

8<sup>th</sup> February 2022

**WDCPREM01028 – Polished Nail Bar, 34 Regent Street, Leamington Spa**

As residents living near these premises, we would like to register our objection to this application, as we believe it would produce Public Nuisance. On its website, Polished already invites its customers to 'indulge in a glass of bubbly', and although it currently closes around 6.00 or 7.00pm, the application is up to 10.00pm on Fridays and Saturdays. This suggests a nail bar until early evening, and then a drinks bar for several hours afterwards.

We have several other concerns:

**Premises Licence**

If a licence is granted, this will be for the premises. At the moment it is a nail bar, but there is no guarantee that these premises will always operate as a beauty salon. It could become any other kind of business, and if a licence is granted, it would have that alcohol licence already in place. It would clearly be attractive for anyone wishing to set up a bar.

**Precedent**

Although the applicant suggests the addition of alcohol would enhance the customer experience, this seems wholly unnecessary. A great many other premises along Regent Street and Augusta Place have alcohol licences, but they are pubs, bars, cafés or coffee bars, all of which offer food. Granting an alcohol licence to a nail bar would set a worrying precedent, not least with two other nail bars close by, both of which might be tempted to apply for a licence on a similar basis. If a precedent is set in this way, any or all other shops or service providers in the town centre may feel that the addition of alcohol would enhance their offering.

**Conditions**

Since this part of the town centre is also residential, in order to maintain a balance between the needs of licensed premises and residents, it is common for conditions to be added when a licence is granted. With this application, there would appear to be no conditions applicable. Although it is not clear whether a bar will be installed, a request for 'service to table only' may be meaningless if customers are generally seated to have nail treatments in any case. Another frequent condition, that of 'alcohol being served only as an adjunct to a substantial meal' cannot be applied, as no meals are likely to be served in a nail bar.

With all these concerns in mind, we would urge the Committee to reject this application. As a nail bar, it causes no public nuisance at present. With an alcohol licence attached to the premises, we believe it would.

Yours sincerely,

Bill & Carolyn Gifford

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