

Wed 13/09/2023 19:22
To:Licensing (HDC) [Licensing@huntingdonshire.gov.uk](mailto:Licensing@huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

## To HDC Licensing Board

It has been drawn to our attention that our neighbours - No. 6 Restaurant - are seeking a licence extension to provide music and sell alcohol up to 3am on Fridays and Saturdays - the current licence is to 1am on Fridays and Saturdays and in terms of music this is currently meant to be provided as background music for diners.

We are requesting that the licensing committee reject the licence extension based on the following points that the St Neots Museum Board Of Trustees collectively_wish to highlight:

1) The size of the premises ,both floors, is small by any standard and it is not a suitable premises for a nightclub.
2) The footpath in front is pretty narrow and deliveries of musical equipment via motor vehicles and staff parking will cause traffic congestion in New Street with double yellow lines currently in existence outside the premises. The museum has already experienced No. 6 staff and their suppliers parking their vehicles illegally on the museums forecourt. Despite highlighting this issue to the owner of No. 6 Restaurant vehicles are still parking on the forecourt and causing disruption to evening events being held at the museum. Parking on our forecourt has also caused the blocking of the main door fire exit for evening events and access by the emergency services in the event of a fire or break in.
3) The museum's main store is at the end of the alley adjacent to No6 and we are aware of people accessing the flat roof of the store and being drunk and disorderly in the alleyway. This presents a fire, theft and damage risk to the museum collection and to staff attending security alarms call outs. We have had to install an alarm on the store recently because of concerns of potential damage to our collection. The small space in the alleyway and volume of people sometimes in that space is also a serious safety risk to No 6's customers.
4) We are already experiencing undesirable behaviour from customers currently utilising No. 6 restaurant who late at night spill over onto the museums premises. This has required museum volunteers to clean up vomit and disinfect the forecourt and we have evidence of public urination occurring within the museums boundaries.
5) The museum is a cultural hub for St Neots and the number one tourist attraction for the town attracting over 10,000 visitors each year. Whilst we will try to ensure the museums premises continue to present a positive reflection of St Neots - we are having to rely on the goodwill of our volunteers and staff to carry out the necessary cleaning to ensure the visitors to the museum are not aware of the unfortunate behaviour of some members of the public.

If you require further clarification regarding the points raised then please contact me. Can you confirm receipt of our reasons for rejection of the licence application and that our input will be included in the evaluation you make in granting or declining the changes in the licence for No. 6.

I would also welcome your response/ decision to the proposed licence extension and what, if any, follow up actions are to be taken.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees - St Neots Museum.


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