

## **Uva Hitchin Wine bar and shop Representations by Other Persons**

**ClIr Keith Hoskins, 17 Wratten Rd East SG52AS**

Good morning,

I have concerns regarding this application following representations from neighbours.

The premises are small and often customers spill out onto the narrow pavement necessitating passers-by having to step into the road. Doors and windows are invariably open with resulting noise leaking out. The operation of karaoke is not conducive to a quiet night!

There are residential units immediately adjacent at 24 and 27 with others nearby at 32, 33, 36 and 37 as well as on the corner with Tilehouse St. This is the residential end of Bucklersbury.

Generally speaking, 1.30am is probably not advisable in this concentrated residential area.

As to opening at 6am, I fail to understand the reasoning but if minded to give some consent, I would suggest no earlier than 7am Monday to Friday only to allow residents to maintain at least some quiet enjoyment of their space.

As for closing times, I would suggest that midnight for end of service with half an hour to closure at 12.30 in this part of town. I do understand that there is a late trading takeaway in the vicinity but that doesn't involve alcohol or loud music.

So, the objection is on Prevention of Public Nuisance and given the location and danger of overspill, Public Safety

**Richard Varley - #4, 61 Wymondley Road, HITCHIN, SG4 9PT**

Thank you for your email dated 30.10.2023. I would like to amend my submission in respect of the noise emanating from 26, Bucklersbury, HITCHIN (premises known as "Let's Party") as being a public nuisance and possibly falling into crime and disorder as described within your licensing objectives.

My reasons are as follows:

I work as a part-time M.O.T. Tester at the motorcycle garage at 14 Bucklersbury, HITCHIN, SG5 1BB and have done so for some 15/16 years now. Immediately opposite is a premises now known as "Let's Party" at 26 Bucklersbury. An intolerable amount of loud music has emanated from those premises on Tuesdays and particularly on Saturdays (although last Saturday and today have been quiet whilst I have been at work). This is loud, presumably recorded and sometimes live karaoke, music being played inside number 26 and being broadcast to the street outside through open front door and upstairs windows. This volume of noise is a nuisance to me, as a member of the public forced to hear it, whilst going about my normal business and I can only describe the noise as "intolerable" because it is so loud as to disturb my concentration whilst I am performing an M.O.T. test on a motorcycle to such an extent that I fear that I may miss something vital during an examination, a situation that may result in danger. I work between 08.00 and 16.00 on Tuesdays and Saturdays. I should add that I now keep the workshop doors closed whilst I am at work but the loud noise from number 26 still is at disturbing volume inside my closed workshop.

Bucklersbury is an ancient street comprising of residential, commercial, and retail properties and the volume of noise emanating from 26 Bucklersbury is such that

it should be included as part of the public nuisance suffered by any other complainants. This judgement I am happy to leave with N.H.D.C.

I, as a member of the public, find the noise from number 26 to be a nuisance and also consider it to be a breach of Common Law and ask that my representation be taken to support any other representatives who are adversely affected by this noise nuisance.

**Sarah Chapman -18 Benslow Lane, Hitchin, SG4 9RE.**

I would say that The Prevention of Crime and Disorder and also The Prevention of Public Nuisance would both apply.

I did go round to let Mr. Miceli know I would be objecting, and he was cross, he asked me what time did I think it reasonable places should shut in a Town Centre, I said 12 would seem fair with a couple of late-night venues - his opinion is that all venues in the Town Centre should stay open until 2am. He told me he had been considering some sound proofing but was angry that his neighbour at number 24 had objected - they share a wall at the back I believe - and was not inclined to do so anymore - hopefully he will still install sound proofing.

I work in a business close to the bar at number 26 Bucklersbury.

I am writing about the notice on the door of number 26 requesting to extend the licensing hours with a 6am start 7 days a week and an extension on Friday and Saturday nights until 1.30am.

The office I work in is within earshot of any loud music coming from the bar throughout the day. During summer months, when windows are more likely to be open, this can create a noise nuisance - I don't think the possibility of Karaoke from 6am, whilst unlikely, is necessary.

Bearing the mind, the types of professional businesses located in this quiet part of Bucklersbury, I feel an extension of daytime hours is antisocial. Extended late-night closing at weekends raises the risks of property damage.

I cannot imagine how miserable the 1.30am weekend extensions, followed by a 6am opening will be for the poor residents in the close vicinity of number 26 - indeed, when are they supposed to sleep at the weekend?

**Stuart and Helen Chilvers, 27A Bucklersbury, Hitchin, SG5 1BG**

Dear Sirs

We wish to register our objection to the above application.

We have been tenants at 27A Bucklersbury for the past 25 years (next door to 26).

The reasons for our objections are:

1. The revised opening hours (6.00 a.m. to 23 30 and 01.30 Friday and Saturday given the current level of noise. Extending the current opening hours would be very unpleasant for us.
2. He does not abide by the existing licence, frequently having customers singing and shouting both indoors and on the pavement until well past midnight. This would mean that given his current activities there will be customers on the street until around 02.30 a.m.
3. The level of noise, despite his soundproofing, is enough to prevent us sleeping.

We have had several amicable conversations with Tony regarding the situation.

As stated we have lived here happily for 25 years. We feel it is important for the town centre to maintain its mixed use character.

Yours faithfully

**Christine Evans-Pughe - 24a/24 Bucklersbury, Hitchin, Herts, SG5 1BG**

Sorry for the RESEND – I didn't edit the last version very well (so please can you ignore the last and use this one).

Hi there,

In 2019 until lockdown in March 2020, the issues with noise were so bad I ended up with council recording equipment in my house (case reference 11377). Natalie Smith at NHDC handled the complaint. She was really helpful and did what she could.

There will be a series of noise recordings from back then (and case notes?). There is also a noise recording pending from 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023, that I sent on the Noise App. Have you received that?

Because the objection to extending the licensing will probably go to a hearing, please can I have access to those noise recordings from 2019/2020 and the most recent one so I can use those in stating my case? I think I will need them within the next 28 days.

Fyi, attached is my most recent correspondence with Tony (who runs the Karaoke bar at 26 Bucklersbury).

Tony and I have ongoing, civilised discussions about measures he can take to sort out the current noise issues. These are a work in progress.

1. The simplest one (which was a big problem in 2019/20) was his inability to shut the front door (which he often wedged open with a large bottle). Yesterday, I showed Tony some stylish hinges for self-closing doors and showed him the example of their use in my own house. He agreed to buy some and replace those on his bar's front door. I'm hoping he will do that ASAP.
2. Because my kitchen (where I often entertain friends and family) shares a party wall with 26, it is almost unusable when the bar is in full swing because of the noise. Tony is trying out some new acoustic materials to dampen the noise.

However, these measures are designed to cope with current opening hours up to 11.30pm. and *people still don't leave until after 12*. But folk hanging around the street to around 12.30 talking loudly etc, is *just about* tolerable in a lively town.

However, if Tony doesn't close the bar until 1.30am on Fridays and Saturdays (as he is asking for in his licensing extension request), none of the measures suggested (and yet to be implemented) will solve the problem of his customers spilling out into the street at 2am and shouting and singing until 3am underneath my bedroom window. I wish that wasn't the case, but I've lived with it for long enough to know it will be. It will be hell.

And, of course, at the other end of the scale, 6am is not a reasonable time to open a karaoke bar in a street full of people living and working there. Who goes to a bar at 6am?