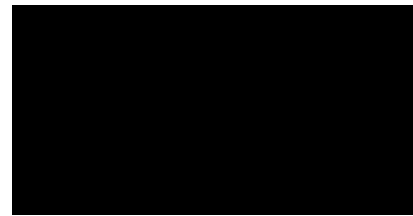


Ross O'Neil
Public Protection Officer – Specialist
Transactional Management and Licensing Team
Business and Consumer Protection Service
Homes & Communities Place Directorate
Shropshire Council
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
Shropshire SY2 6ND



11th July 2024

Dear Mr O'Neil

Licensing Act 2003

Premises: Bobby's, 25/26 The Parade, St Mary's Place, Shrewsbury, SY1 1DL

We are writing to provide additional comments on the above application. We commented on the original application in light of the details presented at the time. The application has now been clarified and/or amended as follows and our comments are given after each point:

- 1) Bobby's is a family-friendly restaurant, serving Mexican inspired small plates. Our target audience are people of all ages who enjoy honest food in a welcoming environment.**

The original application was for conversion of the premises into a "Tapas Bar" but now it is described as a "family friendly restaurant". The latter would be considered to be suitable for all members of an average family (from grandchildren to grandparents) and especially one that provides services to families that have young children. The supplied details, plan and images does not indicate how this aspect will be achieved.

- 2) Unlike the assumptions, Bobby's is not a bar, nightclub or live music venue. Excessive drinking will not be promoted or tolerated within this premises.**

The original application referred to a "tapas bar" and requested that live music be allowed (although at limited times) therefore this guided our previous comments which remain. We note that "excessive drinking will not be promoted or tolerated". What is excessive drinking?

- 3) There will be no live or recorded music outside Bobby's. There will be no live music inside Bobby's.**

We remain confused about the Licensees intentions with regard to music as there is a poster (below) on the window of the intended tapas bar that says that they plan to host 'low key music events such as jazz'. As a saxophone player myself, I know that jazz music is usually rather loud, and that it would be impossible to play live jazz inside the bar and for it not to be heard outside.

June 2024

Dear residents,

Rest assured...

...it's come to our attention that information has been circulated regarding plans for the carpark this summer. Please read the following which will clarify and hopefully answers any questions. Also, appreciate that our current plans for the Summer follow a meeting where we invited tenants to bar OIL (Tues 26th March) and listened to concerns from all sides which influenced our current plans.

What's happening in the Parade car park this summer?

We have signed a lease, like any other tenant having made all appropriate applications to operate. Our intention is to create a family-friendly pop-up restaurant and bar, serving tacos, craft beers, wines and cocktails. This occupies units 25 and 26 and the outdoor area directly in front (approximately one third of the carpark). Inside will be a bar and seating, outside will feature chairs, tables, extensive planting and something similar to umbrella-type covering.

What are the operating times?

Wednesday: 4-10pm, Thursday: 4-10pm, Friday: 3-10pm, Saturday 12-10pm, Sunday 12-6pm.
Last orders are 9.30pm with the entire site closed by 11pm.

How long will it go on for?

Late July until late September, then a break with subsequent shorter pop-ups in October and a Christmas themed event in December.

Why have we submitted a Premise Licence?

The aforementioned pop-ups will initially run under Temporary Event Notice conditions. If there is a collective view from both residents and traders that the pop-ups have been a success, there is then potential for a permanent restaurant. As with the previous Japanese restaurant Hanasan, which occupied units 25, 26 & 27, this would require a full restaurant and bar Premises Licence as it would be serving small tapas-style plates, beers and wines across breakfast, lunch and dinner. It would also have a comprehensive fit-out and showcase low key music events such as jazz.

What's next - an invitation?

If anything is unclear please come and meet Aaron and Vivek on site on Tuesday 11th June at 5pm.

Aaron & Vivek, owners of Dough & Oil.



Interior - in progress



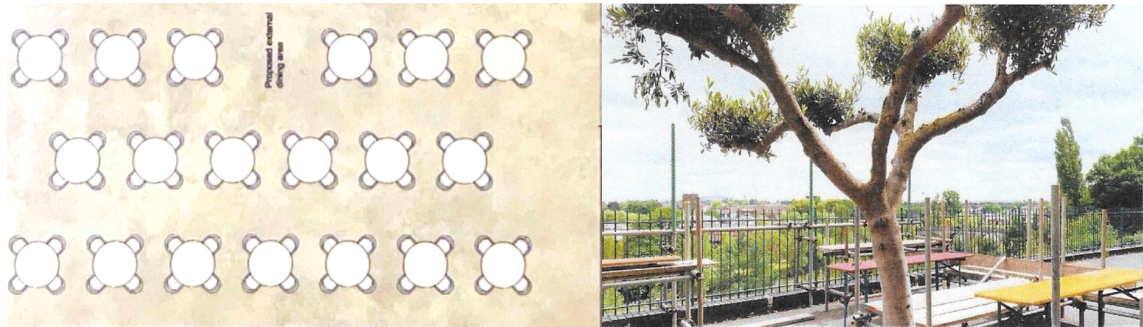
Exterior - indicative

- 4) There will be no smoking on The Parade grounds. The policy already implemented by The Parade will be actioned.

Noted

5) The external seating area will be a consumption space only. No licensable activity is to take place outside. Please see attached the revised site plan.

The revised plan (see image below) suggests orderly seating around 19 tables of 4 (with up to 76 people). The external area is now described as a “seated garden” and a work in progress image (see below) indicate that the arrangements do not correspond to the plan provided which can only be considered as misleading.



a) Seating plan as provided by applicant with image of terrace “work in progress” provided by applicant

We can see that the current seating under construction has bench seating facing the river – and this gives us concerns that items may be thrown from the terrace (glasses, bottles, cutlery, food etc) and so how will this behaviour be prevented?



b) Image of terrace in early July 2024

- 6) **Our indoor opening hours will reflect those of a typical restaurant with the entire site closed by 11pm latest. This includes all drink up and clean up time. Please note, this is the maximum trading hour inside the premises, external trading hours are considerably less.**

Noted but what does “external trading hours” mean? Is this the hours that the outside terrace will be used? If so, these hours need to be defined, and we would hope that they are 9-5 Monday – Saturday as suggested in our previous response to this application.

- 7) **The extended licensable hours for Bank Holidays, Christmas Eve and New Years Eve have been removed.**

Noted.

Considering the clarifications provided over the use of the Terrace as follows:

1. No alcohol to be taken offsite in open vessels or containers except for consumption in the external terrace area as shown in the plan. We request that this clarification goes further and commits to **No alcohol to be sold that would be consumed off the premises and no take-away food sold.**
2. Alcohol can only be served with a meal/light snack, or as an ancillary item before / or after a meal / light snack.
3. Alcohol consumed outside the premises building shall only be consumed by patrons seated at tables (i.e. no vertical drinking)
4. There will be no fixed speakers or recorded music in the external terrace area.
5. Any external lighting will be designed and positioned to avoid causing light nuisance to nearby residents.

These measures are welcome but nevertheless conversation noise from up to say 76 (people based on the seating plan provided) will be significant especially given alcohol consumption etc. Nearby residential properties are likely to find this very disruptive and intrusive and therefore not acceptable.

Turning now to the details provided under the licensing conditions our comments are:

Protection of Children from Harm

We note that Trading Standards have withdrawn their representation due to a series of conditions being agreed around the Challenge 25 Policy.

Our concern would be how these conditions will be implemented and enforced.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

Extensive conditions have been agreed with The Police regarding the deployment of CCTV. As above our concern would be how these conditions will be implemented and enforced.

We also note specific conditions have been agreed that:

11. The need for door staff shall be risk assessed by the designated premises supervisor and employed when the risk assessment deems it necessary. Advice from West Mercia Police will be taken when formulating the risk assessments. These risk assessments will be recorded and kept for a period of 12 months and made available to any authorised authority on request.

The need for door staff and a ‘family friendly restaurant’ don’t normally go hand in hand.

13. Staff will monitor those customers leaving to use the external toilets at times the attached shopping centre is closed to the public.

15. Staff will ensure there is no consumption of alcohol within the communal areas of the shopping centre.

16. Staff will ensure there is no loitering within the communal areas of the shopping centre at times it is closed to the public.

Conditions 13,15 and 16 will require diligence by Bobby's - how can it be achieved in reality?

In conclusion the original application sought extensive licensing conditions with live music and extended hours and appeared to give little regard to local residents. The revised application has attempted to address some of these concerns, and this is welcome. However, a notice on the window of the proposed bar suggests that intensions are to go further than the revisions listed here. We are therefore left with the impression that the applicants are proposing revised plans now that they hope will be accepted – and for this to be the first step in widening the activities of the bar back to those originally requested. We therefore seek the strongest reassurance that:

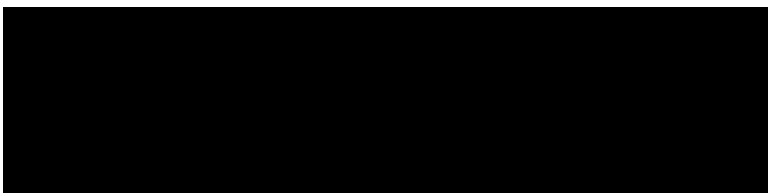
- The nature of the premises does not revert over time back to what was originally outlined.
- Shropshire County Council ensure all conditions are adhered to and strictly enforced.

Although some of our suggested conditions have been taken onboard, we request that other conditions are considered:

- Opening hours restricted to the current The Parade shop opening hours of 9.00 - 17.00 Monday - Saturday
- No alcohol to be sold that would be consumed off the premises. No take-away food to be sold.
- Licence reviewed after 6 months

We hope that our comments will be taken into consideration.

Yours sincerely



Dr Melanie Walters

Dr Tim Haines