

LICENSING PANEL (LICENSING ACT 2003 FUNCTIONS) ADDENDUM

10.00AM, MONDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2020

VIRTUAL MEETING - TEAMS

Agendas and minutes are published on the council's website www.brighton-hove.gov.uk. Agendas are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

Electronic agendas can also be accessed through our meetings app available through [ModernGov: iOS/Windows/Android](#)

This agenda and all accompanying reports are printed on recycled paper

ADDENDUM

| ITEM | | Page |
|------|--|-------|
| 36 | PIANO CAFÉ BRIGHTON LICENSING PANEL (LICENSING ACT 2003 FUNCTIONS) | 5 - 6 |

Since we purchased the cafe back in November. We took over an empty Cafe which we had to build up again ourselves. The premises had been empty for about 6 months so we weren't aware of any issues when starting our dream business. Within 4 weeks we were up and running with full excitement of opening our Turkish cafe. That's when the trouble started.

We had put a lovely decking outside so our customers could relax while enjoying the sea view. This was disturbed by the strong smell of cannabis which was happening on many occasions to the point that the smell was coming into the cafe. Our customers complained as it was unbearable and couldn't sit outside and even inside to the point they would leave. We ask **REDACTED TEXT** about the smell but nothing changed and the smell got worse to the point you knew it was coming **REDACTED TEXT**. We had no choice but to report this as its affecting our trade.

After this then **REDACTED TEXT** started complaining about us cooking and the fact **REDACTED TEXT** didn't like it. **REDACTED TEXT** reported us to the council and to which we did everything that the council asked by us. This caused us to stop all food and we were just serving coffee until we could re arrange our menu, get them reprinted and updated on Just Eat & Uber. This all took great time as was like starting again and lost alot of business/money, this went on for months and our dream is now becoming a nightmare. Our income was almost nothing as we were trying to keep the business running. **REDACTED TEXT** just didn't give up **REDACTED TEXT** started banging around **REDACTED TEXT**, Playing loud music and stamping **REDACTED TEXT**, even slamming **REDACTED TEXT**. Our cafe would shake.

We reported **REDACTED TEXT** behavior to the council but this didn't seem to help and just made **REDACTED TEXT** in more rage to a point **REDACTED TEXT** stood outside one early morning screaming at us that **REDACTED TEXT** was going to make us go bust and were cooking illegally. This went on for over an hour and i had to call the police as we came towards the cafe to enter. **REDACTED TEXT** knows I would normally have **REDACTED TEXT** in the cafe at weekends, lucky this time i had dropped them off as they would of been upset by this. (**REDACTED TEXT** excuse the next day to the police was that **REDACTED TEXT** was drunk, this was from 9am sat morning)

REDACTED TEXT would also leave **REDACTED TEXT** empty alcohol bottles out side our business for intimidation (we have cameras showing inside & out so we can see who was doing it)

All this stress caused me to have a mental breakdown to the point i was pushed to my limits and was admitted to hospital. Mr Kocer decided to take me away from this and try to recover. On return i went to check on the cafe to find criminal damage to our decking. Looking on our CCTV we saw a young drunk girl coming from **REDACTED TEXT** with them laughing about how she broke our post & decking. **REDACTED TEXT** denied knowing her to the police but admitted it to us and he also have that on CCTV.

With the issue with cooking smell we tried to resolve this with **REDACTED TEXT** by asking if we could install an extension pipe to takeaway the smell. **REDACTED TEXT** refused, so we asked next door and they were happy for us to go ahead and run it up there outside wall. When installation was starting and builders were next door, **REDACTED TEXT** in anger and tried to stop the builders from entering next door. Again **REDACTED TEXT** kicked off **REDACTED TEXT** was shouting **REDACTED TEXT** was the freeholder and wasn't giving permission for the pipe to be built, this isn't the case **REDACTED TEXT**. So we had to stop

We found out **REDACTED TEXT** had been in contact with **REDACTED TEXT** and put forward pressure for **REDACTED TEXT** company to purchase **REDACTED TEXT** flat **REDACTED TEXT**. **REDACTED TEXT** told us **REDACTED TEXT** valued it at £400k but only worth £270. I don't know what **REDACTED TEXT** was trying to achieve by this. **REDACTED TEXT** has told us of past history with **REDACTED TEXT** and said **REDACTED TEXT** won't an easy **REDACTED TEXT** to deal with.

Recent activity from **REDACTED TEXT** has gone again against our Alcohol License application given petty information to stop us getting it (this is now going to trail)

Too banging on the shop window and give hand signs. An example where fingers & thumb touch with moving hand left to right. **REDACTED TEXT** also does this when leaving his flat so we can see

REDACTED TEXT reported our decking 1 year later to planning council to cause more cost to us

REDACTED TEXT has also started putting **REDACTED TEXT** rubbish bin right by our kitchen window to cause us contamination and the nasty bin smell coming in (we took a photo of that aswell and reported **REDACTED TEXT** bad behavior yet again)

REDACTED TEXT is doing everything possible to stop us trading and at cost to us

We really don't know when **REDACTED TEXT** is going to stop? **REDACTED TEXT** has caused great financial strain on our business and on both Engin & I

Not only causing my mental break down and now being suicidal and have suffered bad panic attacks since. I can't go to the cafe without suffering anxiety or no longer take **REDACTED TEXT** there with fear of **REDACTED TEXT** actions Engin already told **REDACTED TEXT** when **REDACTED TEXT** was shouting outside that I had a health issues because of the stress **REDACTED TEXT** is causing however **REDACTED TEXT** just carried out **REDACTED TEXT** actions deliberately.

We have now been taking legal advice and waiting for the solicitors to refer us to court.

Regards

Piano Cafe Brighton

E Kocer
Joanne Mitchell