

Email received by licensing 28th April 2015

Dear Sir/Madam:

I write on behalf of Wimbledon E Hillside Residents' Association to express our concern about the above licence holder. We represent ten roads on the border of the Town Centre, and we regularly experience anti-social behaviour, litter and vandalism by late night visitors to the Town. We were unhappy to learn that Po Na Na has permission to be opened until 3:30 am and sell alcohol until 3 am every single day but Sunday, when the closing is also very late at 1 am.

Police records will show that virtually all night-time policing problems occur after midnight, and given this venue is one of the few open at the latest time, a large proportion of late-night anti-social behaviour, criminal activity and litter, vomit etc can be heavily attributed to this venue. Further, this venue is within the Cumulative Impact Zone, and that order is in place because of significant issues with abuse of alcohol and related anti-social behaviour in the Town Centre, to the detriment of local people.

In our view, Wimbledon Town Centre is over-saturated with late night licensed premises, and we would prefer that clubs such as Po Na Na were not permitted at all in the Broadway – a single track road adjoining residential homes. If the Managers have been repeat offenders to the conditions of their licence, we would urge you to withdraw their licence. Otherwise, we would urge Licensing Officers to restrict the opening hours of this venue to be truly respectful of our community – both the immediate community (homeowners, many with young families living behind the club) and the wider community including our neighbourhood. In our view appropriate opening hours for venues would be 11 pm from Sunday to Wednesday, midnight on Thursday and 1 am on Friday/Saturday.

For the record, the type of problems visitors to this venue cause are: customers parking on our roads, staying out late then leaving noisily, waking us up late in the night. Late night revellers disturb our sleep as they head home – they fight, laugh, even just talk and it causes us disturbance, as any sound travels much greater distances in the still of the night. Many of our homes are close to the footpath (and bedroom windows are often single glazed), we are regularly disturbed. It is bad enough to be awakened on weekend nights, but weekday disturbances also occur (as this venue is open very late every single night). We are working people with school aged children. Many of us are up at 6/7 am and must be in bed by 10 pm. We should have the right to a good night's sleep, and we shouldn't have to put up with drunks disturbing our peace. We also are often faced with vomit on our footpath, and as the Council do not clean residential footpaths, it is down to local people to clear up this unpleasantness. This is wrong. We also have to clear away broken bottles, glasses, cigarette butts and take away litter left by inconsiderate, late-night drunken visitors.

Thank you for consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Leigh Terrafranca, on behalf of Wimbledon East Hillside Residents' Association (WEHRA)

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