

To whom it may concern,

I would like to put forward my strong objections, primarily towards the extension of the garden hours, but also the restaurant/bar hours of Amalfie White, 50 Derby Road, Melbourne.

The perimeter of the Amalfie White garden is completely surrounded by residential properties and gardens, including my own. I have had growing concerns about the business since it's opening. The noise level has been steadily increasing, and already I can no longer enjoy spending time in my own garden during the evenings. At times I can even hear them through my closed double glazed windows, never mind when they are open. I am already finding it difficult to be a good but noise disturbed neighbour from early evenings onwards until (allegedly) 22:00, due to the current garden hours.

They must be aware of the increasing noise as they have kindly offered to create a Noise Control officer. I am intrigued by the dynamics of this. Will this be a full time position, or just a token role for a presumably already busy member of staff? Will it work upon self-intuition, or reactive to noise complaints from the neighbours that this will inevitably disturb? As the evening progresses, the level of noise will increase with or without a 'noise officer'. This should not be necessary in a local village restaurant/bar. It was my impression that the bar would supplement the restaurant and not act as its own entity. Given that they wish to extend their opening hours to coincide with the Alma pub (opposite), will this not create magnify the noise concerns once the patrons of both premises leave at the same time?

As a local resident, I am also concerned about the statement in the prevention of public nuisance, whereby the staff are instructed to eject anyone who was obviously intoxicated and no longer able to exert reasonable control over their behaviour. Do they not have a duty of care to that patron to get them safe passage home? Are the restaurant staff trained adequately to deal with inebriated customers, and aware of the legal and moral responsibilities of this?

As they have stated, Amalfie White is a family friendly restaurant, and as such should continue with the CRB checks on their staff. It is important not to rely on the new employee to disclose of any previous criminal history, as surprisingly they might be reluctant to do so. Would this guarantee the safety of children that often play in play area at the bottom of the garden without parental supervision?

Kind regards,
S. B. James
Concerned resident.