



Licensing Manager  
Guildford Borough Council  
Millmead House  
Millmead  
Guildford  
GU1

23/03/2020

**Re: - Charcoal Grill 15 Park Street, Guildford. Application to vary Premises Licence**  
**GUPLA0574**

Dear Sir

Surrey Police, as a Responsible Authority under Section 13(4) (b) of the Licensing Act 2003, wish to make a formal objection against the application to vary the premises licence in respect of the premises named above, on the grounds of the Prevention of Crime and Disorder, and Public Safety.

Surrey Police have received an application to vary the premises licence for Charcoal Grill, 15 Park Street, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4XB. The application requests to extend the opening hours to 04:00, except Tuesdays and Sundays when this will be 03:00.

Charcoal Grill is situated next to a late-night venue called Thirty 3 Hertz which has a closing time of 03:30. Charcoal Grill is also a short distance away from Bridge Street where four late night premises are located – Bar 13, Pop World, Wetherspoon's and Casino, with closing times between 03:00 and 03:30. Also, there are residential properties above Thirty 3 Hertz and in Park Street.

Surrey Police have concerns that this extension will cause a return to the issues the premises has experienced in the past.

**History:** - Surrey Police called a review in May 2012 and the licensing committee placed condition on the premises licence and reduced opening hours from 03:30 to 03:00.

The premises was reviewed again in November 2013 and at this review the premises licence was revoked. An appeal was lodged but refused at Magistrates court.

The premises applied for a new licence under new owners in March 2015 which was granted.

An application was submitted in August 2016 to extend opening hours and an agreement was reached between the owners and Surrey Police that the premises could open until 02:45, with last entry at 02:30, Monday to Saturday, and until midnight on Sundays. In addition to allow the premises to continue trading deliveries only up until 03:30 and to sell alcohol with deliveries only up to 03:00.

In May 2018 Mr Temur applied again to extend the opening hours to 04:00. Surrey Police objected and an agreement was reached that the premises would take last orders at 03:00 and close at 03:15. (Record of hearing attached) with deliveries only up to 03:30 these are the current hours the premises operate today.

Dispersal from the town is an important priority for the police, and late night takeaways remaining open after the clubs and bars have closed have historically been well-known flash points for incidents where groups from the different venues come together. This forms the potential for violence, anti-social behaviour and noise when and where people congregate inside and outside to consume their food.

Customers leaving the Bridge Street premises are likely to make for Charcoal Grill as it will be the closest premises to obtain food at, and are likely to arrive between 03:30- 03:45. At this point people will try to gain entry at a time when the premises will be preparing to close. The current times mitigate these potential issues happening, but staying open until 04:00 will not reduce problems as the applicant suggests in the application, and it will not stop customers trying to access the premises. In fact it has the potential to be worse.

Opening later will lead to different dynamics and more footfall at the 04:00 closing time, with more people queuing and turning up just as the premises is due to close. This will make the dispersal of people from the area outside more problematic.

In the application (licensing objectives) it asks the applicant to describe how they intend to promote the four licensing objectives. The applicant has not given enough detail as to how the premises management will handle problems that are likely to arise with the premises opening to 04:00.

There has recently been two very serious assaults – one leading to a manslaughter charge where a male has exited the premises and been involved in conflict with another male, and the second has been a result of customers remaining outside the premises, consuming their food, during which a fight started leading to a male having to attend A&E.

There is a condition on the premises licence placed in 2018 which requires security staff to actively encourage customers to move away from the location after purchasing food; however, on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2020 the door staff left at 03:13 while there was customers were still outside the location consuming food. 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 03:12 there was a group of about 30 still outside the premises and no door staff present to move them away.

Surrey Police are confident that having the premises open until 04:00 will not remove the potential nor mitigate the risk of Crime and Disorder, and in fact we believe larger numbers will make their way from Bridge Street causing the potential for further issues. Surrey Police have been monitoring the premises closely and recently raised concerns with both the owner

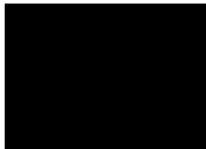
and door staff company, Frontline Protection, about the dispersal policy. There has also been a spike in incidents outside the premises in the last three months.

The recent incidents: -

- Large fight involving customers leaving the premises 03:00 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020
- Fight outside location 02:10 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020
- Street fight outside location 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020
- Male assaulted outside location 02:45 17<sup>th</sup> December resulting in GBH injury.
- Serious assault outside location 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019 (resulting in manslaughter)
- Street fight outside location 02:50 9<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Four further incidents recorded at the location in 2019, all recorded incidents are between the hours of 02:30 03:30.

Yours faithfully



Inspector Andrew Hill  
Borough Commander

