

Subject:

2022/2334/A - Abandon Ship, 63 Neal Street WC2H 9PJ

Dear Sir/Madam

As a resident of Neal Street across the street from Abandon Ship, I wish to object to the above-referenced application.

The applicant installed the new neon signage without planning permission earlier this year - there had never been neon signage on the fascia of the building before.

The new signage is obtrusive and detracts from the Seven Dials Conservation Area. The neighbouring building at 61 Neal Street is Grade II listed. It is the only neon signage on Neal Street and the amount of neon is intrusive and overwhelming.

Paragraph SD19 of the Seven Dials Conservation Area Statement states that signage should generally be non-illuminated or externally illuminated - the neon signage (already installed by the applicant) certainly does not meet this criteria and this alone should be grounds to refuse the current application.

I note that in addition to installing signage without prior planning approval, the shopfront fascia has been altered without planning permission and in contravention of the Council's previous decision ordering the restoration of the original shopfront, and the business is operating as a bar (with only incidental food service which appears little used) rather than as a restaurant under its permitted use class. This demonstrates the disregard which the owner of the business has towards planning requirements and also the lack of consideration the owner of the business has shown to its neighbours.

Sincerely

Eric Stuart
68 Neal Street