

10 February 2021

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

**WITH REFERENCE TO LIQUOR LICENCE NUMBER: WCP/021854 Renewal 2021**

**Rayhas Investments (Pty) Ltd for Stones, Observatory, 84 Lower Main Road, Observatory, 7925**

Liquor licensing applications – especially applications for extended hours - impact on good urban management in Observatory and potentially have a knock-on effect on the property market – it is therefore essential that a balance is reached between business interests and those of nearby residents.

As the Observatory Improvement District, it's our opinion that late night liquor licenses (02h00 to 04h00) should be considered as a special provision only, should only be granted with strict conditions attached and should be subject to regular unscheduled inspections by licensing authorities and in fact are better suited to night clubbing precincts, either in the CBD or industrial areas.

They arguably have no place in a village / residential environment such as Observatory. It is of great concern that a granting of the extension will be seen as a precedent by other establishments in central Observatory – and will lead to further applications for extended hours.

Whilst we appreciate that extended hours act as a draw for late night revellers from other parts of the city and do bring in additional spend in some businesses in **the area**, the negative impacts – such as drunkenness, associated antisocial behaviour, stronger links to narcotic trade and other organised crime – are very significant, well established in research and outweigh the positive aspects, most especially in a residential area.

It is not in the wider community's interest to develop a reputation for very **late** night activity in Observatory.

Our public safety team regularly receives and attends to complaints / crime incidents arising from antisocial behaviour in the "night life" section of the business precinct, often linked to drug procurement or use and / or excessive consumption of alcohol.

As **there** is almost no parking nearby the establishment, patrons tend to park where they will – often obstructing driveways to private residences and causing disturbances throughout the night.

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**SAFER - CLEANER - SMARTER**

Directors: J Allemeier, E Angless, J Ashley, K Cousins, J Cronje, C Everatt, T Figl, M Letimile, N Moodley

If other establishments in central Observatory follow suit, the resources of the OBSID will be stretched beyond capacity in terms of public safety and cleaning / urban management programmes.

Equally and over time, this reputation as a late night hotspot will start to contradict the goals of good urban management for a prosperous property market.

We therefore do not support the granting of extended hours licences (02h00 to 04h00) and trust that this submission will be considered when the application is reviewed.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Kirk', written in a cursive style.

**AMANDA KIRK**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**