

48 Front Lane
Cranham
Upminster
Essex
RM14 1XW

26th June 2024

London Borough of Havering
Town Hall
27 JUN 2024
RECEIVED

Dear Sir/Madam

Further to my previous letter dated 12th June 2024 with regard to the Licensing Act 2003 notice of application to vary a premises licence under Section 34 made by the Craft Union Pub Company Limited.

An application has been made regarding the Plough Public House, 83 Front Lane, Upminster, RM14 1XL.

I have seen a Facebook entry regarding this application made by ~~Alex Kane~~, Regional Manager Essex, Craft Union Pub Company where an attempt is made to put local residents at ease.

I have not been put at ease.

~~Mr Kane~~ states that, if the extension of hours to 1.30am is granted, music will be wound down to 'a reasonable level' between 12 midnight and 1.00 am and that music cannot exceed an agreed number of decibels.

Firstly, ~~Mr Kane's~~ statement suggests that the music will cease at 1.00am and not be played during the 'drinking up time' between 1.00 a.m. and 1.30am. (I assume that the use of the term 'drinking up time' infers that alcohol sales will cease at 1.00am if the extension is allowed).

Secondly, what is a 'reasonable level' for music to be played in a very residential area between midnight and 1.00 a.m. on Saturday morning and Sunday morning.

In my own opinion, if it prevents sleep it's too loud.

~~Mr Kane~~ states that there have, up to now, been no complaints regarding noise or disturbance connected with the events they have run.

I can only speak for myself but, again up until now, music has been curtailed at 12 midnight. These hours have been utilised for some time, and I do not feel that midnight is an unreasonable time at the weekend, but I do not believe 1.00am, or 1.30 am is reasonable in what is a very residential area.

~~Mr Kane~~ states that there will always be SIA registered door supervisors on weekend nights 'who must follow a 'dispersal policy' and make sure patrons leave quietly and do not take drinks from the premises.'

An 'SIA registered door supervisor' is a private citizen who has completed a very basic course (I did it myself a few years ago) who has no powers in law other than those of every citizen.

They are in a position to 'assist' the land-lady to eject a customer but have to be very careful in the use of force to do this. It is a very narrow line to becoming an assault.

As to ~~Mr Kane's~~ claim that these people can 'make sure patrons leave quietly', they have no powers to specifically do this. They may politely ask but they can do little more than that, and even then any assistance they can provide disappears about 20yds from the pub door when they

hit the pavement. Their interference with customers may cause more problems than it solves, especially with some customers who have imbibed a little too much.

They cannot force people to be quiet or to leave the immediate area.

At the moment only the opinions of potential and current customers is being sought. The local residents have not been a party to any communication from the Craft Union Pub Company, apart from the 2 X A4 typed signs originally placed on the pub windows, now having been moved to the edge of the car park. I suspect this is the minimum level that has to be complied with, but it seems quite 'covert', unless you are on Facebook preaching to the already converted.

The customers at the late hours requested will mostly not be adversely impacted by the increased noise that will be caused by this requested change to hours, whereas those of us who live nearby will be, whether we like it or not.

The local residents include a large number of house owners. I believe that if the licence is varied it may impact all of those near to the Plough as it could reduce the saleability of properties and possibly reduce property prices in the immediate area.

Again, I would ask that this application is refused.

Kind Regards



Mr R L Sherwood

48 Front Lane
Cranham
Upminster
Essex
RM14 1XW

12 June 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With regard to the Licensing Act 2003 notice of application to vary a premises licence under Section 34 made by the Craft Union Pub Company Limited.

An application has been made regarding the Plough Public House, 83 Front Lane, Upminster, RM14 1XL.

The proposed variation is-

1. Vary the opening hours to 01:30 Fridays and Saturdays.
2. Vary the sale of alcohol and recorded music hours to 01:00 Fridays and Saturdays.
3. Remove Annex 2 conditions 18 and 23.

I object to items 1 and 2 of this application.

1. The Plough is in the centre of Cranham in a residential area. Dwellings are sited very close to the pub in Front Lane and Ingrebourne Gardens. Most of the local shops have residential flats above them which extend from Front Lane into Moor Lane Lane, and many will be affected by the loud music extension. The pub already plays loud music within its current licence until 12 midnight, an extension until 1.00 am will affect many local residents, including myself.
2. The extension of the closing time to 1.30 a.m. will also potentially affect local residents as the customers will leave the pub later than is the case at the moment. As it stands now there are occasions when the customers are noisy on leaving the premises, after an additional 1 1/2 hours drinking times this may become more of an issue at a much later time. If these changes are allowed the Plough is likely to become a target premises for drinkers to come to when other pubs close, probably why this application is being made, without any concern for local residents.

Regarding item 3 of the application. Its not clear what 'Removal of Annex 2 conditions 18 and 23' refers to. I think that without having this explained the application should be clarified until it is allowed to go forwards in any case.

The signs providing information to local residents regarding this matter are two A4 signs on the windows of The Plough which are unlikely to be seen by anyone except current customers. This may be sufficient according to the rules but it is the bare minimum.

I would ask that this application is refused.

Yours Sincerely



Mr R L Sherwood