

EXAMPLE: REVIEW OF LICENSE OF NIGHTCLUB (AT REQUEST OF GM POLICE) - 2014

Residents attended hearing as an interested party and spoke in objection along with responsible authorities (GM Police, Licensing).

OUTCOME: LICENSE REVOKED ON GROUNDS OF PREVENTION OF CRIME & DISORDER AND PUBLIC SAFETY.

Individual objection sent by email.

Dear Sirs

Review of a Premises Licence: XXXXXXX

I am writing to express my concerns about the licensed premise XXXXXXX. My family and I have been residents in close proximity, approximately 100m away, to this establishment for many years. XXXXX is one of the 3am licensed premises that we consider to be a major nuisance in Fallowfield and contributes significantly to the night time noise and anti social behaviour. I am concerned (but not surprised) that GMP have called for a review of the license on the grounds of crime and disorder and realise that this implies that a serious incident has recently occurred. It is very difficult for local residents to pinpoint exactly where anti social behaviour originates when there are so many licensed premises in a small area. The recent Cumulative Impact Policy is testament to this. I am however concerned that the licensing objectives are not being met at XXXXX and I will outline some of my reasons for this below:

1. Crime and Disorder. GMP will have accurate records of the crime and disorder at XXXXX. However an article in Manchester Evening News from 14 February 2013 (link provided) reports of an incident where a male had been celebrating at XXXXX and was knocked unconscious whilst outside having a cigarette at 2.10am on Sunday 10th February 2013. It was an unprovoked attack and the victim was left with a brain injury, fractured jaw and perforated ear drum. This is a very worrying incident to be happening in a residential area and questions regarding safety and welfare of patrons at XXXXX have to be asked. My son and his friends also witnessed a nasty fight outside XXXXX some months ago. I have also been informed by the manager of nearby XXXXXXX that a fight occurred outside XXXXX before Christmas and GMP were asked to check their CCTV.

2. Public Nuisance. There is no doubt in my mind that the licensed premises at XXXXX contributes to public nuisance in this area. I have coordinated a group of Community Guardian residents for the last seven years and we have had many issues of concern with XXXXX. Many of us attended the XXXXX hearing in 2010 and objected to their request for extended hours because we feel that the hours of opening are excessive for a nightclub in a residential area.

- **Noise Nuisance:** From the back of our house we can hear screaming, shrieking and chanting from late evening onwards. This is particularly noticeable at weekends but also on many other weeknights during the academic year. XXXXXXX is directly behind our house. Despite the large number of flats which are 3 storey, the sound carries very clearly in the early hours. The only other bar within close vicinity is XXXXX which closes at midnight. The destination for these drunken revellers is most likely to be XXXXX because the other bars in Fallowfield are 100m+

walk north up Wilmslow Road. It is known that XXXXXX management and XXXXXX are linked. XXXXXX are reputed to hand out vouchers for free entry and complimentary drinks to patrons leaving XXXXXX, to increase trade at XXXXXXXX which is open later (3am). One example of excessive noise nuisance I believe was linked to a TENs at XXXXXX (4am) on 22.9.13 I reported to GMP *'There was a large amount of disturbance that personally woke me up from the Brook Road end of Clifton Avenue which occurred between 04:00am and 04,30am. There was a lot of shouting and many bins were overturned'*. FWIN Ref 789 :22 /9/12 . In addition, XXXXXX has hosted Parklife After Parties which have added to the considerable disturbances in the neighbourhood during Parklife weekends.

- **Flyering and flyposting:** We have had several instances regarding XXXXXX promotional flyers being posted around the area illegally (see attached photographs) and we are offended by the promotion of cheap drinks (see flyer attached) as we feel this is irresponsible. One such flyer advertises three Jaeger Bombers for £3.50, pints of beer £2.50, shots at £1, a Tuesday night event. This area is predominantly populated by students and these events are clearly marketed at them. Unfortunately the fallout of anti social behaviour related to alcohol is very high in Fallowfield and being awoken at 3am and 4am.
- **Drugs, fighting, vomiting, public urination:** An online review of a guest at the XXXXXX reads *"Never Ever Again. I have nothing positive to say, run down, dirty, noisy, a window that would not shut securely (essential when you are on a ground floor room and situated next door to a night club!) We barely slept due to fighting outside the window (my daughter and I were terrified, but our car had been blocked in and so we could not leave). Clubbers used the "secure" parking area to urinate (ie outside our bedroom window) up until 4am. The room was freezing as the window would not shut. At 3:30am I went to the man on reception who tried to block the draught with 2 dishclothes as the latch on the window was broken. We paid £35 for this completely unacceptable excuse of a room."*
- *"disco below until about 4am.and students outside making noise and being sick. bed very cheap you can feel the springs. room very tatty. I would not stay there again."*

3. **Public Safety.** There is more often than not broken glass in the vicinity of XXXXXX as shown in attached photographs. This suggests that patrons are drinking on the street before gaining entry. I would question whether a basement club jam packed full of cubbers, many of whom are likely to be heavily intoxicated is in the interests of public safety. I also note from an online review of XXXXXX that a member of staff suggests sticking to bottle drinks or vodka. This indicates that the non alcoholic drinks are not good or served from dirty glasses.

"I work here! It's cheap and.. Cheerful? Stick to bottles or spirits!"

Another online review for the XXXXXX cites padlocked fire escapes which gives me further concerns for public safety:

"Nightclub downstairs, padlocked fire-escape"

4. **Protecting Children from Harm.** I have come across a troubling review which may be referring to the DPS. It read:

*"The guy who owns this place calls him self 'XXXXX'... but he aint, stayed here as everywhere else was booked up and this wasn't - I KNOW WHY...its so SHITTE. dirty unclean hazardous, **the bouncers downstairs sell drugs openly**and when you ask the club manager not to play the **music so loud that our room was shakin** we were told not to be cheeky, **my little girl wanted a drink and was told to go to the club down stairs to get 1, she is 13!!!** it should be closed down , what a joke it is !!!!"*

On the basis of all these concerns I would ask the Committee to revoke the license for XXXXX. Considering our experiences of this premise over the years and reading some of the extremely worrying comments of the management of this bar, the licensing objectives do not seem to be being upheld.

Yours

Name & Address