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Covent Garden  
London  
WC2H 9QR



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Via Anna.Roe@Camden.gov.uk and ppp@Camden.gov.uk

29<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Dear Ms. Roe,

Re. applications numbered 2016/6241/L and 2016/6408/L and 2016/2661/A - erection of three canvas awnings to the frontage of the Crown pub at 43 Monmouth Street London WC2H 9EW.

This is a letter of objection to the proposals, on behalf of myself and my family - including my daughter and my parents.

The proposals are not materially different from those which you rejected last time the pub applied to put up awnings, under application numbers 2007/1234/P and 2007/1236/L.

We object to the awnings for two reasons:

1. They reduce amenity for pedestrians.
2. They detract from the appearance of the historic building and particularly in its historic context.

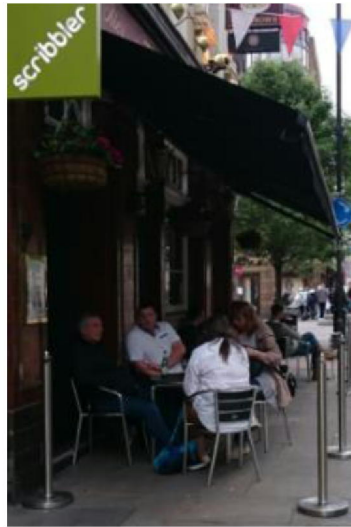
1. Reduction of amenity for pedestrians

The awnings are black and make the space under them very dark. They hang at quite a steep angle with the fronts not far above people's heads.

When the pub put them up without permission in the past I felt that I could not walk under them, and was pushed out towards the edge of the pavement. If there were bicycles parked on the rack then there was very little room left and I sometimes could not pass by. In the end I crossed the road rather than having to deal with all this. As I live very close by, this was sometimes several times a day. This is ridiculous and unfair.

It is even more unfair to disabled people like my parents, who both walk with sticks and have to shuffle along with poor balance. They need all the clear pavement width that they can get, and should not be faced with trying to walk through a dark space under a black awning, filled with people drinking and smoking.

*Continuation...*



A photo showing the gloomy and blocking effect that the blinds had on the frontage of the building when they were mounted without permission before.

Local people have contributed a lot of time and effort to the improvement of the public realm in this area, so that it can be used by everyone - not so that it can be taken over as rent-free commercial space.

## 2. Detraction from the appearance of a historic building in a conservation context.

Seven Dials is unique. We are fortunate to live here, and do what we can to preserve its historic character. This historic character has its origins well before this sort of awning was invented, and the street layout is pre-Georgian.

Awnings block out parts of the frontage of any building, which matters when the building has a lot of detail which would be broken up, as in this case.

Please refuse these applications or let me know of any hearing at which they will be considered.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature]  
Amanda Rigby