

From: Eastwood, Jonathan [mailto:]
Sent: 11 January 2019 10:26
To: Niall McMenamin; Maginnis, Andy
Subject: RE: Street Trading - The Shambles

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Good morning Niall,

I am writing to you about the recent application to renew the street trading licence for "Habaneros", located on The Shambles, Worcester. As a consultee in Worcester City Council's street trading procedure, Worcestershire Highways have been invited to make comment on the application. It is with regret to say that after reviewing the application, Worcestershire Highways have objected to the proposed location "Habaneros" on The Shambles, Worcester.

Worcestershire Highways have raised the following objections:

- The site will be unsuitable for occupation during the Public Realm works (March – August 2019);
- The position and dimensions of the mobile unit encroaches onto the dedicated footway, reducing available width. There are concerns that this encroachment may restrict access for pedestrians with visual and mobility difficulties especially during delivery times. In accordance to the Disability Act 2010, footways should ensure whenever possible to maintain a 2.0 meter width (with an absolute minimum of 1.5 meter width).

Kind regards,

Jonathan Eastwood
Highways Liaison Engineer (Worcester City)

From: Nick Kay [mailto:]
Sent: 29 January 2019 11:19
To: Niall McMenamin
Subject: RE: Street trading - The shambles

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Morning Niall

For ease please see below

As you are aware significant public realm works are proposed within the Shambles and Church Street, Worcester.

Once the works are completed it is Worcester City Council's opinion that there will be:

- Constraints to the spatial arrangements within the tight historic form, resulting in further conflicts between pedestrians and motor vehicles (during the times that motor vehicles are permitted into the area). This issue will be exacerbated by the introduction of passive permanent HVM measures within the public realm improvements and expected increased footfall to the area.
- Increased impediments to the permeability and legibility of these busy areas, through the introduction of structures within the generally linear routes. This is of particular concern for blind and partially sighted users.
- The area has numerous historic assets, including St Swithin's Church (which is also proposing significant investment into improving the fabric of the building), as such the area is particularly sensitive to the siting of large vending units. The Shambles elevation of St Swithin's Church being significantly impacted upon with the positioning of Habanero.

The City Council therefore requests that alternative locations within the City centre are sought.

As such please take this as the City Council's formal objection to the renewal of the existing license, on the grounds stated above.

Kind regards,


Regards

Nick

Nick Kay
Economic Development & Regeneration Team Leader
Planning & Economic Development
Worcester City Council

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THE CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST

Niall McMenamin
Senior Practitioner - Licensing
Wyre Forest House
Finepoint Way
Kidderminster
Worcestershire
DY11 7WF

18th January 2019

Dear Mr McMenamin

I write to lodge our objection to the renewal of the street trading licence for 'Habaneros' on the Shambles, Worcester. The current licence is adjacent to the east end of our property, St Swithun's church, a Grade II* listed building- and one of the most significant historic buildings in the City.

We do not wish to jeopardise local business, however, we object to the renewal of the licence feelings it is at odds with the significant investment being spent by ourselves and the local authority to create high quality public space in this location.

Over the past 5 years we have worked hard to secure £2.4m of investment for St Swithun's which will transform it into a contemporary arts and music space at the heart of Worcester. The investment, thanks to significant public funding through the Heritage Lottery Fund, will create a new arts venue for the city, contribute to the evening economy on the Shambles and create several new jobs. Building work is due to commence in June 2019, with the site reopening in spring 2020.

We have worked closely with Worcester City Council planners and Conservation Officer as we developed the project, and are excited by the opportunity the public realm scheme brings to really enhance the Shambles and create high quality public space. We do not feel this is an appropriate location for a street vendor licence for aesthetic and practical reasons:

- 1) Aesthetically, the van obscures important views of a nationally significant historic building and has a negative impact on its setting within the Historic City conservation area.
- 2) We have listed building consent and planning permission to reopen a blocked doorway onto the Shambles (see attached plan). The tables and chairs used by Habaneros' customers would not be able to obstruct this entrance and are therefore likely to protrude further into the pedestrianised area of the Shambles.
- 3) This area is attractive public space, a natural focal point for entertainment during festivals and events which increase city centre footfall and impact positively on neighbouring traders. We support the objectives of the public realm scheme to 'remove obstructions so that people can move about more easily' and 'make improvement to how the street looks' and do not feel the renewal of the licence would meet these objectives.

We hope you are able to find an alternative location for Habaneros which is mutually agreeable.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Kemp
Regeneration Officer- Project lead, St Swithun's.

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