

The below is lifted from the council's suggested conditions and we are happy with most of them and not with others. Comments and reasoning in red and italics.

The Licensing Authority suggest that the following conditions shall **remain** on the current premise licence:

5. A register/log containing the names, badge number, dates & times of duty of security staff and any incidents that occur shall be kept and made available to the Police and Licensing Authority. *Agree*

6. The total number of people permitted on the premises including staff and performers shall not exceed 240. *Agree*

7. A copy of the premises licence summary including the hours which licensable activities are permitted shall be visible from the outside of each entrance to the premises. *Agree*

10. Notices requesting customers to leave quietly shall be displayed at each exit. *Agree*

12. No children shall be admitted unless accompanied by a responsible adult. *Agree*

13. No children shall be admitted on the premises after 20:00 hours. *Agree*

The Licensing Authority suggest the following conditions to be **added** to the current premise licence:

CCTV

1. CCTV shall be installed to Home Office Guidance standards and maintained in a good working condition and recordings shall be kept for 31 days and shall be made available to police and authorised Officers from Brent Council. This must comply with the Data Protection Act including signage. *Agree*

2. A CCTV camera shall be installed to cover the main entrance of the premises and further cameras installed to cover Drakes Courtyard (Designated Smoking Area). *Agreed and done.*

3. The CCTV system shall be capable of obtaining clear facial recognition images and a clear head and shoulder image of every person entering or leaving the premises. *Agree*

4. The licence holder, DPS or nominated duty manager must inspect and test that the CCTV is operational and working correctly on a weekly basis. A signed and dated recorded of the CCTV examination and any findings shall be kept on the premises and made available to the police and licensing authority upon request. *Agree*

Door Supervisors/Staff

5. A minimum of 3 door supervisors in a ratio of at least 1 supervisor to every 50 customers shall be employed from a company shown on the SIA's register of approved contractors, from 20:00 hours on any day when the premise is open for the sale of alcohol past midnight.

Disagree. This is a disproportionate measure. There has not been an incident of any kind before midnight in 11 years of The Good Ship and 95% of any incident direct or indirect to The Good Ship happens after 2am. Plus they all happen at the weekend. We have just changed our security company and now have 2 people from 10pm and one from 130am Friday and Saturday night. Plus hire security in if a big event during the week where we typically close at 11pm/1130pm.

6. All door supervisors shall be clearly visible and wear yellow or orange high visibility vests, jackets or armbands so as they are clearly identifiable and visible to guests, staff and on CCTV. *Agreed and done.*

[10]

External Area

7. A non-fixed roped off area shall be in place from the premises entrance leading to the left (on facing the premises) during the operating hours to prevent customers obstructing the public highway.

Mainly agree. Happy to do this at the weekend and on busy nights. All smokers are sent around the corner to our designated area.

8. A designated smoking area shall be located from the side of premises to end of the building boundary line in Drakes Courtyard. A non-fixed roped shall be placed in the designated smoking area.

Agreed and done.

9. No more than 5 (five) customers shall be permitted in the designated smoking area. It will be the duty of the SIA staff to monitor the area on a regular basis.

Partly agreed. 5 people is unrealistic though and will contribute to potential disorder, it is obviously difficult to keep people inside who want to go out. Especially when we are particularly busy keeping those out who want to come

in! 10 is a more common sense number, the smokers do not really make much noise and can be quieted when needed. Furthermore the designated smoking area is further away from residents than the front of the building.

Bottles and Glasses

10. Customers shall not be permitted to take any open drink containers outside the premises as defined on the plan submitted to and approved by the Licensing Authority.

Agree, this has been our policy since we opened in 2005.

Proof of Age

11. A "Challenge 25" policy shall be adopted and adhered to at all times. *Agree*

12. A refusal book detailing date and time of the refused sale and the name of the person refusing the sale shall be kept and maintained and made available for inspection at the premises. *Agreed, this is in the incident book.*

Drugs & Weapons

13. Notices clearly explaining the licensee's drugs and weapons policy shall be displayed at the entrance and at suitable places throughout the premises. *Agree*

14. Toilets shall be checked every 2 hours for the use of drugs and other illegal activities. *Agree*

15. A toilet checklist shall be displayed on the wall in all toilets. Staff shall use these checklists to record their name and certify the time of the check. Checklists are to be replaced daily and all old checklists must be retained and made available for inspection by the police and authorised officers from Brent Council. *Agree*

General

16. Notices explaining the licensee's policy on admission and searching shall be placed at each entrance. *Agree*

17. An incident log shall be kept at the premises, and made available for inspection on request to an authorised officer of Brent Council or the Police, which will record the following:

- (a) all crimes reported to the venue
- (b) all ejections of patrons
- (c) any complaints received
- (d) any incidents of disorder
- (e) all seizures of drugs or offensive weapons
- (f) any faults in the CCTV system or searching equipment or scanning equipment.
- (g) any refusal of the sale of alcohol

(h) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service **Agree**
18. No entry or re-entry shall be permitted after 00:00 hours (midnight). *Disagree. This is disproportionate given that every incident recorded took place well after 2am. Also, we are a nightclub so it takes away our ability to trade. Last entry at midnight would mean we have to close at midnight.*

Reduction of Permitted Hours.

The Licensing Authority feel that committee should consider a reduction of permitted hours in order to prevent any late night incidents and public nuisance.

The Licensing Authority **suggest** the following hours are applied:

All permitted Regulated Entertainment:

Monday – Thursday: 17:00hrs – 1:30hrs (changed)

Disagree, disproportionate and unnecessary. All incidents have been at the weekend, we largely close before midnight Sunday to Thursday anyway and operate a closed door policy after 11pm.

Friday: 17:00hrs – 01:30hrs (changed) *Disagree, disproportionate and unnecessary. We prepare for closing half an hour before with lowering of music and raising of the lighting.*

Saturday: 12:00hrs – 01:30hrs (changed) *Disagree, disproportionate and unnecessary. We prepare for closing half an hour before with lowering of music and raising of the lighting.*

Sunday: 12:00hrs – 01:30hrs (changed) *Disagree, disproportionate and unnecessary. All incidents have been at the weekend, we largely close before midnight Sunday to Thursday anyway and operate a closed door policy after 11pm.*

Supply of Alcohol:

Monday – Thursday: 17:00hrs – 01:30hrs (changed)

Disagree, disproportionate and unnecessary. All incidents have been at the weekend, we largely close before midnight Sunday to Thursday anyway and operate a closed door policy after 11pm.

Friday: 17:00hrs – 01:30hrs (changed) *Disagree, disproportionate and will make no difference to anything, we have a successfully running dispersal policy which makes this unnecessary.*

Saturday: 12:00hrs – 01:30hrs (changed) *Disagree, disproportionate and will make no difference to anything, we have a successfully running dispersal policy which makes this unnecessary.*

Sunday: 12:00hrs – 01:30hrs (changed) *Disagree, disproportionate and unnecessary. All incidents have been at the weekend, we largely close before*

midnight Sunday to Thursday anyway and operate a closed door policy after 11pm.

The Opening Hours of the Premises:

Monday – Thursday: 17:00hrs – 02:00hrs (no change) *Agree*

Friday: 17:00hrs – 02:00hrs (changed) *We have already voluntarily changed the closing time to 3am, further restriction is draconian and would make the business non viable.*

Saturday: 12:00hrs – 02:00hrs (changed) *We have already voluntarily changed the closing time to 3am, further restriction is draconian and would make the business non viable.*

Sunday: 12:00hrs – 02:00hrs (no change) *Agree*

And here are the police's slightly different conditions.

1. CCTV shall be installed and maintained in a working condition.

Police would ask for this condition to remain, however we would ask that the system is updated and that cameras are added to cover the front and the outside of the building. *Agreed and done.*

2. All CCTV recordings shall be kept for 31 days and shall be made available to police and licensing officers if requested.

Police would ask for this condition to remain and the following be added- A staff member from the premises who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be on the premises at all times when the premises is open to the public. The staff member shall be able to show police recent data or footage with the absolute minimum of delay when requested. *Agreed and done.*

4. Door supervisors of a sufficient number and gender mix, shall be employed from 22:00 hours on Fridays and Saturdays and when large events are being held.

Police would ask that this condition be amended to read; Two door supervisors shall be employed from 22:00 hours and a further one from 23:00 hours on Friday and Saturday when the premises are open past midnight and when any large events are being held. *We often have next to no customers at 23:00 when the bands are finishing and the DJs are starting and it really is not necessary. We are happy with it save for having the last person arrive at 01:30 instead which is when that person is useful.*

8. No entry or re-entry shall be permitted after 12:00 hours.

Police would ask that this condition be amended to read. No entry or re-entry shall be permitted after midnight.

Disagree. This is disproportionate given that every incident recorded took place well after 2am. Also, we are a nightclub so it takes away our ability to trade. Last entry at midnight would mean we have to close at midnight.

Police would ask that the hours be reduced to

17:00 to 02:00 Friday

12:00 to 02:00 Saturday

Disagree. This will make the business non viable. We have reduced our hours from 04:00 to 03:00 voluntarily which has resulted in a lot less potential for incidents as there are less difficult hours and also less time between last entry and closing which causes the obvious problems of that condition.

There shall be a dispersal policy for the premises agreed with the Police and other relevant Authorities and approved by an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority.

Agreed and done.

The front of the premises shall not be used as a smoking area. After 23:00 hours the designated smoking area shall be limited to 5 persons and shall be suitably supervised.

Partly agreed. 5 people is unrealistic though and will contribute to potential disorder, it is obviously difficult to keep people inside who want to go out. 10 is a more common sense number, the smokers do not really make much noise and can be quieted when needed. Furthermore the designated smoking area is further away from residents than the front of the building.

A photo ID scanning system will be used and all patron's details recorded. There will be a strict no ID no entry policy.

Partly agreed. We have a scanning system and record every single ID for people who come after 11pm on Fridays and Saturdays. It is unrealistic and disproportionate to ask of it for people who come along to music and comedy events during the week.

Police would ask that the current SIA team be removed and replaced with an SIA team from the approved contractor's list.

Agreed and done.

In summary we have 5 incidents from the police of which 2 were started by people who were not our customers and could not get in, one of those well away from the venue! There are a couple of examples of incidents inside the venue that are indeed regrettable but I feel that the staff did their best to help the victims in both circumstances. The last one was our doorman being hit by customers that he was ejecting and him deciding not to take the matter further.

The measures we have put in place, namely most pertinently

- 1) having a 3rd security member before the most difficult period starts
- 2) having a staff member permanently patrolling the door area too
- 3) having a designated smoking area with a passageway in and out
- 4) reducing our opening hours to 3am, mainly to reduce the time between last entry and closing
- 5) employing a new security company who are patrolling not just the door but the immediate area too

These have all combined to mean not only have we had less incidents but as important there is less potential for incident too. We are confident going forward that things are a lot more under control and because we have reduced our closing time by an hour it would be appreciated if the council could remove the long time between last entry and closing which will further help reduce the potential for trouble and noise and be a relief to the late workers who cannot get to us until gone 2am. 230am with a 3am closing time would be the commonsense compromise.

Other than Wembley Stadium we are the only music venue in the whole of Brent and as a lifelong Brent resident I find that both sad and somewhat embarrassing. Brent's lack of culture and entertainment means that people seeking that have to go elsewhere. There are vast swathes of people who live in Brent but pretty much never go out there and we are bucking that trend in very difficult circumstances. If I could run a music venue profitably and close at midnight I absolutely would but it is a deeply difficult business, especially so in a considered unattractive in music circles area like Kilburn. The nature of putting on new bands is that occasionally no-one comes along, we have no funding, essentially the Friday and Saturday nights finance everything creative that we do.

Furthermore PC Sullivan is off course in his assertion that we bring no business to other Kilburn outlets and with his view that he thinks that we can remain profitable with his suggested closing times. I add a letter from The Good Ship's accountant to that effect.

I am not asking for special treatment, I am just asking for fair treatment. We contacted the police in April to raise our concerns about the degradation of the clientele on Kilburn High Road and I wanted an open dialogue but now those messages are being used as evidence against the Good Ship! The problem is not with The Good Ship (although I acknowledge that mistakes have been made) but with Kilburn High Road and at a weekend the door team not only look after the security of the venue but act as social workers and friends to people passing by. We defuse far more situations than the ones that

actually develop and I strongly feel that The Good Ship is a unique venue that is an asset to Kilburn High Road and its loss would be devastating.