

Groves, Mark

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 September 2023 13:58
To: Richards, Sian
Subject: Re: Additional information Grant premises licence application - Charles Cooper Henderson

Warning!
For the attention of
RBC, BfC Staff and Councillors

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Hello Sian,

Some information for you in return.

I spoke to Better Boating where the boat has a private mooring right now. The owner of Better Boating (John) has told me that he does not consent to his yard / moorings being used in this regard and is serving notice on the individual. This leads me to believe the application made is not accurate and therefore I do not retract my objection.

Furthermore, I understand notices were put up around Better Boating, without the owners knowledge or consent, saying music would be played in this area. If it is only for staff to board and disembark around Mill Green then I do not see why it should be mentioned in the license application and the application itself should be updated accordingly, with a specific provision that states the boat will not be moored there with passengers aboard and there will be no alcohol served or music played around the area.

Living on the river is a lifestyle choice which residents pay a premium for. This is done on the basis of the love of nature and a tranquil environment. We already have a number of sporadic issues with noise from fisherman and people partying in Kings Meadow, not to mention Reading Festival each year. I believe having this "party" atmosphere will be exacerbated by having a boat playing music, whatever that music might be.

None of the residents of this area want this disruption and there are others trying to get planning for coffee shops and bars in the Mill Green area. One will feed off the other by setting a precedent that it is acceptable in this area.

Aside from the inevitable disruption from noise, granting such a license will have a detrimental impact on the value of homes in the immediate area. Not something I would be prepared to accept.

It is impossible to keep drunk people quiet no matter what measures are put in place.

Finally, there are a number of residents living on boats at the Better Boating area. I cannot imagine they would be happy with a boat returning after dark. It is also not safe to travel on this stretch of the Thames after dark.

The license request is for music to 11pm from memory.

If it was to 9pm latest with the above caveats around no music or alcohol in the Mill Green vicinity then I would have no reason to object.

As it stands, the information below and the license application itself are not aligned.

Many thanks,

Ian

[REDACTED]

On Monday, September 18, 2023, 10:09, Richards, Sian <Sian.Richards@reading.gov.uk> wrote:

Good morning,

Please find further information below received in respect of the above application that you have submitted concerns or a representation to object against.

If this has clarified the matter and your concerns; and if you wish to withdraw your representation, please inform the licensing team via email licensing@reading.gov.uk

Should you need anything further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Sian Richards

Business Support Officer

Licensing | Directorate for Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services

Reading Borough Council

Civic Offices | Bridge Street | Reading | RG1 2LU

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Dear Mr. Narancic,

Some additional information that I feel will be useful in clarifying our application.

We are a luxury operator offering luxury private cruises for small groups (12 maximum) aboard our very special boat Charles Cooper Henderson.

A 41ft wooden boat that has been on the river for some time, we are looking at the possibility of mooring her at Mill Green. We do not collect any guests from there, only the crew would go there to take the boat and return her.

Any music we play whilst the boat is travelling is very low level background music of the period. This has never been remarked upon by any officials/lock keepers or any other river user as inappropriate.

We have no unaccompanied minors on board at any time.

I attach some more images of the boat to show the scale and layout, although you should already have a plan sent previously.

To describe her as a 'party boat' is quite simply inaccurate.

I am happy for this additional information to be passed on to others to assist with clarifying our application, and to be contacted by anyone who may have made representations.

I am also happy to meet directly with anyone with concerns.

Kindest regards, Richard Prunier









