

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2019/1558/P	Covent Garden Community Association (Elizabeth Bax, Chair of Planning Subcommittee)	05/05/2019 21:35:13	OBJ	<p>The Covent Garden Community Association (CGCA) OBJECTS to this application, on three grounds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disturbance to neighbouring residents if hours of operation are permitted beyond that which is usually associated with retail premises. 2. No safety features in the plans. 3. Retrospective application from an operation that has started with no proper consents and that is advertising for staff in a way that boldly assumes consent. <p>-----</p> <p>1. Disturbance Drury Lane is quite densely residential in the area immediately surrounding 181 Drury Lane. There are 4 flats immediately adjoining it at 180 and 182 Drury Lane, as well as other neighbouring flats and 16 flats at Goldsmith Court overlooking. More family dwellings are very close, in Stuckley Street and Shorts Gardens, on the route to and from these premises.</p> <p>The traditional retail uses of these premises have meant that there is no activity in the evening. However, this application is for a business operating between the hours of 10:00 - 23:45, Monday to Sunday. This is very late, meaning that groups of people 'in party mood' will still be coming and going to the premises until almost Midnight. The premises capacity is small, so queuing also needs to be managed. We do not believe that any of this is appropriate in this location.</p> <p>We ask that, should planning consent be given for this plan to change use, then the hours of use of the premises should be restricted to 9am to 9pm Monday to Saturday, and 10am to 9pm on Sundays.</p> <p>2. Safety</p> <p>The applicant's Planning Statement states that the business is essentially an entertainment that involves "people working as a team to solve puzzles in order to escape from a locked room". However, it does not offer any safety measures that take account the change of use from a shop. In January 2019 a fire in an escape room in Poland killed 5 teenagers...</p> <p>PLEASE SEE EMAILED LETTER FOR CGCA'S FULL COMMENTS</p>