Committee :	Date	Classification	Report No.	Agenda Item
Licensing Sub-Committee	29 September 2020	Unclassified		No.

Report of: David Tolley

Head of Environmental Health & Trading

Standards

Originating Officer: **Mohshin Ali**

Senior Licensing Officer

Title: Licensing Act 2003

Application for a Premises Licence for (Brand Events Ltd/Veg in the Park), Victoria Park, Grove Road,

London E3 5TB

Ward affected: **Bow East**

1.0 **Summary**

Applicant: Brand Events Ltd

Name and Veg in the Park

Address of Premises: Victoria Park

Grove Road

Bow London E3 5TB

Licence sought: Licensing Act 2003 – premises licence

The sale by retail of alcohol

The provision of regulated entertainment

Representation (s): One resident

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Licensing Committee considers the application and representations then adjudicate accordingly.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2000 (Section 97) LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE DRAFTING OF THIS REPORT

Brief description of "background paper"

Tick if copy supplied for register

If not supplied, name and telephone number of holder

- Guidance Issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003
- Tower Hamlets Licensing Policy
- File

Mohshin Ali 020 7364 5498

3.0 Background

- 3.1 This is an application for a premises licence for (Brand Events Ltd/Veg in the Park), Victoria Park, Grove Road, London E3 5TB.
- 3.2 The applicant has described the premises as follows: "Veg in the Park (working title) is a brand extension of the successful tour of events, 'Tom Kerridge presents Pub in the Park'. It is a three-day food and music festival celebrating high-end vegan and vegetarian food from the nation's leading chefs".
- 3.3 A copy of the premises licence application form is enclosed as **Appendix 1**.
- 3.4 The applicant has applied for the following licensable activities and timings:-

The sale by retail of alcohol (On and off sales)

- Friday, from 17:00 hrs to 22:30 hrs
- Saturday, from 11:00 hrs to 22:30 hrs
- Sunday, from 11:00 hrs to 20:00 hrs

The provision of regulated entertainment – Indoors and outdoors (Films. Live music, recorded music, performance of dance and anything of a similar description)

- Friday, from 17:00 hrs to 22:45 hrs
- Saturday, from 11:00 hrs to 22:45 hrs
- Sunday, from 11:00 hrs to 20:00 hrs

The opening hours of the premises

- Monday to Friday, from 17:00 hrs to 23:00 hrs
- Saturday, from 11:00 hrs to 23:00 hrs
- Sunday, from 11:00 hrs to 19:30 hrs

LICENSING OFFICER COMMENTS:

Members should note that for Sundays, the applicant has proposed the sale of alcohol to continue until 20:00 hours. However, the opening (closing) times of the premises for Sundays are being proposed at an earlier time of 19:30 hours. The applicant may wish to clarify this inconsistency.

4.0 Location and Nature of the premises

- 4.1 The site plan of the venue is included as **Appendix 2**.
- 4.2 Maps showing the vicinity are included as **Appendix 3.**
- 4.3 Details of the nearest licensed venues are included as **Appendix 4**.

5.0 Licensing Policy and Government Advice

- 5.1 The Council has adopted a licensing policy and this is available from the Licensing Section, and at the hearing. The revised policy came into effect on the 1st November 2018.
- 5.2 Relevant Sections of the policy are brought to the attention of Members within the Licensing Officers report.
- 5.3 The Home Secretary has issued Guidance under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003. This is available on the Government's website, www.homeoffice.gov.uk. It was last revised in April 2018.
- 5.4 Relevant Sections of this advice are brought to Members attention within the Licensing Officers report. Members should note however, than in some areas Tower Hamlets, after a proper consideration of local circumstances, has not followed the Government's advice, or has developed it further.

6.0 Representations

- 6.1 All representations have to meet basic legal and administrative requirements. If they fail to do so they cannot be accepted. When rejected the person sending in the representation must be written to, and an explanation for rejection given in writing
- 6.2 A responsible authority or other person can make a representation. There are two tests for other persons and only one for a responsible authority. The two tests are contained in Section 18 of the Act.
- 6.3 All representations must be "about the likely effect of the grant of the premises licence on the promotion of the licensing objectives." Likely means something that will probably happen, i.e. on balance more likely than not.
- 6.4 Representations by responsible authorities do not have to meet the second test of not being vexatious and frivolous. Other persons have to meet this test.
- 6.5 The Home Office recommends that in borderline cases, the benefit of the doubt should be given to the interested party making the representation.
- 6.6 Section 182 Advice by the Home Office concerning relevant, vexatious and frivolous representations is attached as **Appendix 5**.
- 6.7 All the representations in this report have been considered by the relevant officer (Team Leader Licensing & Safety) and determined to have met the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.
- 6.8 This hearing is required by the Licensing Act 2003, because a relevant representation has been made by the following:
 - Irina Filatova Appendix 6

- 6.9 All of the responsible authorities have been consulted about this application. They are as follows:
 - The Licensing Authority
 - The Metropolitan Police
 - London Fire Brigade
 - Planning
 - Health and Safety
 - Environmental Health Noise Team
 - Trading Standards
 - Child Protection
 - Public Health
 - Home Secretary (Home Office Immigration Enforcement)
- 6.10 In addition the application was required to be advertised in a local newspaper and by a blue poster. Only representations that relate to the following licensing objectives are relevant:
 - the prevention of crime and disorder
 - public safety
 - the prevention of public nuisance
 - the protection of children from harm
- 6.11 Essentially, the relevant party opposes the application because in their opinion, the applicant has not explained how within the context of the application they will meet the licensing objective of the prevention of public nuisance, public safety and the protection of children.
- 6.12 There are strict time limits to any representations. The time limits are contained in The Licensing Act 2003 (Premises licences and club premises certificates) Regulations 2005.
- 6.13 The applicant has offered measures in the operating schedule of the application that address the promotion of the Licensing Objectives. If there were no representations, the Licensing Authority would grant the licence, with conditions consistent with the operating schedule, which are relevant, proportionate and enforceable. Members are asked to consider the schedule and incorporate any conditions as necessary to address the licensing objectives.
- 6.14 The applicant has tried to resolve the representation with the objector. However, the objector has not withdrawn the representation.

7.0 Conditions consistent with Operating Schedule

7.1 See conditions agreed with responsible authorities.

- 8.0 Conditions in consultation with the Responsible Authorities (Licensing Authority conditions agreed See Appendix 7)
- 8.1 The licence shall only be used on three consecutive days per year.
- 8.2 An Event Safety Management Plan (ESMP) containing detail appropriate to each year's Event will be produced and implemented in consultation with and with the agreement of the Responsible Authorities through multi-agency or Event Planning Group meetings;
- 8.3 The first draft of the ESMP, including a detailed plan of the site, will be submitted to the Licensing Authority, the Responsible Authorities and other members of the Event Planning Group for consideration at least three months prior to the event;
- 8.4 For each event the Premises Licence holder will produce a final ESMP (including the plan of the site) which must be agreed by the Licensing Authority prior to the event taking place;
- 8.5 The licence holder must produce an alcohol management plan of which must be agreed with the Licensing Authority prior to the event taking place.
- 8.6 A Challenge 25 proof of age scheme shall be operated at the premises where the only acceptable forms of identification are recognised photographic identification cards, such as a driving licence, passport or proof of age card with the PASS Hologram.
- 8.7 A record shall be kept detailing all refused sales of alcohol. The record should include the date and time of the refused sale and the name of the member of staff who refused the sale. The record shall be available for inspection at the premises by the police or an authorised officer.
- 8.8 No open containers of alcohol shall be taken off the licensed area.
- 8.9 Any mobile dispensing servers (MDS) will be accompanied by persons not involved directly in serving alcohol. These other persons ('shepherds') will be responsible, jointly with the sellers and security personnel, for ensuring that mobile units comply with the Challenge 21 policy used on site, including preventing proxy sales; and for the prevention of sales to intoxicated customers;
- 8.10 The licensee must ensure that all staff involved in MDS operations are fully aware of and understand the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 and all related conditions applicable to the event.
- 8.11 MDS operators must carry a clear indication that a Challenge 25 protocol is in operation.

(Environmental Health Noise conditions agreed – See **Appendix 8**)

- 8.12 For Events, the "Music Noise Level" (MNL) measured as an LAeq over any 15- minute period from an agreed permanent noise monitoring position shall not exceed 70 dBLAeq 15-minutes for the last two acts on each day.
- 8.13 For music throughout the early part of the day prior to the two main acts, the "Music Noise Level" (MNL) measured as a LAeq over any 15- minute from an agreed permanent noise monitoring position shall not exceed 65dBLAeq

9.0 Licensing Officer Comments

- 9.1 The Live Music Act removed licensing requirements for the following:
 - amplified live music and recorded music between 8am and 11pm before audiences of no more than 500 people on premises authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises;
 - unamplified live music between 8am and 11pm in all venues.
 - Further exemptions apply see Section 16.5-16.6 of Section 182
 Guidance.
- 9.2 The following is intended simply to advise Members of the relevant aspects of the Boroughs Licensing Policy, guidance from the Secretary of State, legislation and good practice. Members may depart from the Council's Licensing Policy and/or Government advice, provide they consider it appropriate to do so, and have clear reasons for their decision.
- 9.3 Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003
 - ❖ As stated in the guidance it is "provided to licensing authorities in relation to the carrying out of their functions under the 2003 Act." It is a key medium for promoting best practice, ensuring consistent application and promoting fairness equal treatment and proportionality (1.7).

- ❖ Also "as long as licensing authorities have properly understood this Guidance, they may depart from it if they have good reason to do so and can provide full reasons. Departure from this Guidance could give rise to an appeal or judicial review, and the reasons given will then be a key consideration for the courts when considering the lawfulness and merits of any decision taken." Therefore licensing authorities will need to give full reasons for their actions (1.9).
- Also Members should note "A Licensing Authority may depart from its own policy if the individual circumstances of any case merit such a decision in the interests of the promotion of the licensing objectives." (1.12)
- ❖ Also, "The licensing authority may not impose any conditions unless its discretion has been exercised following receipt of relevant representations and it is satisfied as a result of a hearing (unless all parties agree a hearing is not necessary) that it is appropriate to impose conditions to promote one or more of the four licensing objectives." Therefore, conditions may not be imposed for the purpose other than promoting the licensing objectives and in some cases no additional conditions will be appropriate. (10.8)
- Necessary conditions should emerge from a risk assessment by the applicant, which should then be reflected in the operating schedule (10.4).
- ❖ The Guidance states: "Where there are objections to an application to extend the hours during which licensable activities are to be carried on and the licensing authority determines that this would undermine the licensing objectives, it may reject the application or grant it with appropriate conditions and/or different hours from those requested." (10.14)
- Mandatory conditions must be imposed (10.25) and censorship avoided (10.17).
- ❖ The Guidance states: "It is still permitted to sell alcohol using promotions (as long as they are compatible with any other licensing condition that may be in force), and the relevant person should ensure that the price of the alcohol is not less than the permitted price. Detailed guidance on the use of promotions is given in the guidance document available on the Gov.uk website." (10.58) Also, "Licensing authorities should not attach standardised blanket conditions promoting fixed prices for alcoholic drinks to premises licences or club licences or club premises certificates in an area." (10.21)
- 9.4 The Licensing Act 2003 permits children of any age to be on the premises which primarily sells alcohol providing they are accompanied by an adult. It is not necessary to make this a condition.

- 9.5 In all cases the Members should make their decision on the civil burden of proof, that is "the balance of probability."
- 9.6 In all cases Members should consider whether or not primary legislation is the appropriate method of regulation and should only consider licence conditions when the circumstances in their view are not already adequately covered elsewhere.
- 9.7 The Government has advised that conditions must be tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises and events concerned. Conditions cannot seek to manage the behaviour of customers once they are beyond the direct management of the licence holder and their staff and standardised conditions should be avoided where they cannot be shown to be appropriate. (1.16/1.17)
- 9.8 The Council's Licensing Policy generally expects applicants to address the licensing objectives and discuss how to do this with the relevant responsible authorities.
- 9.9 In **Appendices 9 20** Members are given general advice, and also have explanations of the Council's Licensing Policy, Government advice and other legislation relating to the matters previously identified.

10.0 Legal Comments

10.1 The Council's legal officer will give advice at the hearing.

11.0 Finance Comments

11.1 There are no financial implications in this report.

12.0 Appendices

Appendix 1 A copy of the application from Appendix 2 Site Plan Appendix 3 Maps of the surrounding area Appendix 4 Other licensed venues in the area Appendix 5 Section 182 Guidance by the Home Office Appendix 6 Representations of resident Appendix 7 Agreement with Licensing Authority Appendix 8 Agreement with EH Noise Team Appendix 9 Licensing Officer comments on noise while the premise is in use Appendix 10 Licensing Officer comments on access/egress Problems Appendix 11 Licensing Officer comments on crime and disorder on the premises Appendix 12 Licensing Officer comments on crime and disorder from patrons leaving the premises Public safety Appendix 13 Appendix 14 Planning Appendix 15 Licensing Policy relating to hours of trading