Delegated Report		Analysis sheet		Expiry Date: 14/12/2		006			
		N/A / attached		Consultation Expiry Date:		-			
Officer			Application N	umber(s					
Gareth Wilson			2006/4030/A	2006/4030/A					
Application Address			Drawing Num	Drawing Numbers					
Gala Casino 61-66 Russell Square London WC1B 5BA			Site Location P	Site Location Plan; Planning Sheet No. 1; 2					
PO 3/4 Area Team Signature C&UD			Authorisod Of	Authorised Officer Signature Date:					
Area reall orgnature of		CaOD	Autionseu of				Date.		
Proposal(s)									
Display of 2x internally illuminated fascia signs, 2x internally illuminated column signs, 4x internally illuminated poster case signs and 1x internally illuminated lightbox sign to existing casino (sui generis).									
Recommendation(s):	nmendation(s):				onsent				
Application Type:	Advertisement Consent								
Conditions or Reasons for Refusal:	Refer to Draft Decision Notice								
Informatives:									
Consultations									
Adjoining Occupiers:	No. notified	00	No. of responses	00	No. of c	bjections	00		
Summary of consultation responses:	N/a								
CAAC/Local groups* comments: *Please Specify	N/a								

Site Description

A Casio located within an internal service courtyard of hotel and surrounding properties. The site falls within the Bloomsbury C.A. but is not listed nor are there any listed buildings adjoining the site.

Relevant History

- 1985 Erection of a new canopy to the entrance of the casino.
- 1992 The display of internally illuminated signs on the canopy and above the doors and an intermittently illuminated tivoli light as shown on drawing numbers.
- 2000 Display of illuminated canopy, two plaques and additional lighting to existing signage.
- 2001 The erection of a new entrance lobby and canopy, and a new linear canopy between entrances.
- 2001 The display of an internally illuminated box sign above one entrance to replace an existing sign. and halo illuminated letters above a glazed entrance lobby.
- 2002 The display of non illuminated fascia sign and canopy.

Relevant policies

Set out below are the UDP policies that the proposals have primarily been assessed against, together with officers' view as to whether or not each policy listed has been complied with. However it should be noted that recommendations are based on assessment of the proposals against the development plan taken as a whole together with other material considerations.

B7, B4

SPG 2002, Draft CPG 2006

Assessment

Permission is sought to install new signage consisting of a 2.2m wide x1.3m deep internally illuminated box sign over the existing entrance, an internally illuminated facia sign 0.46m deep x 14.4m long, and a internally illuminated box sign 2.9m x 2.2m on the front elevation wall at ground floor level.

The existing signage consists of 2no. fret cut internally illuminated signs with letters only illuminated. The existing fascia sign is non-illuminated.

Policy and guidance identify that internally illuminated signs should not be allowed where the signs would harm the visual amenity or character of a C.A.

Within regard to the location the site fronts onto a publicly accessed private forecourt that is visible from passers-by on Russell Square. The visual presence of the existing signs when viewed from the driveway that accesses the courtyard is subdued. It should be noted that there are also existing internally illuminated light boxes on the front elevation displaying various information about the Casio. The box signs are already overly prominent when viewed from the C.A. Any increase in the amount of internally illuminated signs on the building could severely impact on the appearance of the building and views into the courtyard from the C.A.

The new scheme involves illumination of all the areas of signage not just individual lettering. Given the large areas of signage it is considered that the scheme would result in excessively large signs with large areas of internal illuminated that would be overly prominent to views from the C.A. The scheme would therefore unacceptable detract from the character and appearance of the C.A. and would harm the appearance of the building.

Application recommended for refusal.

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