

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2017/2630/P	Anja Saunders	14 Neal's Yard	09/06/2017 22:00:35	OBJLETTE R	<p>I object to change of shop front to an opening structure as this creates more noise pouring out in an already overloaded and noise sensitive Neal's Yard. From a residential point of view the accumulative impact of noise has become unbearable.</p> <p>The applicant's arguments based on historical evidence are not correct. Interestingly the applicant is using images that I have supplied myself for people interested in the history of Neal's Yard as they were taken in the time my husband started businesses in Neal's yard. The opening fronts in the 70's, which is when the photo's were taken, were nothing like proposed or anything that is subsequently installed by Shaftesbury plc. who owns the majority of the buildings in Neal's yard. The mentioned "counter in front of the shop" was in an industrial unit where people baked bread and sold what they had produced as well as sell to other shops. It did not function primarily as a take away food unit.</p> <p>The businesses were not operating as restaurants with open fronts as the businesses that are currently operating in Neal's Yard. The businesses had wooden doors that closed during the evenings. Shopfronts were glazed but not folding away as current shopfronts are. There is a big difference between a door that is sometimes open and an open frontage that is created by a fold away wall of glazing. The accumulative effect of noise spillage from these open fronts is tremendous and exacerbated by the triangular shape of Neal's Yard which acts as a sound chimney.</p> <p>It is by no means a given that it is more traditional for Neal's Yard to have open restaurant frontages. Where there were open fronts it came from a time of warehouses, not for the use of al fresco dining as it is now . An example of another closed shop front is the Walk in Backrub shop in no 14. and so no 16A is not at all out of place as it stands currently. By keeping the shop front as it is, an important feature of Neal's Yard as housing small retail enterprises (old fashioned shops) would be maintained.</p>
