

APPENDIX 16

To Whom It May Concern,

Ref: Licensing Application 23/00893/LAPRE - Ephesus Restaurant, Upper High Street, Sevenoaks, Kent

We are writing regarding the recent application submitted by Ephesus Restaurant to extend its activities (DJ/music) from 23.00 until 01.30 on Friday and Saturday nights. If the application is successful, the intent is to then request a license to extend the alcohol license until 01.30 and the refreshment license until 02.00 (for the same nights/mornings), essentially transforming the restaurant into a bar/nightclub. Whilst we understand that the application limits activities to indoors, should the requested licenses be approved, people will continue drinking until approximately 02.00hrs and naturally go outside for a cigarette, under the influence of alcohol.

Despite the presence of bouncers and security, once outside the premises, and under the influence of alcohol, people will inevitably be noisy and there are plenty of other circumstances in which an intoxicated person could cause harm to a third party as a result of continuing to drink alcohol past a safe point, including incidences of fights or attacks an innocent bystander potentially leading to violence and public disorder. This will in turn become a public nuisance.

In addition, Section 16 of the application provides that the activities are to start at 10.00 on Saturdays. Should this not be a mistake, this would imply that the DJ/music would operate during the day, potentially creating additional protection concerns regarding the exposure of children and the public in the midst of a very busy town centre.

Whilst Ephesus is located in the town centre, the Upper High Street is also a residential area and Rockdale Homes for the elderly is located just around the corner. We are fully supportive of Ephesus maintaining a flourishing business but do oppose this application which could potentially result in unnecessary noise and public disorder, inevitably impacting the good quality of life and peace experienced by residents in the local community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,
Mr. and Mrs. Man 