

LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 3 March 2020 at 6.30 p.m.

The Council Chamber, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent,
London, E14 2BG

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

This meeting is open to the public to attend.

Contact for further enquiries:

Simmi Yesmin, Senior Democratic Services Officer
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Tel: 020 7364 4120
E-mail: simmi.yesmin@towerhamlets.gov.uk
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For further information, see the main agenda.

| | PAGE NUMBER(S) | WARD(S) AFFECTED |
|--|-------------------|---|
| 4 .1 Application to Review the Premises Licence for Tobacco Dock, 50 Porters Walk, London E1W 2SF | 3 – 24 | St Katharine's & Wapping |
| Supporting documents submitted on behalf of the Premise Licence Holder. | (3-12) | |
| Supporting documents submitted on behalf of the Applicant | (13-23) | |

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Statement of Jonathan Read

1. I am Jonathan Read and I am a Director of Tobacco Dock Venue Limited, the premises licence holder and I am also the Designated Premises Supervisor for the premises.
2. The demolition of the News International headquarters in 2015/16, subsequent sale to Berkley Homes and the redevelopment of the site as London Dock, opened up the vista towards the City and we saw an opportunity to capitalise on these views and create a roof top space.
3. The applicant has suggested that the proper process was not followed for this Licensing Authority granting permission for use of this space. Olio Hunter and Gavin Mitchell also assert in their submissions that the local residents' were not consulted regarding Skylight opening and that Tobacco Dock Venue Limited were in some way "devious". This plainly is not true as the appropriate application to vary the premises licence, with the appropriate public consultation, took place in 2017. The criticism of the Licensing Authority (set out in the email Jack Hunter sent to Councillor Denise Jones) has absolutely no merit and is entirely unjustified and the allegation of being "devious" slanderous.
4. Initially we intended to create an alternative space to the main Tobacco Dock venue for corporate events – typically drinks receptions – but we had also identified the lack of amenity in the Wapping area for places for local residents to socialise other than the typical riverside pubs. Once established therefore we opened Skylight to the public on Thursday through to Sunday, opening between 5pm to 11pm on Thursdays and Fridays; noon to 11pm on Saturday's and Noon to 10pm on Sunday's.
5. Skylight has become a popular destination for local residents – we have over 120 locals who are regulars and we also host three local residents' groups socials a couple of times a year. Feedback from the community has been overwhelmingly supportive with comments received from emails and on Trip advisor, such as "it is great to have somewhere fun and vibrant to go that isn't a tourist-trap pub" and "Me and my neighbours in Elouna Apartments [block at top of Wapping Lane, 50 metres from Skylight] love the fact that we have one of East London's coolest rooftops on our doorstep."
6. Skylight supports over 40 direct jobs and with security, cleaning, maintenance indirectly supports dozens more as well as paying substantial business rates. Skylight has also raised over £30,000 for charities including the Jo Cox Foundation, the British Red Cross following the London Bridge terrorist attacks and supporting the Australian Bush fire relief efforts. We consider it to be very much the Hub of the local community as do the majority of local residents.
7. The Premises License for Skylight is part of the overall premises license for Tobacco Dock and therefore the conditions attached to this license apply to the Skylight. These include having SIA accredited door staff, CCTV and importantly the noise mitigation measures set out in the conditions. As part of our management plan, sound is monitored outside the 3 sensitive residential properties and on the rare occasion Db level limits are being reached we immediately instigate our plans to reduce levels. Considering events such as BBC Introducing Live have 7 sound stages and an audience of nearly 10,000 and we have no sound spillage we are confident that our operational processes and sound management plans are completely effective.

8. Tobacco Dock hosts in excess of 250 events per annum and attracts over 500,000 visitors to lifestyle exhibitions such as Taste of London food festival, the London Halal Food Festival and Lululemon's Sweat Life festival, corporate parties, conferences, product launches and awards dinners. It is now one of London's leading venues and we have won over 20 awards for the quality of our customer service and operational expertise. We are currently shortlisted in 7 categories in the EVENTEX global event awards.
9. We take our responsibilities as a venue operator very seriously indeed and have proactive measures in place to ensure that there is minimal impact of the local community such as putting litter picking patrols in place during and after public events, giving as much advanced notification as possible to local residents of events that have large footfall, working with event organisers on stewarding plans and installing temporary toilet facilities outside the venue. We enjoy a very positive relationship with the local community and frequently host community meetings in the venue and provide a forum for residents to communicate any concerns.
10. The complaint by Mr Hunter is a most regrettable set of circumstances. Following his initial complaint we extended noise monitoring to outside the complainant's building. We offered to arrange for measurements to be taken inside Mr Hunter's flat and on his balcony, [REDACTED]. I attach to my statement a photograph of google maps which shows the proximity of his flat which is 89 metres from Skylight.
11. [REDACTED]
12. Since the process of the license review commenced however, I communicated directly with Mr Hunter to establish his preferred outcome from this course of action [REDACTED]
13. The music being played on the rooftop is not regulated entertainment and thus not a licensable activity. We do not accept that the music is causing a nuisance to him or other residents.
14. With Mr Hunter's agreement we carried out acoustic tests on 7th February (using Vanguardia acoustic consultants) when we had a large corporate event with over 600 guests at Skylight. Vanguardia took simultaneous measurements at Skylight and also inside Mr Hunter's flat and on his balcony. Background music was played at its usual level in Skylight. The level of music is set at a maximum level and cannot be exceeded and has been at that level since we opened the bar back in 2017.
15. Sound Levels recorded at Skylight were between 63-67 dBA Leq and those in the flat were 30 dBA Leq with the windows closed when the music was entirely inaudible; and 35 dBA Leq (barely audible) with the windows open. The measurement was 47 dBA Leq on the balcony of the apartment, some 9 dB Leq lower than the required level on the premises licence condition.
16. All these sound checks are well within the levels prescribed in the Licensing Conditions which were set by the Environmental Health Officer – 56 dB leq. To give some comparisons of noise

levels a whisper is typically around 30Db, rainfall is around 50Db, normal conversation around 60Db, a washing machine on normal cycle 75-80 Db and shouting 110 Db. This supports the fact that we are a responsible and well managed venue and we are not causing a noise nuisance to local residents.

17. I note in the email correspondence Councillor Jones has produced, that Local Authority Officers visited the complainant's property on the 26th July 2019. We were not aware the Local Authority were going to be monitoring the noise levels on that evening. It is clear the Local Authority did not consider there was a nuisance even though this would have been a typical evening at Skylight. We were not contacted that weekend either by the Local Authority or Local Residents.
18. Mr Mitchell has submitted a noise nuisance diary sheet for the period 8th June 2018 to 1st July 2018. Tobacco Dock has never received a noise complaint from Mr Mitchell nor indeed had any contact from him whatsoever. If he had made contact we would have offered to take sound readings from his flat and establish if indeed there prescribed levels were being exceeded and taken measures to mitigate, exactly as we did with Mr Hunter. I also note that although Skylight has been trading from November 2018 – January 2019, from May 2019 – September 2019 and November 2019 – February 2020 he has not produced any further records. We have had no engagement with the Local Authority regarding any complaints made by Mr Mitchell and I am at a loss to understand what prompted him to record such a diary.
19. Mr Mitchell asserts that “there is usually a lot of noise in Wapping Lane, when drunk people are leaving the bar”. Patrons leave Skylight via Pennington Street and the vast majority use Shadwell Overground or DLR. Those that use taxis get picked up on Pennington Street so I would suggest that Mr Mitchell's claims are entirely false.
20. He also seems concerned that people “stand at the bar and stare over into my flat”. There is no bar that faces Mr Mitchell's flat, which is also at least 80 metres away, and it strikes me as highly unlikely that a patron would choose this vista (south) rather than a view of the City skyline (west) or Canary Wharf (east) or Tower Bridge and the Shard (south West). If it is, however, a genuine concern we will gladly look at installing a suitable planted screen so that there is no opportunity for patrons to look towards Discovery Walk, even though it is impossible to see into those flats from the Skylight even if you wanted to.
21. In summary, Tobacco Dock Venue Ltd and I as the Designated Premises Supervisor believe that our track record demonstrates that both Tobacco Dock and Skylight are run to extremely high, in fact award-winning, professional standards with sensitivity to our environment and the local community. We have brought a moribund building, which was unused for 25 years and on the English Heritage at risk register back to life and it is now a top 5 London events venue attracting some of the UK's most prestigious consumer and business events and generates significant GVA for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and London as a whole. We have created over 400 jobs and also support a community of over 200 entrepreneurs in scaling businesses located in our co-working spaces. We also pay over £263,000 in business rates per annum.
22. We would be more than happy to explore further ways to mitigate any sources of complaints from the local residents but do not accept that noise is a nuisance based on the very recent measurements taken by acoustic experts. If we cannot play background music at Skylight, we will be disadvantaged to such an extent that the bar enjoyed by so many local residents will

not be commercially viable and will have to close with the loss of over 40 jobs. This would be a great a great pity.

23. Other than Mr Hunter our venue has only been contacted by one other resident regarding the the noise of the music from Skylight, a Mr Armstrong in 2018. We have always acted in the most professional and courteous manner and have a very good working relationship with the responsible authorities. If there has been any concern raised with any other aspect of the use of Tobacco Dock by the responsible authorities we have responded immediately and effectively. We cannot be expected to do so for complaints which have no merit or substance, although until July 2019 that is what we tried to do.
24. Finally I would like to say that it was most regrettable that Mr Hunter failed to follow the correct process when applying for the premises licence review, given how damaging such an application can be for a business and the amount of advice he had been given from the Council on how to submit his review. His failure to follow the correct procedure meant the public notices exhibited at the premises were on the premises for a week longer than they should have been. Despite a 5 week consultation only 2 other residents complained. I have addressed the complaint from Mr Mitchell. Mr Iaroslavski lives over 150 metres from the venue as the crow flies. He has never made a complaint to the venue.
25. It is my firm belief the Sub-Committee should not be taking any action in this matter as there is no evidence that a nuisance is occurring which should be prevented.

Jonathan Read.

24th February 2020

Statement of Scott McVittie

1. I am Event Director at Meanwhile Events and have direct line management responsibility for the operational teams at Skylight - Tobacco Dock. I lead the creative development of Skylight, have accountability across operations, marketing, finance, human resources, sponsorship and public relations.
2. I am directly responsible for managing the team of 2 Site Managers, 6 supervisors and 40 employees, as well as all personnel who work with us through our supplier partners, including: our marketing agencies, security providers, cleaning staff, and entertainment providers (approximately 40 additional individuals across those teams).
3. Skylight - Tobacco Dock is open to the public Thursday to Sunday on 39 weeks of the year (May - January) but operates private corporate events on other dates under the same provisions applied to the main events business within Tobacco Dock. Our schedule of events and standard operating times are communicated to the council as part of our standard full venue event notification submission, managed by Andrew Cameron, Group Accounts Operation Manager.
4. Skylight is advertised as "London's Most Imaginative Rooftop Bar." We have created a unique venue offering for Wapping and East London that includes bookable activities to enhance the customers experience when socialising with friends, for example croquet lawns, pétanque courts, and table games. During the winter we have our now famous rooftop ice rink.
5. We offer well crafted, quality street food and beverage options. Children are welcome at Skylight all days until 6.00pm and all day Sundays when accompanied by a parent or guardian. Pets are also welcome at Skylight all days until 6.00pm and all day Sundays. Skylight brings a very unique amenity to local residents through all of our activities and by offering a friendly outdoor environment to socialise in.
6. We have become a community hub. We have donated to a number of charities and schools to allow people to come along and enjoy the experience of the Skylight without any cost to them. In addition we have made charitable donations such as: £11,000 to the Red Cross "Stand Together for London" campaign; £11,150 to the Jo Cox Foundation; participated in Wapping's The Great Get Together in 2017 and offered refreshments to local residents guests visiting along the canal and at Skylight and recently we donated proceeds from "Australia Day on Ice" to 3 Australian charities to aid in the 2020 bushfire crisis.
7. We are not a venue that people come to with the intention of getting drunk and we do not have any issue of excessive drinking or anti-social behaviour. The demographic of our customer base is principally young professionals in the late twenties to early 40's. We do get a lot of families in on the weekends.
8. The music at the venue is not intrusive and customers are able to talk to each other at a normal conversational level without having to raise their voice.
9. Sound levels are maintained to ensure that all guests at Skylight are able to maintain conversations with one another with ease. There are conditions on the licence controlling the sound levels. We have 2 amplifiers on site that control sound volume across the full venue - one controls volumes levels across our outdoor sound system and one across our indoor sound system. Both amplifiers have been fitted with bass-level limiters that filters the lowest bass sound levels from the system (specifically designed to lower sound bleed in outdoor environments).
10. Our sound system functions within set parameters at all times, regardless of the sound input source (e.g. playing music from a radio, computer, phone, playlist, or DJ decks). To be specific, this means that even if a DJ is curating music live in the venue, the output volume levels remain the same as if it were from a standard background recorded playlist.

11. Our staff take daily dBA readings from 3 mandated locations around the venue to ensure Skylight sound levels are not impacting on our neighbouring residents. These readings are photographed and logged daily on our internal operations management tracking system
12. Skylight closes at 11.00pm. Our music is fully shut off every shift at 10.45pm on our outdoor level to indicate to guests that closing time is approaching. All guests have fully exited the premises by 11.30 pm each night.
13. Our security compliment (typically 3 to 6 members) actively manage the egress procedure every shift - they ensure all guests have left their drinks in the venue, guide them to the exit and remind them to respect our neighbours by leaving the venue quietly and safely. Signs are positioned along the exit reminding guests to respect our neighbours and leave the venue quietly and respectfully. Security manage the egress from the building until the final guest has left the building
14. No music is ever played during closing procedures and venue cleaning. Staff are not permitted to have guests within the venue during this close down time.
15. I can also confirm we I have never had a complaint from Ilia Iaroslavski nor Gavin Mitchell. The management at the premises have received a number of complaints from Mr Hunter and on one occasion from his wife.
16. In our engagement with Mr Hunter we have always been courteous and polite and listened to his concerns and tried to mediate those concerns, even though Mr Hunter made numerous complaints which we did not consider had any merit. For example we would turn the music down even though it was already at a level which was not causing a nuisance and effectively background music. We provided him with the personal mobile phone numbers of the duty managers, rather than making a call to the venues landline number.
17. 
18. Nevertheless we continued to liaise with him, principally through Andrew Cameron who is the Senior Events Operations manager for Tobacco Dock. Andrew always kept Mr Hunter informed, for example confirming when the premises was going to be closed in January 2019 and arranging to meet Mr Hunter in April 2019 before the premises re-opened in May 2019. That meeting was suggested by Andrew and not as a result of any further complaint from Mr Hunter.
19. However, in June 2019 matters came to a head when Mr Hunter attended the venue. We had not received any telephone call prior to him attending the site. 

20. 
21. I produce emails from Peter Allnut, dated 28th October 2018 and Tony Gowen, dated 21st December 2018 to evidence the work we do with responsible authorities and local residents with regard to the events we hold at Tobacco Dock.

24th February 2020

Principal Licensing Officer

Licensing Team
 John Onslow House
 1 Ewart Place
 London
 E3 5EQ

Please note:

Meetings with Licensing Officers are by prearranged appointment only.

General email: licensing@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Please visit our web page for application forms and guidance
 at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/licensing



From: Andrew Cameron [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 July 2019 11:47
To: Nicola Cadzow; David Tolley
Cc: Abdal Ullah; Kathy Driver; Licensing; MARK.J.Perry [REDACTED]
Subject: Tobacco Dock Noise complaint & Persistent Complainer

Dear Nicola & Team,

We note receipt of your letter (App Ref 292533) dated 30/05/2019.

The complaint alleges out of hours noise (although the letter does not state what time this complaint was received) and notes excessive noise from music.

In response we would like to be clear that no music was played outside of the licensed hours of Tobacco Dock, Premises License Number: 26336. Any music is simply background music at Skylight and is never played beyond the licensed hours.

In terms of music being alleged as excessive again this is denied. As we do with the main venue events, decibel readings are taken around the surrounding area of the venue during opening hours – these are recorded and dated. Should any readings exceed the licensed limits notes are taken to explain this, such as dogs barking, passers-by, traffic and air traffic noise. Should the music be audible, levels are adjusted immediately.

On a related matter, we would also like to inform you, along with others on copy, of an individual who has complained consistently over a period of time – Mr Jack Hunter of [REDACTED]. We have been in regular communication with Mr Hunter regarding his personal concerns about noise for at least a year. On each occasion we have responded promptly and fully. [REDACTED]

We have met with Mr Hunter in person three times to discuss his concerns and to walk through the venue to understand his issues. Further, we have spoken on the phone on many occasions in and out of office hours on a weekly basis and had multiple email conversations lasting a number of days. In total we estimate that over 100 staff hours have been used to work with Mr Hunter relating to his concerns.

The above has been all hours of the day including weekends and late nights and we genuinely believe that we have been as accommodating and responsive with Mr Hunter over the time as could have been expected.

Despite, at all times being fully compliant with our license, we of course wish to maintain strong relationships with our residents and neighbours so we have taken the following steps to ensure his concerns have been actioned where possible:

- We have physically moved speakers so they are not in the line of sight from his property and ensured that they face away. Specific speakers he believed were causing him any disturbance have been physically adjusted to ensure they cannot be turned up to higher levels.
- We have added and moved décor and theming in the venue to ensure that there is no clear view into his property – although when the licencing team visited the venue the group did not believe that any property could be observed.
- The personal mobile numbers of the Skylight bar managers were given to Mr Hunter so that if he felt disturbed that he has an immediate way to resolve his concerns. This worked for some time with various text conversations between the managers and Mr Hunter and any 'issues' were resolved. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please do let us know if you have any questions at all or if we can provide any further information.

Kind regards
Andrew

Andrew Cameron
Senior Group Manager – Client Services

Tobacco Dock / A Destination Venue for Conferences – Events – Exhibitions – Celebrations

[REDACTED]



Tobacco Dock Venue Limited. Registered Office Address: The Dock, Tobacco Quay, Wapping Lane, London E1W 2SF Registered In England No. 07990825

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Jon Wallsgrove

From: jack hunter [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 July 2019 15:11
To: Andrew Cameron
Cc: Serene Morden McDade; Daniel Smith
Subject: Re: 2019_06_12_20_00_16.mp3

Hi Andrew,

Using phrases like 'claim you suffered' aren't the best way to start an email, Andrew. But I'll just ignore that comment. [REDACTED] firstly I simply walked up to the bar, no forceful entry occurred. Unless walking into a premises counts as a forceful entry. In fact, I just stood by the entrance and waited for the manager. So that's a complete fabrication of the real events.

Secondly, the recordings I sent you were from my apartment, something I'm totally within my rights to do. I didn't record anything from within your venue. Why on earth would I want or need to do that?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Jack

On Thu, Jul 4, 2019 at 2:51 PM Andrew Cameron <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Jack,

As you know, we have worked closely with you for over a year to ensure we minimise any disturbance which you claim you have suffered.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We would therefore request that if you have any future concerns with Skylight that you use the appropriate channels via London Borough Tower Hamlets and we will respond to them accordingly.

[REDACTED]

Regards

Andrew

Andrew Cameron
Senior Group Manager – Client Services

Tobacco Dock / A Destination Venue for Conferences – Events – Exhibitions – Celebrations

From: jack hunter <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wednesday, 12 June 2019 at 20:40

To: Andrew Cameron <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Fwd: 2019_06_12_20_00_16.mp3

And here is another example of how your bar is 'inside the limits'.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: jack hunter <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 12 Jun 2019, 20:31

Subject: 2019_06_12_20_00_16.mp3

To: Addison Lee <[REDACTED]>



Review application: Skylight Bar

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in response to the points put forward by Tobacco Docks solicitors, ahead of the hearing on the 3rd arch 2020. To ensure the hearing committee understand how myself and others affected by their noise nuisance feel about their points.

Point 1.

A. Questions the validity of the licensable activities.

The licensing office / committee have decided there are enough grounds for a review, therefore this does not question the validity of the licensable activities.

B. Appropriate consultation

I would say Tobacco Dock did the minimum in regards to consultations. NO property based adjacent or within close proximity was consulted about the Bar being placed on the roof. The only 'public consultation' was via a few sign posts that were placed on a road not used by anyone from Discovery Walk and a local paper many of us didn't know existed!

C. 'Is not therefore relevant consideration for the committee in this application

Similar to point A, the licensing office / committee have decided there are enough grounds for a review. Thus making this point incorrect.

Point 2

A. 'Not one that calls into question the operation of the premises license'

As discussed earlier, the licensing office / committee have decided there are enough grounds for a review. Thus making this point incorrect.

Point 3.

A. 'It is not accepted by the premises license holder that a nuisance is being caused'

The licensing office / committee have decided there are enough grounds for a review due to the nuisance caused by Skylight Bar. Thus making this point incorrect.

Furthermore, the license holder is not in a position to make a judgement of what constitutes a nuisance from within his own licensed venue.

Also, evidence from several neighbours would contradict this point, and I would

Point 4.

A. The music played in the skylight bar is not a licensable activity

The application is In line with the Home Office Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, and is asking removal of the deregulation of the dis-applies noise conditions on licenses. Thus making this point incorrect.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

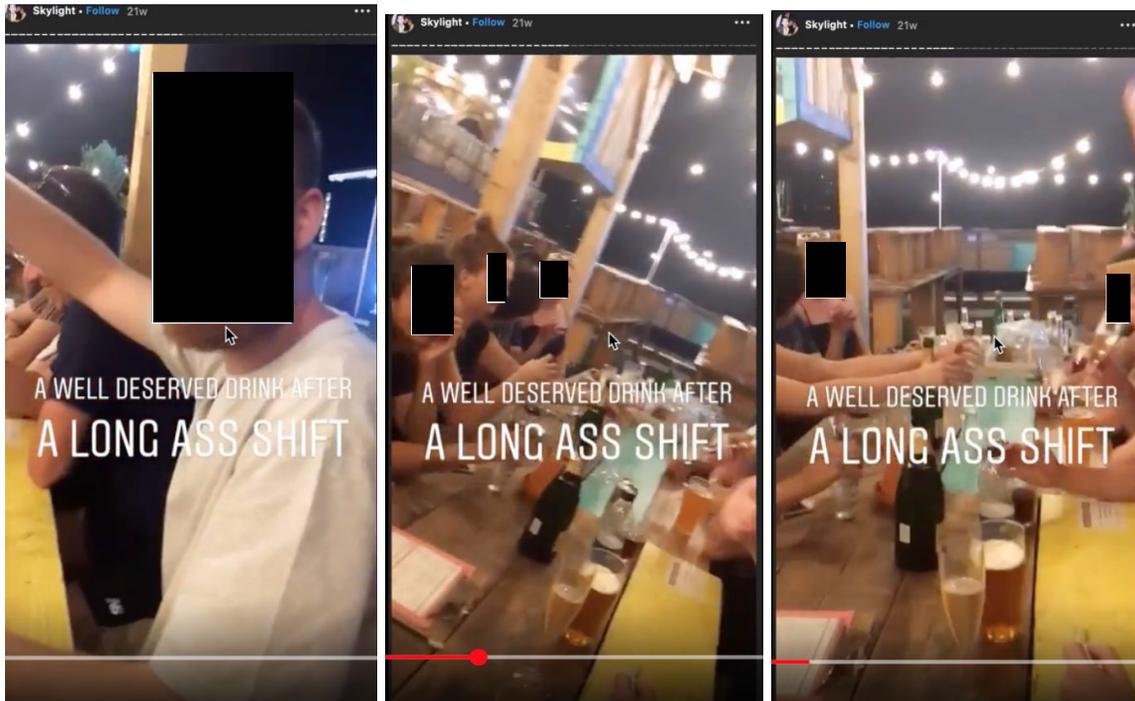
Point 6.

- A. 'It attracts a lot of families and children' 'alcohol offers' and 'the staff do not have drinks in the bar after work'

It attracts a lot of families and children - Hard to prove, but I would disagree with statement. The winter months this may be true for the ice skating. Only have to look at their social media in the summer to see that NO children are present in the bar

Alcohol offers - Please see attached documents proving this untrue

The staff do not have drinks in the bar after work - Please see below images (extract of a video) taken by one of the managers, showing this to be completely untrue. (also showing another manager in the video / photo taking part in the drinking after work in the bar.



Point 9.

- A. 'The premise holder has worked in partnership with responsible authorities, local residents groups and local residents'

This may be true for events held at Tobacco Dock and I would even agree with some of these statements. However in regards to Skylight bar I would argue the license holder has NOT had any conversations about the issues in the application with any Local residents or local residents groups. I would recommend the committee ask how they have worked in partnership with these groups / residents in respect to Skylight bar & NOT regarding Tobacco Dock.

Point 10

- A. 'This application does not require the licensing authority to take any remedial action'

An arrogant statement that shows Tobacco Docks disregard & opinion towards this review application and its neighbours who are constantly affected by the Bar and its noise during the summer months and occasionally the winter months. The licensing office / committee have decided there are enough grounds for a review.



Review Application: Skylight Bar, Tobacco Dock

To whom it may concern,

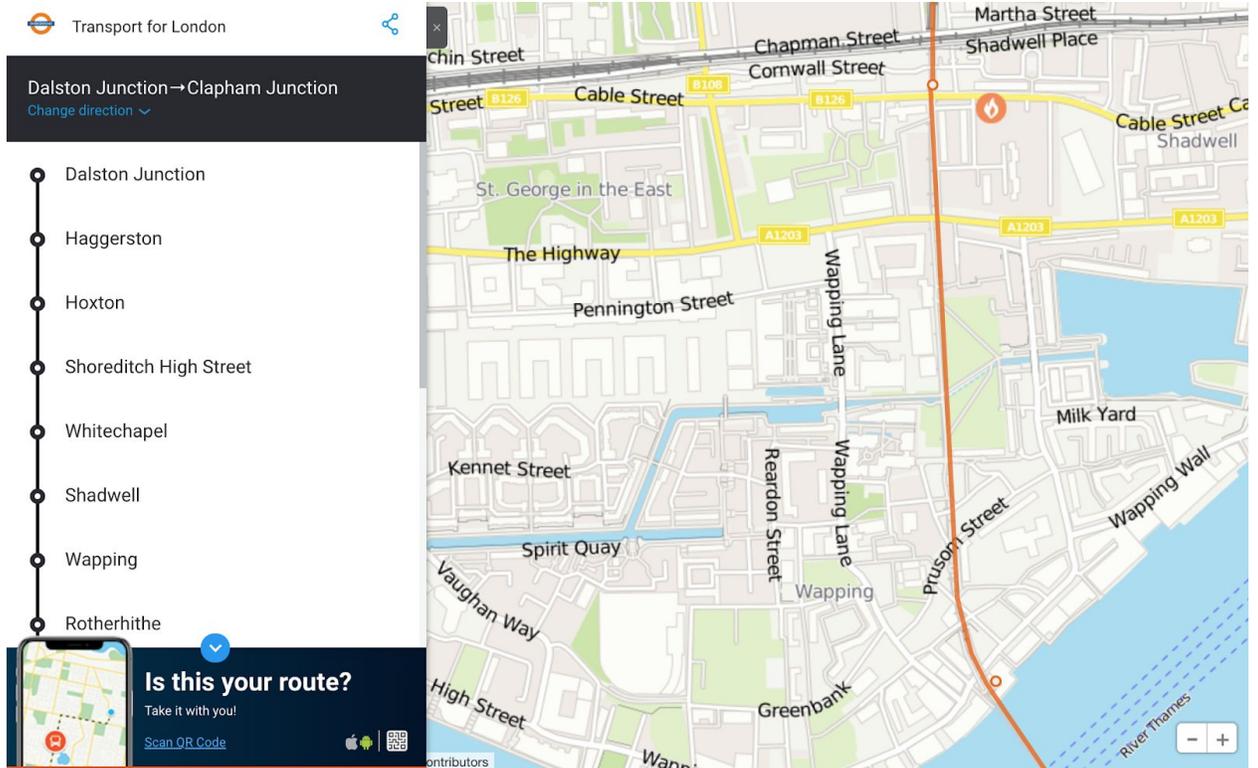
I am writing in response to the letter that was written in support of Tobacco Dock by 'Kathryn Anne Hegarty-Smith'.

I respect her comments and her opinions on the matter, but I would like to point out a few **key issues** with the letter of support that are important to keep in mind.

1. Tobacco Dock is situated directly on the Overground

Response: This **isn't** true. The Overground runs via wapping woods, and the other side of Wapping Lane. This is Roughly 165 meters to the east of my property and others affected by Skylight. Thus not being an issue for anyone on Discovery Walk.

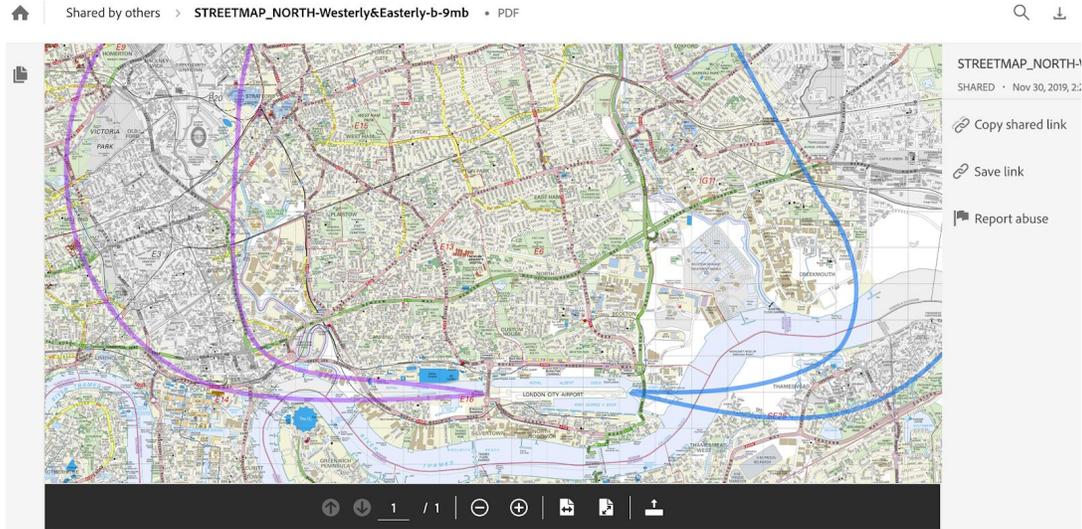
Please see map below for example (this is a true representation of the route not a TFL map)



2. *Underneath City Airport Flight plan*

Response: Wapping is not on a direct flight path to City Airport, but on occasions if wind affects airport approaches, the planes do come in over Wapping. But this isn't all day / everyday. Thus not being a constant nuisance. Please see the below link that outlines issues around London City Airport flight paths and the areas in East London that are affected by them, note the lack of Wapping being mentioned.

<https://www.change.org/p/sadiq-khan-stop-the-concentrated-flight-paths-from-city-airport-over-east-london>



3. *'and within throwing distance of Tobacco Dock and Skylight' & 'Neither of us have been disturbed' by anything like that.*

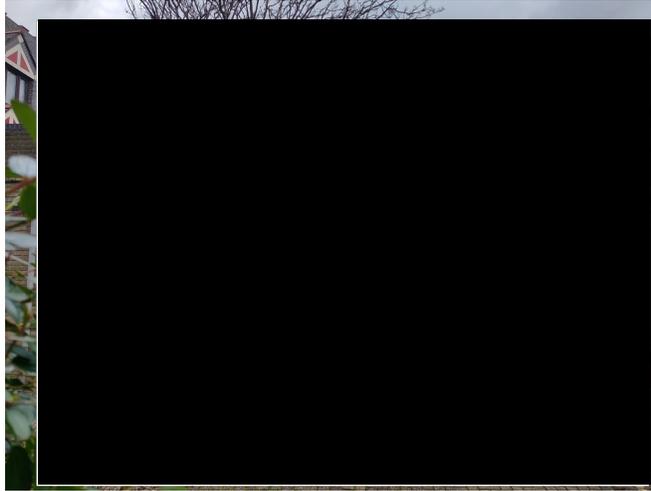
Response:

Though I am happy to hear they are **not** affected by Tobacco Dock, I think it's worth noting they are NOT within throwing distance of Tobacco Dock and cant even see Skylight bar or Tobacco Dock from their property!

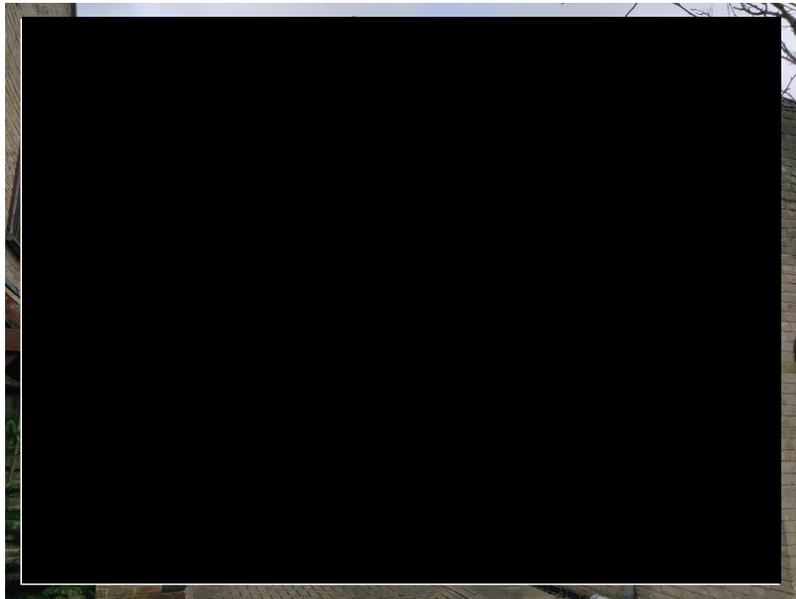
Furthermore they are protected from the sound by, an extra 50 meters of distance, being on different level to Discovery Walk (lower than our's) and most importantly protected by a row of buildings (which are the buildings myself and others live in!!!). Their garden also faces the opposite direction!

Please see images below for reference & proof of the above response:

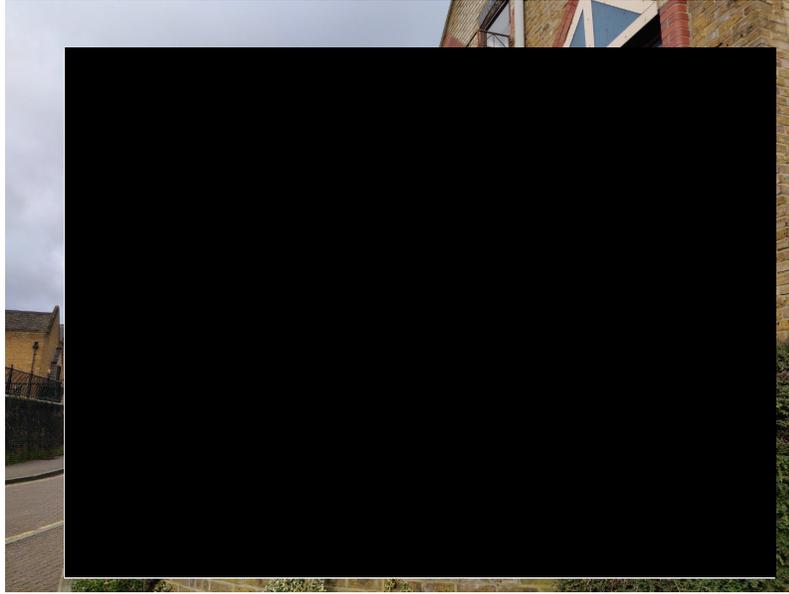
1. Proof that tobacco dock or Skylight bar cant be seen from this house and is protected by sound from row of houses (discovery walk + others)



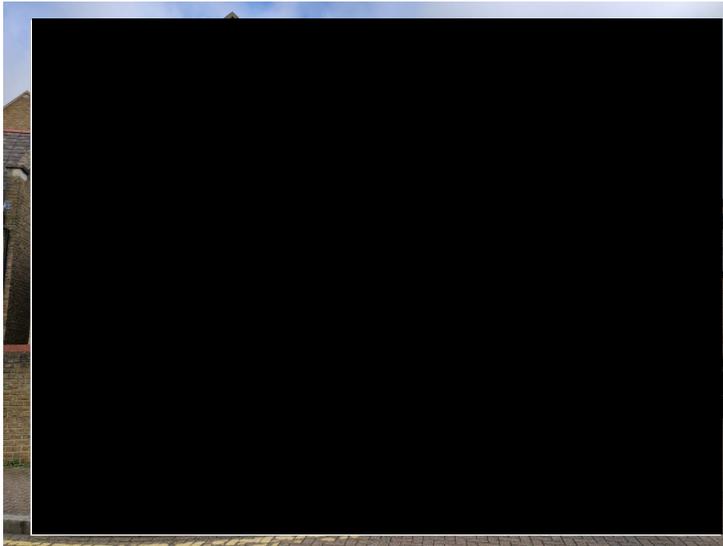
2. Additional wall outside front of house to help block noise. Windows on ground and first floor also protected from sound.



3. Back of house and garden facing opposite direction:



4. Back of house and view of Discovery walk protecting this house from any noise from Skylight / Tobacco Dock



4. *I hope you consider this before shutting down a fantastic business that brings a lot of charm, whimsy and let's not forget.. money,*

Response:

A: I think Katie has misunderstood this application. I'm not hoping to shut down Tobacco Dock or even Skylight bar! I'm asking for their music to be turned off in the open bar of Skylight.

B: I would argue that Skylight bar doesn't really bring any additional money to Wapping. Tobacco Dock I agree does on occasions. But not the bar.

Full letter for reference:

Dear LBTH Licensing Section,

Hi, I am Katie; A resident of Wapping for 15 years (and My Husband has been here since 1991), and within throwing distance of Tobacco Dock and Skylight. These complaints of noise nuisance are perplexing to me. Neither of us have been "disturbed" by anything like that. C'mon - Tobacco Dock is situated directly on the Overground route, next to the Highway, and underneath City Airport Flight plan - Noise come's with the territory... At least this way it is musical! To be serious though, Skylight and Tobacco Docks have been nothing but fair in their approach to our neighbourhood - Always monitoring noise, litter allowance, safety, timekeeping, whilst always giving residents fair warning of events.. and also telling us about fun and interesting things to do. I hope you consider this before shutting down a fantastic business that brings a lot of charm, whimsy and let's not forget.. money, both direct and indirectly to Wapping. Kathryn Anne Hegarty-Smith P.S. Happy to discuss this further at your convenience. P.P.S. and it just looks so gosh darn pretty!



Review application: Skylight Bar, Tobacco Dock

To whom it may concern,

I would like to put forward some evidence that proves how Skylight Bar is not a venue that is structured around the local community and only one that is looking to make as much profit as possible for the venue. I'd like to draw attention to the director of Meanwhile Events 'Scott McVittie' and his social media (linkedin) page that describes nothing but the financial success of the bar.

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Meanwhile Events Ltd. specialises in finding creative commercial solutions for 'meanwhile' use properties. We produced and successfully operate Skylight - Rooftop at Tobacco Dock and Last Nights of Havana at Tobacco Dock.

Skylight has become a leading entertainment and F&B destination in London. After a first season with sales and profits that more than doubled our original stretch targets we also achieved record PR coverage securing coverage in leading publications including: Vogue UK, GQ, The Evening Standard, Time Out and The Nudge.

I also have responsibility for all sponsorship acquisitions for relevant event properties and have successfully raised over £200,000 a year.

-Executive and creative lead for Skylight – Tobacco Dock's rooftop bar and event venue generating over £1.5m in year 1 revenue from public operations (doubling original stretch targets) in public sales and corporate bookings

-Generated £1m of corporate bookings sales over 2 years

-Grew revenues by 25% in year 2

-Raised over £250,000 in sponsorship revenue from beer, spirits and wine partners

-Developed all branding and creative elements, including concept design and interior layouts

-Secured PR coverage in all top UK F&B, lifestyle and entertainment publications achieving annual visitor numbers of 80,000

-Lead all buying and partnership negotiations with alcohol brand partners and wholesalers

-Recruited over 40 staff and implemented all H&S, operational plans and procedures

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