of fried chicken shops and betting shops that continue to damage the health of our community. I've lived with the acceptance that new luxury apartments are unbelievably still being built when our community has the lowest wages and highest rents ratio in all of London. I've lived with the area having some of the worst pollution levels in all of the country. We can suffocate our children and we can't educate them, but we can build one of the most incredible stadiums in the world.

I've seen many of my friends give up all hope, and could you blame them? When our government seems not only powerless against the rising tide of corporate greed and sleaze, but almost appears to embrace it entirely, what hope is there for people in our community?

But here's why I didn't give up. Unlike many of the people I grew up around, I had an outlet. I was able to sing and play guitar and I was able to go to The Good Ship to perform and watch other people like me perform.

I want to be very clear about what The Good Ship is: it is a NW institution. Bigger than Wembley Stadium, bigger than the arena, bigger than Zadie Smith. This is the one place that reminds us that we do matter.

My parents who did not have an amicable divorce, by the way happily attend my gigs together at The Good Ship. They feel safe there more than anywhere else in the whole area. The Good Ship is the one reason I can convince my friends to visit NW. Shows at The Good Ship are the rare occasion I don't have to get on the Jubilee line and ride for 30 minutes to meet my friends because they say there is nothing for us to do in NW.

This is the ONLY music venue in the whole area. That is something we cannot surely think is acceptable. This country is great because of our soft power, our ability to shape our internal world for the benefit of our society and communities around the world, and I'm not talking Harry Potter and Downton Abbey. I'm talking the Rolling Stones, Sex Pistols, and many other of the finest British bands. It's music and the arts that tell the stories of those who didn't always get a voice, and that reaches those who are still finding theirs. It all starts at venues like The Good Ship. Not at Wembley Stadium.

And if you allow The Good Ship to close, it'll be a further reminder that, yet again, our voices have not just been ignored, but that they never mattered in the first place.

I hope you will get back to me to let me know how you can help on this matter.

Thank you,

Jafar Hassan

**From:** Joey Instone [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 18 October 2016 14:36  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Subject:** The Good Ship

To Whom It May Concern,

After seeing the article in TimeOut where The Good Ship asked people who have enjoyed their time at the venue to write to you in support of it's late license I wanted to share my story with you:

On a Saturday afternoon one January I received a phone call from my friend asking "what you doing tonight? fancy seeing Rudy's friends bands gig?" after umm-ing and ahh-ing (I was trying to have a quiet January) I agreed to go. Figuring that I didn't have any other plans and I always enjoy live music.

Later that evening and we arrived at The Good Ship, we listened to some really great bands playing music that resonates the wonderful part about going to live gigs in London: Finding new music and supporting peoples dreams.

After the show finished, at around 11:30, a DJ started to play current indie tracks mixed with a healthy dose of 'oldies' I found myself dancing around to Paul Simon's 'Call me Al' when I was bumped into, my drink knocked out of my hand and all down my arm, trousers, and shoes. Furious, I looked around for who had not only disrupted 'my groove' but seemly drenched me in beer. I found the face of a man who looked looked pretty sheepish, he said "I'm so sorry, can I by you another drink?" His name was John, and on the 19th August this year we got married.

Since we met on that 'quiet' January night, we've enjoyed so many nights at the Good Ship, some for friends gigs, and some just because there is always good music to dance to. It would be such a shame to see the last decent live music venue close down. And hope that you can work **with** the Good Ship and the local police to come to a resolution.

Kind regards,

Joey

**From:** Jon Kelly [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 21 October 2016 11:21  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Subject:** Proposed Good Ship licence changes

Dear sir/madam,

I am a Brent resident and council tax-payer and would like to protest in the strongest terms against the proposed changes to The Good Ship's licence.

I have visited the Good Ship on many occasions over the past decade and have always found it safe and well-run. The staff are conscientious and diligent when it comes to keeping customers and the wider public secure. Because of this I have never witnessed any kind of trouble within the venue.

The venue's management have warned that what is being proposed will result in it closing down and this will be a disaster for Kilburn High Road and Brent more generally. It plays an important life in the cultural life of the community and I expect my local authority to promote enterprises that do this, not shut them down.

It also seems utterly ridiculous that this is being proposed shortly after the opening of the Night Tube and at a time when the Mayor of London is promoting the night economy as key to their city's progress. What is being suggested will simply result in late-night revelers (who will not go away) drinking instead outdoors or in unlicensed premises after hours. This will be bad for public order and bad for local residents such as me.

I hope the council will disregard these ill-considered proposals and instead take measures that help, not close down, local businesses and cultural venues.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Kelly

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NW6 7XW

[REDACTED]

From: Karyn Berrisford [REDACTED]  
Sent: 14 October 2016 20:36  
To: Business Licence  
Subject: The Good Ship

Dear Madam / Sir,

I am writing regarding Brent Council's threat to reduce or withdraw the current trading licence of the Good Ship on Kilburn High Road.

I was a regular visitor to the Good Ship between 2005 and 2010 when I lived in Neasden, sometimes going twice or more times a week to see comedy, live music, participate in quizzes or just to have a dance. I often attended the venue unaccompanied, as it was one of those rare places where a woman (or indeed a man) could go on their own, not feel intimidated and be made welcome by the friendly staff. Although I have lived in the North West of England for the last six years, I do my best to attend the Good Ship when I visit family and friends in London, and chose to hold my 40th birthday celebration there in 2015. I have never witnessed any aggression in the Good Ship, either inside or outside the venue. The professionalism of both the bar staff and door staff always make the venue feel like a safe place to enjoy oneself and to make new friends.

Given that the Good Ship is the last music venue in Brent, it would be a huge loss to the borough, and to Kilburn in particular, if it is forced to close. While that end of Kilburn High Road was once an exciting place to go out to in the evening, the sad demise of both the Luminaire and Powers meant that the Good Ship's role in bringing some creative output to the area became even more vitally important. The presence of the Good Ship also benefits other bars and restaurants nearby, as people who wish to attend the Good Ship's creative and cultural events will eat and drink near to the venue.

I strongly feel that Brent Council's decision to reduce or even withdraw the Good Ship's licence would be hugely damaging for Kilburn, both culturally and economically.

Yours faithfully,

Karyn Berrisford

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

--

**From:** Kieran Mahon [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 16 October 2016 21:02

**To:** Business Licence

**Subject:** The Good Ship, NW6

I am writing because I am shocked and appalled to hear the news of The Good Ship having its licence reviewed.

The Good Ship is a superb venue for live music supporting hundreds of grassroots performers.

You need to have a very good think about who and what you represent.

**From:** Kevin McSweeney [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 24 October 2016 20:52  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Subject:** The Good Ship

Dear Sir/Madam

I am contacting you regards the licence review for The Good Ship, Kilburn High Road. The Good Ship is a brilliant electric venue, that offers something unique in North West London.

I have never seen any trouble when I have attended a gig at the venue.

London's music scene has lost alot venues in recent years, there is no point in TFL investing in the all night tube on Friday and Saturday nights, if licensing authorities continue place restrictions on late music venues, which put their in jeopardy.

Whilst you mightn't attend gigs at The Good Ship, many people do, please don't alter the current licence, North West London needs The Good Ship

Thank you for your time

Kevin McSweeney

From: Karla Styblova [REDACTED]  
Sent: 26 October 2016 20:28  
To: oliver.denton@parliament.uk; tulip@tulipsiddiq.com; Business Licence  
Subject: The Good Ship

Dear all,

I thought I would contact you to let you know why I believe The Good Ship on Kilburn High Road should not be closed.

It is a cultural focal point for not only people from the area but also tourist and visitors from all over the world who visit Kilburn. I myself am from another country and met my life partner in the Good Ship. Ive been going there for over ten years and always felt a friendly atmosphere and welcomed.

It would be real shame for the whole area if The Good Ship had to close.

Kind regards,

Karla Styblova



**From:** K Tregoning [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15 October 2016 11:47  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Subject:** The Good Ship

Dear sir/ madam,

I'm so disappointed to learn that The Good Ship, Kilburn's last remaining music venue, is facing the threat of closure due to Brent Council changing their opening and entry hours.

The decline of the area is really sad for locals to see. This venue is a major drawcard to Kilburn, which will only become even more deserted and dangerous without decent venues like The Good Ship and The Tricycle to attend.

Aside from the benefit to Kilburn, it would be a tragedy to drive out a landlord who is putting his own blood, sweat and tears into keeping his home suburb of London alive - a genuine passion rather than a lucrative endeavour.

I urge you to consider the effect this will have on our area.

Kind regards,

Nicola Tregoning

--

From: Lauren Long [REDACTED]

Sent: 15 October 2016 20:15

To: Business Licence

Subject: The Good Ship - Kilburn

Hello

I have read in the press that Brent Council's licensing committee is considering whether to restrict the terms of The Good Ship's licence and require it to close earlier than it does at present.

Please do not restrict The Good Ship's opening hours. The management have stated that it would be unable to operate as a business if you do, and London cannot afford to lose another small live music venue. The Good Ship is a great place in the heart of Brent where new bands and other artists can perform. Mayor Sadiq Khan has voiced his support for London's night-time economy; please don't threaten it by restricting The Good Ship's licence.

I understand the concerns raised by the Police but if The Good Ship closes then its loss will be damaging to local community and the Kilburn High Road will lose a little more of what makes it special.

I urge the council to continue to cooperate with the management at The Good Ship to resolve the issues identified by the Police and not restrict the licence which will result in the venue being closed.

Kind regards

Lauren

**From:** lisa moore <lisa\_moore85@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** 14 October 2016 12:16  
**To:** Business Licence; oliver.denton@parliament.uk;  
[tulip@tulipsiddiq.com](mailto:tulip@tulipsiddiq.com)  
**Subject:** The Good Ship

*Dear Sir/Madam,*

*I'm shocked and saddened to hear that the Good Ship may be forced to close it's doors at midnight. It's one of the last decent late night venues in London. It's a place where you can enjoy a drink and have an in depth conversation about the tragic demise of the local music scene.*

*Every time I've been to The Good Ship I have enjoyed my evening with no hassle, no bad feeling and certainly no violence.*

*This is a grass roots venue where young artists and comedians learn the trade and develop as performers. Its a creative melting pot for musicians, promoters, agents and the like. The industry need places like The Good Ship. John and his team do an amazing job at keeping a fresh and exciting program running and it would be an absolute travesty to impose restrictions that could jeopardise this.*

*Kind Regards,*

*Lisa*

From: Leonie Trainor [REDACTED]  
Sent: 22 October 2016 21:47  
To: Business Licence

Subject: The Good Ship

Hello.

I have been a Kilburn resident for the last 3 years and I love the diverse nature of the highroad. I understand there is a proposal for The Good Ship to have an earlier closing time and I am writing to voice my view as a resident and visitor to the Good ship that I think this is a poor decision by the council and will be of detriment to the neighborhood and all it has to offer.

Please consider to support the Good Ship and allow the current opening hours to remain.

Kind regards

Leonie

From: Mark Andrews [REDACTED]  
Sent: 21 October 2016 15:19  
To: Business Licence  
Subject: The Good Ship Kilburn

Dear Sir/Madam,

Having lived in Kilburn for four years we are writing to you to express how annoyed we are at the threat to close The Good Ship. In Kilburn, there is nowhere else where we can watch live music. We can head down there most nights of the week (we live five minutes way) and see almost any genre of music live. The reason we live in Kilburn is because it's both affordable and close enough to commute into the city for work but still has some nightlife and culture. This is what distinguishes it from some intolerably dull tube stop like Leyton or Archway.

We have never had any issues with violence or trouble of any kind there. This seems like just another excuse to close down a nightlife venue! There really is no point living in Kilburn if you're going to let the soul of the place be slowly clipped away until it becomes just another dormitory town to sleep in between working hours.

Best,

Mark Andrews

[REDACTED] Kilburn

**From:** Mahmood, Councillor Arshad  
**Sent:** 14 October 2016 01:44  
**To:** Patel, Yogini; Desai, Looqman  
**Cc:** Kwateng, Joe; Long, Councillor Janice  
**Subject:** Fwd: Good Ship, Kilburn licensing restriction

Dear All,

I hope you are well.

I am forwarding two emails that have been received from Michael Calderbank and John McCooke regarding Good Ship Kilburn ,please record as representations/approaches as appropriate .

Thank you

Best regards

Arshad

Cllr Arshad Mahmood  
Labour Councillor For Dollis Hill Ward  
London Borough of Brent  
Chair of Brent Licensing Committee  
[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** John McCooke [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 11 October 2016 at 12:22:36 BST  
**To:** MICHAEL CALDERBANK [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** "[cldr.arshad.mahmood@brent.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.arshad.mahmood@brent.gov.uk)" <[cldr.arshad.mahmood@brent.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.arshad.mahmood@brent.gov.uk)>, Councillor Rita Conneely <[cldr.rita.conneely@brent.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.rita.conneely@brent.gov.uk)>, "[cldr.barbara.pitruzzella@brent.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.barbara.pitruzzella@brent.gov.uk)" <[cldr.barbara.pitruzzella@brent.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.barbara.pitruzzella@brent.gov.uk)>, "Cllr:Janice Long Cllr" <[cldr.janice.long@brent.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.janice.long@brent.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Re: Good Ship, Kilburn licensing restriction

Many thanks for your kind words Michael. Hello Councillor Mahmood, I am presently preparing a document in reply to the police's representation. It is a bit long winded and the measures that we are adapting are ongoing but I will have it for certain within a fortnight.

John

On Tue, Oct 11, 2016 at 11:47 AM, MICHAEL CALDERBANK

████████████████████ wrote:

Dear Cllr Mahmood,

I'm contacting you as Chair of the Chair of the Alcohol and Licensing Committee regarding the following story in the Kilburn Times:

[http://www.kilburntimes.co.uk/news/last\\_live\\_music\\_venue\\_in\\_kilburn\\_under\\_threat\\_of\\_closure\\_1\\_4725670](http://www.kilburntimes.co.uk/news/last_live_music_venue_in_kilburn_under_threat_of_closure_1_4725670)

I appreciate you have to take concerns expressed by the police seriously. However, I'd urge you to proceed with the utmost caution in restricting their Licensing Hours, since such restrictions would place into question the ongoing financial viability of the venue. The Good Ship is to my knowledge the only live music venue in the borough, and its loss to both the cultural life and night-time economy of Brent would be considerable.

I'm sure that the proprietor is taking every step to mitigate anti-social behaviour at, or more particularly outside, the venue.

Best wishes

Dr Michael Calderbank  
Secretary, Brent Central Labour Party.

████████████████████

--

27<sup>th</sup> October 2016

To whom it may concern,

My name is Makeila Estelle and I am one of four members of a small independent music promotions team going by the name REHAB Presents. As REHAB, I work alongside my colleagues Martyn Hall, Martin Bonner and Rob Taylor to put on live music nights and Open Mic nights, as well as producing podcasts and generally trying to support grass roots music – both venues and performers. I am writing in connection with the license review of The Good Ship, Kilburn High Road, and wish to offer our support to John McCooke, his team and his venue. We feel there are a number of reasons why The Good Ship is important to us and to the local area.

Firstly on a cultural level, The Good Ship is now the only dedicated music venue remaining Kilburn. Whilst there are a number of bars which put on live nights, the loss of The Illuminare and then Powers Bar in recent years means the area has no other space or venue solely championing music as its core value. The Good Ship still endeavors to put on live music most nights a week as well as the weekend and it does this, not to make a profit, but to support the music scene and musical ambitions of many bands from the city and further afield. If the proposed closing hours and last entry time are implemented the venue would struggle to sustain its musical programming, which is supplemented by the later running club nights running costs. It would also lose out on the custom of punters looking for somewhere to go when they have to leave pubs at midnight, because it would not be permitted to allow them entry. This would undoubtedly lead to its closure and thus Kilburn with no live music venues at all. This can only be a loss to the areas cultural offering.

Secondly, we have all worked with John and or the venue in different capacities. For example, I have put on a number of live nights, both independently and through my role as Events Executive at the Institute of Contemporary Music Performance. I have also worked with John on local community activities, such as the Kilburn Festival when it used to take place. Martyn Hall is a freelance sound engineer who has regularly worked at The Good Ship producing gigs for bands at a range of levels – some playing their first gig, others more experienced. Martin Bonner has felt John's support for music in having been booked to play the venue a number of times with his band. Through our experience of working with him we are all very aware of the unwavering support that he (as an individual and through his venue) gives to the musical scene, and feel this is an important aspect to be considered in the case.

Let's not add to that loss by losing this longstanding part of the community, but work with John and his venue to resolve any problems that have led to this case. We have always found the venue to be a very supportive and friendly place to go for gigs and I am not aware of any of the hundreds of students that I personally work with that have used the venue as a performance or social space ever having any problems there. I know that John is more than willing to put in place the resources and strategies necessary to develop aspects of security even more, but if the proposed rulings are passed it will make it even more difficult for the venue to make these improvements.

I hope that you will take the opinions expressed above into consideration when reviewing the licensing hours of The Good ship in Kilburn. To lose yet another venue in Kilburn, let alone in London and thus the UK would definitely affect the level and variety of cultural activity the area has to offer. It would also serve to be yet another blow to the UK's small music venue scene, which strives so hard to support what has always been such a thriving and renowned musical scene. We strongly believe that the council should be helping to keep the venue alive for the many musical students, performers and audiences that use the venue now and will do in the future, from both within and outside of the local area.

Yours sincerely,

Makeila Estelle



**From:** Ola's Kool Kitchen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 October 2016 13:44  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Subject:** why the goodship should stay open as a venue

To Whom it may Concern,

I'm writing about the proposed closure and limiting times at The Goodship Venue in Kilburn. My name is Mariola and I've been a DJ at the The Goodship since 2012 and I was always safe at my job with the management doing it's best to protect everybody at the venue until the wee hours. Kilburn itself has issues with violence, did you not have somebody murdered at their place of work recently in broad daylight at a cafe across the street from The Goodship? Yet you want to close The Goodship where nothing like that has ever happened with a security team in place to deal with any issues inside.

I'm writing because there is real dearth of culture on Kilburn High street that will only lead to more violence and dissatisfaction manifesting itself with the limited options of good things to do. The Goodship provides a chance for truly alternative music to be heard in Kilburn. It brings in better clientele with students, artists and musicians organizing events of musical and cultural relevance that is desperately needed in the inner city void of Kilburn high street, and will only grow with it's removal. A chance where you can have dance music mixed with punk, indie and alternative alongside more commercial music.

If you truly want to stem the violence in Kilburn I suggest MORE police protection on the street in general and do not limit or destroy places of art and alternative music such as The Goodship that provide a release and better a society.

Regards,

Mariola Fiedorczuk

**From:** Merryn Phillips [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 14 October 2016 12:05

**To:** Business Licence; [REDACTED]

**Subject:** The Good Ship

Dear Sir/Madam,

I'm shocked and saddened to hear that the Good Ship may be forced to close its doors at midnight!? It's one of the last decent late night venues in London where you don't have to endure Kiss FM style 'floor fillers' surrounded by teenagers chewing their cheeks off. It's a place where you can enjoy a drink and have an in depth conversation about the tragic demise of the local music scene.

Every time I've been to The Good Ship I have enjoyed my evening with no hassle, no bad feeling and certainly no violence. I have worked with various bands that have played there and everyone has thoroughly enjoyed themselves too. In fact, it's one of the few places where bands actually stick around for a few drinks afterwards (which is rarer than you may think).

This is a grass roots venue where young artists and comedians learn the trade and develop as performers. Its a creative melting pot for musicians, promoters, agents and the like. The industry need places like The Good Ship. John and his team do an amazing job at keeping a fresh and exciting program running and it would be an absolute travesty to impose restrictions that could jeopardise this.

Kind Regards,

Merryn Phillips

**From:** Max Snyder [REDACTED]

**Sent:** October 2016 16:10

**To:** Business Licence

**Subject:** The Good Ship

To whom it may concern,

I urge you to think very carefully about reducing the opening hours of the Good Ship. London has lost a hige number of pubs, clubs and live venues in the last few years and councils and police should be supporting venues to stay open, not making it harder for them. The younger generation, of which I am beyond, is losing out on an essential part of London& I had no idea how lucky I was with the choice of nightlife I had 20 years ago.

Max Snyder

Product Manager StaffNurse.com

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Natalie Taylor [REDACTED]  
Sent: 18 October 2016 12:38  
To: Business Licence  
Subject: The Good ship threat of closure

To whom it may concern,

Regarding the recent news of the possible closure of the local venue The good ship in Kilburn I felt compelled to write to tell you of my only ever positive experiences of this venue.

I started going to this venue as a student when studying at the Central School of Speech and Drama. Since then I have been too many times to count but certainly often enough that I and my friends became known to the owner for being regulars. So much so that we held three successive halloween nights from 2011 to 2013. John was always very fair and vigilant and if he thought anyone was causing trouble or too drunk he would ask them to leave. I have seen countless musicians and comedians at this venue and it really is the last of it's kind serving Kilburn. It provides a good venue for the local music collage giving them a chance to learn and grow and experience. To take John and the Goodship away would be doing a disservice to young people. While I no longer frequent the place as much as I once did I still hold my nights out there as some of my most favourite - not least because I could walk home but also the sheer fun and enjoyment we had, one of my best friends met his wife one night in the Goodship - they even named their top table after the it.

The problem in the area isn't with live music venues and bars it's with the area itself, instead of taking away industry we need to be tackling the grass roots problem of youth engagement in the Kilburn area. Instead of closing flourishing well received business we should be providing better resources to disengaged and disadvantaged young people. Not once in 10 years have I ever heard anyone speak about the Goodship with anything other than fondness, not once have I ever felt threatened when in the venue and in all the times that I have been have I ever witnessed seen a fight inside or disruptive behaviour outside other than people who are actually walking by the venue and trying to aggravate those that are smoking outside. To lose the Goodship would be a shame for the local (and to be fair national) community of musicians as well as the established comedians that perform there.

With kind regards and much hope

Natalie

Natalie Taylor [REDACTED] Production Manager.

To whom it may concern,

My name is Paul Kirkham and I am Chief Executive of The Institute of Contemporary Music Performance (ICMP), one of the UK's leading independent providers of higher education and home to over 900 full-time students. I write in connection with the license review of The Good Ship, Kilburn High Road, and wish to offer our support to John and his establishment.

The Good Ship is important for us for many reasons. Firstly, the venue plays an important role in the development of our students' careers. It is regularly used by them as a performance space, either as part of their courses or as part of their musical groups and the projects they undertake. This opportunity to develop their skills and experience in a real live venue is of the utmost important to them.

Secondly, The Good Ship provides invaluable cultural value to Kilburn. Since the sad demise of the Luminaire and, more recently, Powers Bar, this area has been left with only The Good Ship as a music and performance venue. Should the proposed closing hours and last entry time be implemented the venue would struggle to compete against pubs and would undoubtedly close leaving the area without a single music and live performance venue.

The ICMP is of course a significant local business, employing over 100 staff in addition to our large student body. Much of the significant economic activity generated by us is therefore beneficial directly locally and it is important to us that the area is vibrant and attractive both to local residents as well as to visitors. It is my firm belief that the loss of The Good Ship would have a detrimental effect on the local economy – and the lost economic activity would not just disappear, it would undoubtedly transfer to Camden or similar areas of London.

Thirdly, as an education institution involved directly in training musicians and performers for the music industry, we have long supported small music venues which we believe make up the backbone of London's music scene. Our research department recently concluded a study on the experiences of independent music venue owners, with funding from the Independent Venues Week & Music Venues Trust (using a grant from Arts Council England). This report was published by the Music Venues Trust and launched in Parliament on Monday 9th March 2016. It can be found at:

[https://www.academia.edu/11334790/Report\\_Understanding\\_Small\\_Music\\_Venues\\_A\\_Report\\_by\\_the\\_Music\\_Venue\\_Trust](https://www.academia.edu/11334790/Report_Understanding_Small_Music_Venues_A_Report_by_the_Music_Venue_Trust) and you may be interested to read its conclusions.



Foundation House  
1A Dyne Road  
London NW6 7XG  
+44 (0) 207 328 0222  
enquiries@icmp.co.uk  
[icmp.co.uk](http://icmp.co.uk)

To conclude, I trust that you will take the above facts into consideration when reviewing the licensing hours of The Good ship in Kilburn. To lose such an establishment, which not only sits at the heart of the Kilburn cultural scene but also is the last remaining provider of such services to our community, bringing both economic and cultural benefit, would not only harm the local community, culture and diversity, it would have a huge and direct impact on over 1,000 students and staff who are engaged with the study of music and performance at the highest level just around the corner.

Yours sincerely

Paul Kirkham

Chief Executive

From: Paola Zenti [REDACTED]  
Sent: 26 October 2016 16:52  
To: Business Licence; oliver.denton@parliament.uk; [tulip@tulipsiddiq.com](mailto:tulip@tulipsiddiq.com)  
Subject: please don't close the good ship venue in kilburn high road

To whom it may concern,

I am just writing this e.mail as concerned about the future of THE GOOD SHIP Venue in Kilburn High Road. I know you might take the decision of closing it down and i really hope that won't happen.

I am a customer of The Ship since years, i met tons of lovely people over there (many of them are friends for life), the staff behind the bar has always been great, friendly and able to do the job properly. At the door there's always been a strict selection of people going in so i have never felt in danger inside... actually i enjoyed myself so much each time there.

The Good Ship welcomes new musicians, bands, comedians... whoever wants to show their artistic work, passion and talent to the public. It is fantastic to have a place like that, where to go to listen to good music, dance, have a chat, a drink (or more)... but mostly feeling at home!

I honestly never had any problem at The Good Ship and i have never seen anything wrong either over there. The people at the door and the staff always took good care of us customers!

I hope i will have more great experiences at The Good Ship in the future... fingers crossed for you decision!

Thanks a lot for your time and have a lovely evening.

Best Regards,

Paola Zenti

From: Russell Barnes-Heath [REDACTED]  
Sent: 16 October 2016 21:22  
To: Business Licence  
Subject: The Good Ship

To whom it may concern

I understand an application will be made to Brent licensing committee to reduce the opening hours of The Good Ship in Kilburn.

This is such sad news. I have been to this venue many times and have always had an enjoyable and safe experience and have never seen any trouble. The staff are helpful and friendly and the venue offers an eclectic mix of music and comedy. So much so, that I travel there from Watford to watch gigs and even held my 50th birthday party there.

London needs more venues like The Good Ship, not fewer. Many high streets are bland and full of the same chains and names. Brent is lucky to have such a venue in Kilburn - I understand it's the only venue for live music in the borough. A move to reduce its opening hours would threaten the venue's future.

With the loss of other music venues across London, now is the time to support and help independent venues like The Good Ship, not hinder them.

I hope the committee will carefully consider the application, take into account the above points, and decide not to reduce the Good Ship's opening hours.

Yours faithfully

Russell Barnes-Heath  
[REDACTED]  
Watford  
Herts  
WD25 9TX



From: Richard Clapton [REDACTED]  
Sent: 14 October 2016 15:20  
To: Business Licence  
Subject: The Goodship - Kilburn

Dear sir/madam

I recently found out that the Goodship in Kilburn is facing a licence renewal and I just wanted to write an email in defence of the venue.

The Goodship is one of the best music venues for unsigned bands in the whole of London. I've been to gigs there where bands and fans have come from across the whole of the country to play and watch excellent music. It is one of the few venues in London which offers a good deal to bands and one of the only places to go and watch music in west London.

I have been there many times over the years and have never experienced a rowdy or dangerous atmosphere. The pub is run exactly to the law and offers great deals for locals and is an attraction for non locals to come to Kilburn. I'm sure many restaurants and businesses in the area have much passing trade thanks to people who come to watch gigs at the Goodship and it would be a terrible shame for such a finely run establishment to shut down. Especially as the jubilee line now offers the night tube to those who live a bit further away.

I sincerely hope that this venue will not be added to the wasteland that is becoming of London's late night economy and the council can come to the right decision with the owners, the police and local residents.

Kind regards

Richard

**From:** rhys davies [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15 October 2016 17:27  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Cc:** tulip@tulipsiddiq.com; [oliver.denton@parliament.uk](mailto:oliver.denton@parliament.uk)  
**Subject:** The Good Ship, Kilburn High Road NW6

Dear Sirs

I write in support of Brent Council continuing to provide a licence to the above venue.

I am a Brent resident (since 1992) and in that time have lived or worked in and near Kilburn so I know the area very well. I also play live music as a hobby.

The Good Ship is the only dedicated music venue that I know of in my home borough, except the large ones at Wembley Arena and Stadium. As such, the Good Ship provides a wonderful venue for going to see live music which is not at the highly commercial end and for local musicians with a professional venue to play at.

I have seen concerts at the Good Ship and played there myself several times. I have never seen anything less than a well run and freindly establishment. I have not seen or feared any rowdy behaviour. Indeed, I was very happy for my son to come and see me play (about 14 years old at the time accompanied by myself and my wife).

The other aspect I can comment on from my own experience is I have worked as a criminal defence solicitor in offices almost opposite the Good Ship since 2003. Whilst I have known of cases where police have made arrests in many pubs in Kilburn and the surrounding area, I have never known of a case related to The Good Ship. I think that speaks for the clientelle, who are there to enjoy music.

Kilburn High Road has changed over the years, but it is still in need of thriving businesses and The Good Ship is as much a boon to the area as the nearby Tricycle theatre and cinema.

On the more general aspect of nuisance, I live within a mile of Wembley Stadium and Arena. I knew that when I moved to my address. Therefore I accept some of the nuisance that goes with it (drunken football fans falling about in the area and on the crowded tube etc). Indeed, I can hear concerts at Wembley Stadium from my house as it is open to the air and played at high volume. I have not complained about that, as I have been to concerts and football matches there. I would be surprised if The Good Ship could be compared to 80,000 football fans spilling out into the streets after a match. If we are to have good venues, we have to be tolerant of some aspects.

I love living in Brent. It is a lively multi-cultural borough which is host to a wide range of cultures and activites. If The Good Ship were to close due to losing a music licence (as it probably would have to), it would lose some of its character.

I copy this to the local MP whom I understand are monitoring the situation.

Yours faithfully

Rhys Davies  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**From:** Robert Oliver [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 15 October 2016 21:36

**To:** Business Licence

**Subject:** Save the Good Ship

Hi,

I've been a resident of Brent for nearly 30 years and it pains me to hear that the Good Ship is facing closure.

This would be a huge loss to the community, not to mention London, which has seen so much of its nightlife killed in recent years.

Hopefully I can help play a part in keeping it open, no matter how small.

Thanks,

Rob

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 14 October 2016 12:49

**To:** Business Licence

**Subject:** The Good Ship - Kilburn High Road

Sir,

I was deeply saddened to hear about the recent licensing restrictions proposed the by police regarding The Good Ship on Kilburn High Road.

As a Kilburn resident six years and counting, I've seen a number of detrimental changes that have all made the High Road a less interesting and exciting to place to live. I humbly urge the local authority to act in the interests of the community when it comes to the culture and economy of our small corner of North-West London.

Imposing harsher restrictions on small businesses as a law enforcement / crime prevention strategy is at best blinkered and at worst wilfully ignorant. It also sets a very dangerous precedent regarding the rest of the night-time economy in Kilburn. Will the 2am license at the Brondes Age be subject to restrictions next? Where do they draw the line?

The Good Ship offers something incredibly special, it would be an irredeemable shame if this was squandered.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

From: Richard Scullion [REDACTED]

Sent: 15 October 2016 12:00

To: Business Licence; tulip@tulipsaddiq.com; oliver.denton@parliament.uk

Subject: The Good Ship

Good morning

I wish to express my concern at the possibility of licence changes at the Good Ship venue on Kilburn High Road. At a time when the London Mayor is promoting a night-time economy, and the tube is set to run over 24 hours it seems very negative to contemplate changes to a late-night music venue (which may indeed be the only one in the Borough) which the owner suggests may lead to its closure.

If it operates under the opening arrangements that may be proposed the situation may be worsened as music fans arrive after midnight only to find the venue operating but their entry denied. I believe there may have been incidents in the past but I understand that virtually all were outside the premises and so relatively impossible for the owner to control.

Not only is the Good Ship a valued music venue, always keen to give new talent a break, but it is an excellent comedy club, again featuring new and upcoming acts but also established talent honing fresh material. My partner and I go regularly and in recent times have seen Jack Whitehall, Nina Conti, Lee Nelson, Simon Munnery and many more. The Good Ship was named as best comedy venue in London by Chortle a few years ago, and its loss would be a travesty.

The Good Ship, along with the Tricycle theatre and cinema forms a cultural hub for this part of Brent, encouraging people in from outside as well as meeting a local need. It is a jewel in a major high street well served by bus and rail, which without it would only have a smattering of pubs and cafes. Please use your best endeavours to work with the owner to keep it open and flourishing.

Yours

Richard Scullion

[REDACTED]

NW6 6EB

From: Serena Cruciani [REDACTED]  
Sent: 26 October 2016 12:26  
To: Business Licence

To whom it may concern,

I am just writing this email to let you know how upset and worried I am after hearing that you might decide to close "the good ship" venue in Kilburn as this is such a LOVELY place, a place that Kilburn needs!

I have been there for years and years and years and I am still going there now that I am nearly 40 years old and never had a bad experience.

I always feel safe there - there is a selection on the door to make sure that over drunk people are not coming in, the atmosphere is super friendly – no one judges you and is the only place where I find my phone when I am drunk and I lose it (just to let you understand how lovely people are over there – they actually give it back).

I also would like to say that I have met my partner over there and now we have a beautiful baby together and my friend Karla met her partner there ( now they have a child together and one on the way) do you really want to stop the love happening??!!

Jokes apart it would be a great loss for the high road and for the lovely people that work there and for us the customers/friends who love the place.

I have been in a loads of pubs on high road and incurred problem such as drugs/fights/ rude people BUT NEVER IN GOOD SHIP because the staff and the guys at the door are looking after us.

Is also a great venue for musicians and young people to go and be free and for comedians.

It's just a place that we need.

Apologies for my English but I am Italian but I had to write an email hoping to keep the good ship live!

I really would like you to take into consideration my email and my great experiences I had over there before you make a decision.

Finger crossed

Many thanks for your time and have a great day.

Best

Serena

Serena Cruciani  
Purchasing Co-ordinator

From: Samantha Neale [REDACTED]

Sent: 20 October 2016 21:40

To: Business Licence

Subject: Good Ship

Hi there,

Just a quick email to voice how much we would love it for the Good Ship to remain open as it is a great live music venue for unsigned bands like ourselves and it is very difficult to find such platforms nowadays.

Always a pleasant venue to play and a great space for the college students to enjoy a good night of music rather than being out on the streets.... And we are always very well treated by the respectable staff and door staff.

Many thanks

Sam et al (Corolla, Watford)



From: tom Bruce [REDACTED]  
Sent: 19 October 2016 18:02  
To: Business Licence  
Subject: The Good Ship, Kilburn, Late Night Licence

Dear Sir/Madam/Whoever it is that this email account pertains to,

My name is Tom Bruce and I'm a Brent resident currently living out of Willesden Green. It has come to my attention through the popular magazine 'Time Out' that the live venue and bar The Good Ship (address: 289 Kilburn High Rd, London NW6 7JR) is struggling to afford legal consultation around their licensing agreement with Brent council. Our Police service have apparently made attempts to interfere with the much-loved Good Ship's opening hours.

Being a late night venue that plays host to gigs, comedy, and dance nights, if it cannot stay open late then it cannot stay open at all.

People travel from all over North West and beyond to visit the Good Ship and it would be a sad day if it were to sink into the depths of foreclosure and beyond into the abyss of our memories. It does not belong in Davy Jones' locker, and a couple of letters from the local constabulary will not be enough to take the wind out of its sails.

I, along with my many friends in Brent, formally request that the Good Ship stay afloat now and forever.

May it cruise proudly across the high seas of Kilburn, long into the night!

Yours admira(l)bly\*,

Tom 'Blackstubble' Bruce

\*as in admiral of a ship. Like the Good Ship.

Goodbye.

**From:** Tom Davies [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 October 2016 12:21  
**To:** Business Licence  
**Subject:** Protestation about potential closure of The Good Ship

Hi,

I'm writing to express my objection to the threats of closure currently facing the Good Ship on Kilburn High Road. I have been a regular attendee of various comedy, music and club events at The Good Ship in the three years since I moved to the Kilburn area, and in the latter have not only enjoyed myself but have never felt myself to be unsafe or at risk of getting into trouble, even though I've often been in there until closing time at 3:00 or 4:00. In fact, in comparison to other late night venues I've been to in London, the Good Ship's security presence has seemed just about right - prepared and capable of stepping in, but not being overly heavy handed or aggressive when the situation doesn't warrant it (again, this is in stark contrast to so many late night venues I've been to across the country)

I'm sure it doesn't need me to tell you that while in general I feel relatively safe on Kilburn High Road, you do encounter a few characters along it intent on causing trouble, particularly late at night. These occur right along the road though, and I fail to see how the venue or their security should be blamed for this.

The Good Ship stands out as a hub of late night activity in the area, and there have been occasions where my friends have stayed in the Kilburn area in the evening where without its presence we may not have. I urge you to reconsider your decision, and work with the venue. I understand that there was a cut off date for protestations of the 27th, but I hope my comments can be considered.

Best wishes,  
Tom Davies

From: Fletcher, Yvonne [REDACTED]  
Sent: 27 October 2016 12:29  
To: Business Licence  
Cc: tulip@tulipsiddiq.com; oliver.denton@parliament.uk

Subject: The Good Ship

Dear Sir/Madam

I understand that Brent council is looking to limit the Good Ship's licence so that the venue has to close at midnight. I have been going to the Good Ship for over 8 years and undoubtedly this licence restriction will lead to the venue closing down.

There are already too few live music venues in London and almost none in Kilburn. The Good Ship provides a venue where new bands can begin the long process of establishing themselves and becoming part of the hugely successful entertainment industry in this country. The same goes for many of the djs who have cut their teeth at the Good Ship.

I have never felt unsafe or intimidated in the Good Ship. I understand there have been a couple of unpleasant occurrences outside the venue recently but personally I have only ever seen the door staff and bouncers calming people down & being a positive influence.

At a time when gentrification has caused so many High Streets to become bland, multi-national chain, shadows of their former selves, places like the Good Ship help to make Kilburn High Road the vibrant, interesting place that it is. It would be a huge loss if it didn't survive.

Cutting a few hours from a venue's licence may not seem like a big issue from your perspective. For those of us who go there to dance, listen to music, meet up with friends and make new friends, Kilburn would be a much less appealing prospect for a night out.

I would be happy to discuss this further or provide any other information or background to my comments.

Yours faithfully

Yvonne Fletcher  
[REDACTED]