

APPENDIX 9



Peter Conisbee
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**Re;
Ohana
1-2 Burke's Court
Station Road
Beaconsfield
HP9 1QR**

15th February 2024

To Members of Beaconsfield Town Council,

I write on behalf of my client Steak Shell Ltd in relation to the full variation application submitted for the premises above.

Thank you for your comments, hopefully the following will explain a little more and allay any concerns that you have.

As you will be aware, this venue is already permitted licensable activity until midnight Sunday to Thursday and to 1am on Fridays and Saturdays. Currently there is no restriction on the opening hours of the premises, as the current licence states it is 'at the licence holders' discretion'. My clients have been operating this premises without single complaint since the grant of this licence in June 2021.

The premises recently underwent an internal facelift with slight amendments to the floor plan, a new bar installed on the ground floor and a name change, all of which was granted without issue.

This full variation seeks to increase the time the venue can carry out licensable activity along with amending two conditions and adding a number of

safeguarding conditions. If you have not had sight of the full application, please see the amendments below and reasoning in red.

Conditions being amended;

8 to read;

The internal ground floor of the premises shall only operate as a restaurant where the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises shall only be to a person seated taking a table meal, save for a maximum of 6 persons at the bar area. **Essentially the ground floor continues to operate exactly as it always has done but, as with any restaurant the venue has a bar on the ground floor now and we are limiting the amount of people able to sit and drink there to 6.**

15 to read:

Delivery of alcohol will only be permitted when:

- a) Accompanied by an order for a meal
- b) Delivered to a verified or registered address occupied by the customer
- c) Payment for off sales only to be accepted by means of card transaction or through bona fide on-line payment services prior to delivery. There shall be no cash payments on delivery.
- d) Deliveries will cease at 2300 hours

On the current licence there is no specific end time to when deliveries can be made. For clarity the licensee wanted to condition this as they are applying for late night refreshment to be extended on the premises – and do not intend to offer such off the premises.

New conditions;

When the premises is operating beyond 0100 hours, a SIA licensed door supervisor shall be on duty at the premises from 2200 hours to 15 minutes after close. **Despite the venue currently opening till 1am, there is no security condition. However, the inclusion of SIA is for two reasons, firstly they will act more as a type of concierge door staff welcoming guests and assisting on exit. Secondly it adds a layer of additional security to the licence. The reasoning for 'after 0100 hours' is as stated, the venue currently does not require them before this time. That said, you may have noted that the venue is already operating with door staff currently, despite them not being required.**

The licensee/management shall record the full name, home address and contact telephone number, SIA registration number, and the time/date of

employment of any door supervisor(s) employed at the premises. Where door supervisor(s) are provided by an agency the name, business address and contact telephone number will also be recorded. These records are to be maintained for no less than 12 months. **This is a standard safeguard for any venue operating with SIA.**

Across the entire premises the volume levels of recorded music played will not exceed that of background levels. **Previously there were concerns that the level of music played within the venue may disturb neighbours. This is another addition for safeguarding. The venue is currently open to midnight during the week and 1am at weekends and during the last two and a half years has continuously played music at this level without complaint. If there has been no complaint thus far, we do not expect to get any in the future. For your information music played at a volume of 'background level' is that at which someone can easily have a conversation without raised voice, effectively the voice of conversation will be louder than the music!**

A noise management plan for the entire venue will be in place at all times and reviewed annually. **This does not just cover music, but any form of noise and is offered as an assurance that the venue will continue to review the noise levels and ensure that they do not cause disturbance.**

Food will be available at all times the premises is open for licensable activity.

Supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises in the exterior seating area will be by table service only, to a maximum of 24 persons. **The licensee has set the area out for tables and chairs and offers this to show that there is no intention of vertical drinking in the area.**

The ground floor outside area to be closed by 21:30hours to minimise any disturbance. **Again, this is to reduce the possibility of any disturbance.**

There shall be no vertical drinking on the ground floor internal or external. **This is a restaurant, and such a condition commits the licensee to operate as such, and also future proofs the licence.**

The first floor of the premises shall at all times be restricted to members (and their guests) only and operate as a bar/restaurant. As such, the following shall apply;

A membership scheme will be in existence for access to the first floor which shall record the following;

- a. The name, address, email and contact telephone number of each member.
- b. Membership details will be held on the premises and available at all times to an officer of the council & Thames Valley Police.
- c. Food will continue to be available at all times to members and their guests.

There is no current membership scheme operating at the venue. There was demand from local residents and business owners to have a place locally where work meetings could take place, private social time with family and friends or to act as just a meeting spot. The membership does not only give an ownership to those willing to pay the fee for the venue, but it also acts as a deterrent from problematic customers. Adding such details to a premises licence shows due diligence in the running of a late night venue and also adds a level of ownership to each member. It is effectively their bar, and having their details held and available to the authorities adds an additional layer of security and further future proofing which is not currently present.

We appreciate that seeing a venue that has operated without concern in that past now asking for later opening hours can be worrying. But, the same venue, same operators, same responsibility and with the same respect to the area – the licensee is committed to ensuring that the good name of Tarrus switches seamlessly to that of the rebrand Ohana.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on the details below. If the details of this letter have allayed your concerns, please inform the licensing authority.

Kindest Regards

Peter

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