

APPENDIX N

Dear Sirs,

We are delighted the above license is being reviewed as clearly Ephesus continues to flout its license restrictions. Your licensing officer was served alcohol after midnight when she was good enough to visit out of her hours and she saw they were still going after 1a.m. This is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty which is not the appropriate location for a "would-be nightclub". It has been shown that (24 hour drinking) has fuelled 25 percent increase in violent crime in the early hours according to a Home Office report leaked to The Standard 12.4.12.

We hope the police review will tighten up Ephesus' operating hours and raise their awareness and consideration for their neighbours

Recently they have advertised for customers to bring their own drink with no corkage charged. Surely this is another way to extend their drinking hours?

Ephesus need to adhere to their license in line with other establishments in the town.

Yours sincerely

Alan and Christine Bumstead



I am writing to express my concern about Ephesus and the review of its license. As someone who lives on the High St, close to Ephesus, I have the following concerns:

1. Ephesus is effectually operating as a nightclub in the evenings/nights at weekends – not as a restaurant. There was (and possibly still is) a sign outside Ephesus stating that it has a live DJ on weekends until 12.30am. In summer the noise nuisance is a real issue for local residents, because music is clearly audible from Ephesus's premises.
2. There are bouncers outside the front door of Ephesus on Friday and Saturday evenings. I cannot think of any other restaurant I know of which has bouncers on duty. Only nightclubs employ bouncers as far as I'm aware.
3. On mornings following Ephesus' late night events there is invariably a load of litter on the pavement along the High St, eg cigarette ends; drinks cans; plastic glasses, etc.
4. Rockdale Road is a narrow road which leads to Rockdale care home. Despite the fact there are double yellow lines along Rockdale Road, there are always cars parked along Rockdale Road (especially on weekend evenings). This makes it difficult for local residents to access their homes via Rockdale Road and, if ambulances are needed to assist the Rockdale care home residents, they have extreme difficulty accessing Rockdale Road. A certain percentage of cars parked unlawfully in Rockdale Road each weekend must belong to Ephesus' customers, so that needs to be taken into consideration, too.

I hope my comments will be considered at the review.

Regards
Jane Kostelnyk


Sevenoaks

Licensing Sevenoaks

Charlene Zhong



Ref :24/00552/review

RE: Public Notice Review Licensing Act 2003 by Kent Police

Dear Sir/Madam

From general understanding the 2003 Act focuses on the four licensing objective, which are of importance.

The objective are:

1. Prevention of crime and disorder
2. Public safety
3. Prevention of public nuisance
4. Protection of children from harm .

With late night opening hours Ephesus Restaurant tend to attract people /young adults to consume excess alcohol. With verbal abuse and disorderly behaviour, there is a threat to PUBLIC SAFETY. Locally there is high density population of residents living close by. Residents are in fear of walking outside their door step.

Under excessive alcohol this disturbs the peaceful living environment of residents, unlawfully obstructs their free movement. There is the intention of abuse to include vandalism to neighbouring housing. It is advisable to act now for the PREVENTION of CRIME and DISORDER.

Yours faithfully
Charlene

Sir the above yet again seem to ignore anything and is leading to its undermining it's Licensing objectives, public safety and the Prevention of Crime and Disorder . This Restaurant/Night Club (in disguise) is close proximity to quite Residential Properties and Rochdale Care Home. Rockdale Road which leads to the entry/exit to Oak Tree Close and Rockdale Care Home on a Friday and Saturday night dispute double yellow lines is completely full of parked cars mostly customers of Ephesus and it would be difficult if not impossible for either an Ambulance or Fire Engine to get through in an Emergency

Dispute it being turned down many times for it licensing hours to be extended, it continues to play loud music after closing time together with customers being allowed to consume alcohol to be drunk which is purchased by its customers, getting round selling alcohol being sold after hours.

Also selling alcohol being sold to minors along with other products .

The playing of music after the Restaurant is closed along with everything else increases the likelihood of causing a Public Nuisance , and the risk of disorderly and criminal behaviour.

This business is now becoming a blight on Sevenoaks Town and in continuing to be allowed to carry on will without doubt lead to something far worse. Sevenoaks Town is full of fine restaurants and businesses but Ephesus I feel is not one of them.

Thank you for listening to me in advance

J Murphy



I write regarding the above business as a concerned local, and in support of friends and businesses who have been seriously adversely affected by the operation of this business. I know that there has been excessive noise from Ephesus which has kept neighbours awake at night, from inside and outside. The noise from inside I understand is from loud music and from outside as there has been disturbance from customers spilling over into the High Street drunk and fighting. The current situation is causing alarm and distress to many local residents.

I do support the operation of a restaurant business at its location, but unfortunately it would seem that it has become more of a late night bar/nightclub, which is completely unsuitable in a conservation area in a small market town like Sevenoaks. There are local residents very nearby, many of whom are elderly, as it is in close proximity to Rockdale Housing Association which is exclusively for the elderly. This type of business is far more suited to a large town or city centre.

What I have read in the local press this week, which I thought was quite shocking, has also prompted me to write to you, as I would like to express my support for Kent Police's review of the premises. I feel that the premises is operating in such a way as to undermine the following three of the relevant four licensing objections:-

The prevention of crime and disorder

The prevention of Public nuisance.

Public safety.

I do hope you will be able to take my comments into consideration for the benefit of the local community.

Local business

Licensing Sevenoaks

Tommy Li (TENANT)



Reference Number :24/00552/review

Dear Sir / Madam

The Kent Police statistics for crimes for December 2023 were 77. The map indicates there were 5 incidents at the far rear of Ephesus Restaurant of Rockdale Road . The incidents were near the Rockdale Housing where local residents live. For the period December 2023 is 6.49% 5 crimes which is high for Sevenoaks. Additionally for Anti-social behaviour December 2023 were 2 out of 77 .The indication of 2.60% near the Rockdale Housing.

At the moment with no late night openings of public houses & restaurants, the crime rate is high. The statistics have Late Night Licensing is to be refused and rejected.

I enclosed few picture was happened on 18/11/2023 and 10/12/2023. On 10/12/2023, circle on the picture is proof that there nearly fighting . Charles and Sue had those video as well .

I strongly encourage the Licensing Department to deny for Ephuses future request .

Many thanks

**Regards
Tommy Li**



