

The Licensing Department
The London Borough of Merton
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**VW - Merton Borough
VW - Wimbledon Police Station**

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5th October 2016

Re:- Full Variation Application – Chimichanga, 80 The Broadway SW19 1RH
Premises Licence Number: LN/000002435
Application to Vary Premises Licence

Dear Sir/Madam,

On 22nd Sept 2016 an application was received from Glovers Solicitors for a variation to a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003.

The application can be summarised as follows:-

1. The current licensing plan is to be replaced with licensing plan 246-L03 annexed to the application.
2. Condition 3 of Annex 3 is to be varied to read:

“Alcohol should only be served with table meals except in the area hatched red on the plan 246-L03”

Police wish to make representations to this application on two of the four licensing objectives namely:-

**The Prevention of Crime and Disorder
Public Nuisance**

This premises is situated on a busy high street in close proximity to residential accommodation. The Broadway is the focal point for the borough's night time economy and as such already has numerous venues open late and selling alcohol.

The Local Policing Team (LPT) covering this ward have been consulted on this application and make the observation that there are issues in relation to street drinking in this area, alcohol related crime and anti social behaviour. There have been thirty-three (33) reported incidents of anti social behaviour in the last 12 months with thirteen (13) being alcohol related.

A search of crime indices has been carried out which revealed that in the year from 30th September 2015 to 30th September 2016 there were 48 crimes recorded within the postcode SW19 1RQ. Of these recorded crimes there were 24 Thefts, 2 Criminal Damage, 1 possession of drugs, 1 Robbery, 4 Public Order Offences, 15 assaults, and 1 Sexual Assault.

Chimichanga is situated within a Cumulative Impact Zone as Wimbledon Town Centre is already saturated with licensed premises. Chimichanga is next door to PoNaNa nightclub on one side and The Old Frizzle PH on the other. Chimichanga is opposite The Pod Bar nightclub, Wimbledon Theatre and Nandos Restaurant.

Chimichanga is situated in The Broadway at the junction with Kings Road and as such enjoys a highly visible dual aspect. The floor to ceiling windows along the whole of two sides of the building gives passers-by a very clear view of the large bright modern bar area along the length of the ground floor. Customers sitting at the bar will most certainly be seen by potential customers outside and, due to its clean, modern appearance and its prime location, Chimichanga could become an attractive venue for pre-nightclub drinks. I firmly believe that the feel and focus of the restaurant will completely change if the license variation is granted to allow alcohol to be served without a meal. This change will undoubtedly lead to an increase in crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in this already busy town centre.

The applicant has failed to describe any additional steps they intend to take to promote the four licensing objectives as a result of the proposed variation.

Conclusion

The premises can be said to be a responsible operator. However it is still felt that additional issues will arise if the licence variation is granted, specifically an increase in Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in Wimbledon Town Centre.

I therefore strongly advise that the application be refused.

If the application to vary the Premises Licence is not refused, then please consider the addition of the following conditions:

1. Alcohol may be supplied and consumed by persons waiting for a table prior to their meal seated in the dining bar area, up to a maximum of six persons at any one time up to 9.30pm. (*Replaces Annex 3.3*)
2. The premises will operate a "Challenge 25" policy whereby any person attempting to buy alcohol who appears to be under 25 will be asked for photographic ID to prove their age. The recommended forms of ID that will be accepted are passports, driving licences with a photograph, photographic military ID or proof of age cards bearing the 'PASS' mark hologram. (*Replaces Annex 3.6*)

3. Suitable and sufficient signage advertising the "Challenge 25" policy will be displayed in prominent locations in the premises.
4. All staff will be trained to ask customers to leave quietly in the evening when necessary.
5. There shall be appropriate signage at the premises requesting customers to leave quietly.

Yours faithfully

Russ Stevens PC 852vw 191701
Metropolitan Police Licensing Officer

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