

13 November 2015

As a resident living extremely close to this eyesore 'establishment' I would like to object most strongly to its current application. From my house xxxxxx I can hear the skateboard wheels going to and fro outside the FirstSite building until the early hours if the weather is fine. I get up each day at 05:40 to go to work. So imagine having somewhere a stone's throw from the back of your property that is permitted to have plays, live music, recorded music, performances of dance indoors, films indoors and outdoors and the sale of alcohol on and off the premises Mondays to Saturdays from 09.00 to 02.00 and on Sundays from 09.00 to 00.00 as well as the provision of late night refreshment indoors and outdoors Mondays to Saturdays from 23.00 to 02.00 and on Sundays from 23.00 to 00.00. Would you like this suddenly to be imposed on you?

We already have more than enough venues on Queen Street opening late at night and do not need any more noise at unsociable hours in this area. It would not only be the music but the noise of people drinking and talking outdoors until 02.00 every weekday and weekend. And outdoor films too. Plus the noise people make when dispersing - particularly when alcohol has been consumed. I cannot understand how this application can even be considered since the Beer House on Queen Street (previously Tin Pan Alley) was ordered to have special acoustic insulation work done and is not permitted to open its side door when music is being played in order to alleviate any potential disturbance to neighbours.

I believe that local residents should have the right to enjoyment of their property and the ability not to be held hostage to the whims of commerce. Is my ability to relax and enjoy a good night's sleep in my own home now to be seriously compromised by the desire to serve alcohol out of a former WC and waiting room until 2am? Is this the regeneration of Colchester that you believe we should be aspiring to?

I do hope that common sense will prevail here and would ask you to consider the plight of local residents who already have quite enough noise and other pollution on their doorsteps.

---

7 December 2015

Many thanks for your correspondence - your communications are greatly appreciated.

I regret that the Committee is unable to take a holistic view when considering applications. Perhaps residents should be grateful that there aren't another 10 or more applications for licences for premises on their doorsteps since each would be considered separately and it is only residents that would have to suffer the aggregated sum total of any licences granted!

I guess that the shooting on Queen Street and the various agency swoops on Al Madina (that was next to Tin Pan Alley but finally closed down) are also irrelevant per se to this application but logic tells me that someone somewhere has to be looking at what is going on and coming to some sort of conclusion as to how many bars are enough for a particular area

in terms of saturation and all the attendant problems that such establishments visit upon local residents.

I shall submit your form separately but can confirm that regrettably I am unable to attend the hearing as I shall be at work.

I would like the Committee to consider my view via experience that the proposed hours of operation will create a greater public nuisance in terms of noise (both from the gathering of people in the big open space outside the premises and the noise of music and conversation from inside coming outdoors whenever people leave and enter). The proposed extended hours also mean a more prolonged period of alcohol intake and this has been proven to increase anti-social behaviour and incidence of crime.

---