

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

At a hearing of **LICENSING PANEL B** held on **THURSDAY, 5TH JUNE, 2025** at 7.00 pm, which was held remotely via Microsoft Teams.

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL PRESENT

Councillors Steve Adams, Lorna Greenwood and Jenny Headlam-Wells

The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the hearing. They are subject to approval and signature at the next hearing of Licensing Panel B and any corrections approved at that hearing will be recorded in those minutes.

MINUTES

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillor Greenwood was proposed and seconded as Chair, therefore it was

RESOLVED –

THAT Councillor Lorna Greenwood be elected Chair of Licensing Panel B for the 2025/26 municipal year.

2. GUIDANCE ON REMOTE MEETINGS HELD UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003 AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

RESOLVED –

THAT the guidance on remote meetings be noted.

3. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

4. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF STATUTORY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, COMPULSORY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND VOLUNTARY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA

There were no such declarations.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Webcasting

The Chair announced that the meeting was being broadcast live to the internet and would be capable of repeated viewing and copies of the recording could be made available to those that requested them. Those participating in the meeting were deemed to be consenting to being filmed.

Supplementary Agenda

The Chair also announced that a supplementary agenda had been published, which contained documents regarding Agenda Item 9 in respect of the application for Wendy's 189 191 Camden High Street London NW1 7BP, and Agenda Item 10 in respect of the application for Roxy Ball Room, 246 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7EX.

Agenda Item 10 Resolved

The application listed under Agenda Item 10, Roxy Ball Room, 246 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7EX, was resolved ahead of the meeting and would therefore not be considered by the Panel.

6. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT

There was no notification of urgent business.

7. MINUTES

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the previous meeting.

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes for the meeting that took place on 1 May 2025 be agreed and signed as an accurate record.

8. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference for Licensing Panels were noted.

9. WENDY'S 189-191 CAMDEN HIGH STREET, LONDON NW1 7BP

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director Supporting Communities detailing an application to vary a premises licence under section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003.

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The Licensing Officer summarised the report and noted that the licensing objectives engaged by the application were: the prevention of public nuisance, prevention of crime and disorder, public safety and protection of children from harm. The premises was situated in the Camden Town special policy area where there was a presumption to refuse all new or variation applications. The presumption was rebuttable. The hours policy was engaged as the proposed end times were outside the framework hours for licensable activities. The application did not include the Council's Women's Safety principles.

The Panel agreed to accept the late paper from the Police Responsible Authority.

Luke Atkins, District Manager UK for Wendy's, representing the applicant, confirmed that there were no amendments to the application.

PC Kevin Nicholls representing PC Juan Gomez, Police Responsible Authority, highlighted the points made in their written submission, including the supplementary paper.

Lee Perella, Environmental Health Responsible Authority, highlighted the points made in their written submission.

Steven Dormer, Licensing Authority Responsible Authority, highlighted the points made in their written submission.

In response to a question about the number of offences outside the premises, PC Nicholls directed the Panel's attention to the figures clustering around Camden Town tube station provided in the submission. It was acknowledged that the offences could not all be attributable to the venue.

Kathryn Gemmell of TRACT, an interested party, highlighted the points made in their written submission.

Luke Atkins (District Manager UK, Wendy's) and Paul Newton (Regional Operations Manager, Wendy's), the applicants, then summarised the application and responded to questions as follows:

- Team members wore a Wendy's uniform and were asked to take responsibility for the area immediately outside the venue, while not putting themselves in danger.
- SIA accredited security staff were onsite during late-night hours to support team members. The police could also provide support and help.
- It would be ideal to be granted the application as submitted but the applicant was open to suggestions and further discussion if this was not agreed by the Panel.
- The applicant would be happy to look at a delivery only from 02:00 option.

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- The twenty offences inside the venue over the last twelve months were similar to other branches, with most taking place pre-10pm. With security in the restaurant during late night hours there were fewer issues.
- The capacity for ground floor was 3 covers and there were 52 covers upstairs.
- Staffing levels varied but on a normal weekend there would be five to six members of staff. On a special weekend such as a pay weekend, there would be seven to eight members of staff.

PC Kevin Nicholls made some brief closing remarks.

Kathryn Gemmell then made some brief closing remarks.

Paul Newton then made some brief closing remarks.

Decision and reasons

Panel Members confirmed that they had been able to follow and understand the discussion in relation to the application.

In deliberation it was noted that concerns about the application were more about the premises being situated in Camden Town and the impact of the proposed extension of licensable hours for late night refreshment on the area. The statistics on peak times for robberies were noted and an encouragement to people remaining in the area was not a good thing for Camden Town.

The proposal that the venue offer delivery only from 02:00 was discussed but it was considered that this would not be controllable as it could not be ensured that deliveries were all to a premises rather than a street location. It was noted that there was a proposed condition by the Police Responsible Authority that deliveries only be made to a bona fide business/commercial address and/or private residence and not to any public/open spaces but it was considered that this would be difficult to enforce. It would also be disruptive to residents for bikes to be congregating for deliveries after 2am.

The number, strength and breadth of objections from people who live and work in Camden Town was acknowledged.

It was noted that the application also sought to extend hours for Thursdays which at present had an end time of 00:00. There was consideration of whether the licence could be varied to allow Thursday hours to match current Friday and Saturday hours but it was felt that this would encourage issues on a night when there were currently fewer offences.

The presumption to refuse the variation application was not rebutted, with the Panel expressing concerns about detriment to licensing objectives to promote the prevention of public nuisance and of crime and disorder, and the need to consider the particular area.

With all Panel Members in agreement, it was

RESOLVED –

That the variation application be refused.

10. ROXY BALL ROOM, 246 HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, WC1V 7EX

This application was resolved ahead of the meeting and was therefore not considered by the Panel.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT

There was none.

The hearing ended at 8.00 pm.

CHAIR

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MINUTES END