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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 18 September 2023 16:50  
**To:** licensing@york.gov.uk  
**Subject:** Representation / objection to license for Bison Cafe, 17 Heslington Road.

**Categories:**

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Re. License application for Bison Cafe, 17 Heslington Road.

Hello.

I would like to raise an objection to the license application for the above as it is published.

I have no objection to the changes being made by the new owners at Bison regarding a greater food offering, and I appreciate their desire for a license within this to be able to offer alcoholic drinks.

But as a very closely neighbouring resident, while I have no particular objection to drinks being served during regular cafe hours, I strongly object to the lateness of the proposed license. I am concerned not just as the development strikes me as potentially out-of-character for the locality, but also as it differs very noticeably from the intended new tone for the business implied by Nick during a verbal conversation I had with him on his first day at Bison - daily until 11pm is not the suggested occasionally until 9pm.

Heslington Road remains a generally surprisingly quiet residential street - albeit significantly less so than on the side streets abutting, but then I don't expect or particularly want to live in "deep-countryside-quiet" within easy walking distance of the city centre. The other food outlets operating late into the evening seem little used apart from their order-out service - which can itself be a problem as it currently stands. The buses are infrequent, car traffic is reasonably low and foot traffic much lower again.

This is significant because our experience of several years owning and living at [REDACTED] Heslington Road is that this run of terraced properties, including Bison at 17, are awful for "drawing-in", and amplifying noise particularly that which originates inside any of the houses in the terrace.

This is partially due to their single skin construction, but is primarily a function of the two drivable alleyways that cut through at ground floor level to the back of the terrace, now Heslington Mews. These (between 15 and 17 and 19 and 21) act as amplification chambers for noise coming from inside the buildings. We have had repeated instances with separate student households where we can hear music and voices at a far greater and more disturbing level inside our house than outside their house when we go to ask them to complain. It is a bizarre reality of the buildings that we have had significantly more occasion to ask the households at [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to keep the noise down than we have ever had to with [REDACTED] next door.

I am particularly concerned in this regard as I had to ask Nick to keep the level of the music down during his friends party on his first night in the cafe building. I totally understand the excitement of the first day, and I'm not looking to damn the guy on one incident. But for me it raises a very worrying concern that the terms of this license allow Bison, now or at some point in the future, to become an out-and-out bar, something I strongly believe would not only be out of character for the area but a significant impediment to my peaceful enjoyment of my home.

Many thanks for your work,