

Telephone: [REDACTED]

27th January 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re Licence Application by Town House

As a resident of Fournier Street Spitalfields for over 24 years, I write to support the licence application lodged by Town House, 5 Fournier Street, requesting permission to sell alcohol during shop hours.

I give three reasons:

- 1) For many years both Christ Church and the Ten Bells pub (both located near Town House) have gained alcohol licences, serve and sell alcohol to thousands of people out of working hours and long into the night. This modest application by Town House is perfectly reasonable as, by awarding a licence, it will not add to the problems often associated with the night time economy - crime, disorder or public nuisance.
- 2) Visiting the historic buildings and conservation area of Spitalfields, as well as enjoying the retail and food outlets, is an attraction for many people captivate by the diverse cultures and nationalities that have sought refuge in Spitalfields. Many come for the architecture - no other street in London can claim the suburb variety of Spitalfields porches; some come to trace their Jewish, Irish, Maltese, French and Bengali roots and the added delight of being able to enter a well-restored 18th century silk merchant's house, look around the art gallery, sit and sip coffee and munch home made cakes in the courtyard, is an unexpected pleasure and hugely enjoyable memory for our visitors to take away with them. It is unique.
- 3) But the main reason that I write is to check that the Licence Committee is aware of the role that the owners and staff of Town House play in our community. I run a charity, Huguenots of Spitalfields, which highlights the contribution the Huguenots, our first refugees, have made to Spitalfields and our country through educational and heritage initiatives. We have staged five Festivals and Town House has played a hugely supportive role in all of them. Throughout my dealings, with the owners and team, they have been professional, efficient, caring and their creative input has been a bonus to us all. And I am just one of the small local charitable organisations that has benefited from their expertise in staging events.

Town House plays a major part in our community - whether it is cosy place for the locals to meet to discuss our joint interests and concerns, encouraging young artists,

putting 'good causes' publicity material in the windows, bringing national events to our street, supporting charitable efforts - and pitching in to support the neighbourhood during 'Spitalfields Gardens' with the National Garden Scheme - the Town House team adds so much to the local and Spitalfields neighbourhood and visitor experience.

Please awarding the requested licence application to TownHouse.

Yours faithfully

Charlie de Wet (Mrs)

Chair, Huguenots of Spitalfields



LOTTERY FUNDED



27th January 2019

To whom it may concern

As a long-standing local resident, payer of Council Tax and owner of property in Tower Hamlets, I write in support of the application by Clifford & Fiona Atkins of 5 Fournier Street who wish to sell their own and other small producers' craft cider and other products through their shop The Townhouse.

These are two individuals of utmost integrity and their shop is an asset to the community, employing local people. The shop sells artisan goods, antiques and fine art and only opens during the day time.

While I am aware of the disturbance and social problems caused by the proliferation of bars in Spitalfields and Brick Lane, it is obvious that Clifford & Fiona Atkins selling small quantities of craft products are not going to contribute to this. There will be no consumption on site, only off sales for customers to take home.

It is essential that the Council support independent shops in the borough and granting this licence will be an important factor in ensuring the sustainability of this small business which contributes to the stability of the local community.

Yours sincerely

Paul Godfrey



January 29 2019

To whom it may concern

We moved to Spitalfields from Highgate 6 years ago.

We knew no-one in the area, but in a very short time neighbours made themselves known to us and made us welcome.

Among these was Fiona Atkins.

Over the years we have found Fiona to be a sincere and considerate person who runs a much appreciated local business.

In the comparatively short time we have been here we have witnessed many changes to this historic area.

Independent enterprises have been squeezed out by landlords who have very little regard for the needs of the community.

Soaring rents have seen the creatives, for which the area was renowned, replaced by chain stores and corporates.

In the midst of all this is a handful of local businesses like Fiona's.

The Town House is a well curated delight, displaying a collection of antiques, fabrics and ceramics.

Art books, mostly featuring East End Artists are sold alongside regular exhibitions of their work.

A tea shop is run in the basement featuring home made cakes and biscuits.

Fiona is a person of honesty and integrity and is passionate about the preservation of Spitalfields and the East End.

As near neighbours we have absolutely no hesitation in supporting her licence application for the Town House.

Fiona Atkins is a valuable contributor to our community and deserves our support.

Kind regards

Jonathan Pryce & Kate Fahy