Annex 4 – Representation in objection to variation of premises license (2)

To Licensing Committee

We moved into Pilgrim Mews earlier this year in the knowledge that we are adjacent to the rear of Giggly Squid and therefore subject to potential cooking odours and some low level noise.

However, any variation to the terms of the License causes concerns which we request you take into consideration when reviewing the application.

- 1 The area to the rear of Giggly Squid is an enclosed residential area created prior to Giggly Squid gaining a license and operating as a restaurant. Any permanent extension of restaurant activity beyond the walls of the property will fundamentally change the environment for us and other residents whereby there would be no escape from the interaction of diners or the more widespread odours. The clamour of social activity and oversight of our property particularly from the rear balcony significantly intrudes into our privacy. Should the business volunteer to commit to supervising the external area in to minimize inconvenience to local residents, the committee would probably recognize that such supervision can rarely be exercised effectively, and then only after disruption affects the business and comfort of other customers.
- 2 There is an evident rat problem behind Giggly Squid and rodents have been seen recently in daylight hours. Other evidence of their presence has been found in the immediate surroundings since moving here. Whilst preventive action may have taken place this problem will be exacerbated by having permanent external eating facilities.
- 3 If seeking use of an external area is to accommodate smokers our objection to this variation will be heightened considerably. Our environment is maintained as smoke free and Giggly Squid must not be allowed to pollute this area to the detriment of residents.
- 4 We understand the Emergency Exit into our property is for sole use in an emergency. However, permanent, and increased usage of the open area, creates the risk of anti-socially oriented individuals being able to enter our property unseen. Use of the external area also runs the risk of blocking the Emergency Exit.
- 5 Were the committee so minded to allow variation, we ask most strongly that well defined limitations be placed on the hours permitted, days in the week/year permitted, numbers allowed, proper restriction on lighting and external heating devices, and a total ban on the use of background recorded music or vocal performances.

Against the background of these concerns, we object to any variation of the current license