

Objection 1

I would like to express my concern on this application.

Although the drawings state that the tables/chairs will be at a depth of 0.6m leaving the remaining 2m for passing pedestrians. What steps will be taken to ensure that the area is contained in such a way that prevents someone picking up a chair and obstructs the thoroughfare by sitting outside the 0.6m cordon.

Objection 2

Agreement to objection 1

Objection 3

1. Patron & Pedestrian Safety - The proposed area of pavement is next to the main 2 way road already, we already regularly witness The Clarence Social's intoxicated patrons stepping out in front of the traffic and we already see pedestrians trying to avoid these drunken groups by stepping into the roadway. By narrowing the walkway further this increases the hazard to an unacceptable level, especially for parents with pushchairs, wheelchair users and anyone who has visual difficulties. With current social distancing guidance I also feel that there is no safe way for pedestrians to move passed seated guests, or indeed other patrons to move passed seated guests - all groups are currently permitted to be unmasked in this situation and there is nowhere near a 2m space to allow this to be done safely.

2. Anti social behaviour - currently the door staff (which are only present on occasion) have little control over how the intoxicated patrons behave on the street whilst coming out to smoke - this would only be worsened by allowing them to encourage their patrons outside with the provisions of tables and chairs. This creates an unpleasant atmosphere on the street which is not how we wish our customers to view this area, I think we have to remember that The Clarence Social is not operating as a cafe/restaurant, the business model is much closer to a bar/nightclub.

3. Fouling - We already witness that a number of The Clarence Social's drunken patrons find it easier to cross the road to urinate, defecate & vomit in the courtyard where our bins are stored rather than using the basement facilities that The Clarence provide - despite a locked gate. Again, increasing the numbers of patrons outside of The Clarence Social will only make this situation even more disgusting. (Referring back to point 2 the door staff also refuse to do anything to prevent this even though they watch it happening)

4. Noise - There have already been noise complaints made regarding the volumes of music played inside The Clarence Social, the solution from your department was to insist that the doors were kept closed to minimise the noise levels- this does help the situation but obviously only whilst the doors are actually closed. Allowing patrons to sit outside will increase the comings & goings through the doors and thus increasing the noise issues again to an unacceptable level.

If the licence were to be granted we would like to see restrictions on how many people would be allowed to gather outside on the pavement - with assurances that this can be carried out safely in the current climate, full time door staff to ensure the safety of both patrons and passers by, a responsibility from The Clarence Social to ensure that the street is kept clean and free from cigarette butts, vomit, etc and strict noise control levels, including the prohibition of live music & DJ's, to ensure that neighbouring businesses and residents are not inconvenienced by the increase numbers on the street.

Objection 4

As a close neighbour to The Clarence Social I would like to make a representation against granting permission for the proposed pavement licence at The Clarence Social, Clarence Parade, Cheltenham. GL50 3NY. On the whole the pavement licences issued add to a lovely cafe culture vibe in town & are particularly effective on Regent Street with the restaurants & cafe's. However, The Clarence Social is a bar/nightclub which attracts a number of intoxicated patrons at all times of the day & night rather than a cafe or restaurant .

My concerns for the pavement licence are 2 fold;

1. Pedestrian Safety - The proposed amount of tables & chairs I feel would not indicate the amount of people who would potentially be gathering on the pavement outside of The Clarence Social. The relatively large numbers of intoxicated patrons gathered on the pavement, next to the now two way road, would force any pedestrians to cross into the road & the traffic itself to pass by - this is not speculation as it already happens as these larger groups already gather to smoke & drink in the street currently- this would only be exaggerated by the presence of tables and chairs.

2. Noise - We have had noise issues with The Clarence which have been on going for a while now, the solution to this issue as suggested by your department was for them to keep their internal doors closed, however if it is permitted for their patrons to sit & drink outside in the street there will not only be more human noise on the street, there will also be increased noise from the sound systems as people will be going in and out of the doors much more frequently. As this is a largely residential area, the residents do have the right to the quiet enjoyment of their homes I do not see that permitting this licence would enable us to continue to do this.

Over the past 3 years that The Clarence has been open, I do not believe that we have witnessed that they could effectively manage this public, outside space without causing a nuisance to local residents.