

12th May, 2011

Application: Renewal of Entertainments Licence in respect of Cafe Roc, Coles, Earth Nightclub, 125-135 Strand Road, Derry, BT48 7PA.

As a member of our local Residents Association, I understand and agree with the following points and oppose the above application:

1. Over the past several years, bars in our area have undergone a transition as a result of many factors including economic recession, competition from each other as well as the sale of alcohol by supermarkets, changing patterns of drinking and socialising especially among the young.

These bars are now being promoted and aggressively marketed as nightclubs and late night entertainment venues.

2. As a result of this change, my household and my neighbours are being subjected to late-night noise, parking and traffic, property damage, littering, urinating, vomiting and occasional copulation in streets, gardens and against houses and on street drinking before and after clubbing. Revellers frequently pass my home on the way to the bars between 11.30pm and midnight, returning in the early hours of the morning in most cases extremely drunk, noisy and disruptive.

3. Our area is a settled, established suburban community and Councillors will be aware of recent public statements by my friends and neighbours in Newspapers and Local Radio: senior citizens in a state of terror at night, bed-wetting by alarmed children, broken sleep for working men and women and adverse impacts upon property prices.

4. Regular repeated disruption of my neighbourhood by nightclub revellers is deeply destructive to the reputation of the area.

5. The problems outlined above are substantiated by both the PSNI and the Northlands Wardens and the monthly incident figures recorded by the Wardens clearly demonstrate the nature of local disruption.

I understand this to be a duplicated letter issued to residents by the Aberfoyle & Duncreggan Residents' Association and Strand Area Group but I wish it to be taken as an independent letter of objection to the application. I regret taking this opposition in granting an Entertainments Licence to bars who provide facilities more suited to a city-centre pattern of Nightclub activity upon a residential area which is completely unsuited to its regulation and control and granting this licence would be against the interests of my household, my neighbours and the area in which we live.

Yours sincerely

DERRY CITY COUNCIL
CITY SECRETARY & SOLICITORS DEPT.