

Appendix D

REP A

From: REDACTED

Sent: 23 January 2023 17:45

To: EHL Safety <EHL.Safety@brighton-hove.gov.uk>

Subject: Black Horse Pub, Church Street

DL CON ENDS 01.02.2023 VALID PCD, PPN (A)

Good Afternoon,

We REDACTED and I am writing to you to leave my thoughts on the closure/reopening of the pub Black Horse, just outside our REDACTED.

I must confess I have never had such good and quiet evenings since the pub closed.

The amount of stress and disturbance that venue has brought to me and my family over the past few years is just immense.

The constant noise from the beer garden, the loud music to very late hours, clients urinating through our gates, forcing the gate to get inside and urinating on our doorstep, glass bottles, vomit and cigarette ends in the entrance and street. Every time we complain the management is not interested in being neighbourly in any way.

Violence and fighting on our gate to the point where families with children cannot access their home and feel safe. There is also drug dealing and littering all the time.

Please make sure the pub is closed for good. We all want to live in a safe and well-mannered environment.

Many Thanks,

REDACTED

REP B

From: REDACTED
Sent: 27 January 2023 12:57
To: EHL Safety <EHL.Safety@brighton-hove.gov.uk>
Subject: Black Horse 112 Church Street Brighton

DL CON ENDS 01.02.2023 VALID PCD, PPN (B)

Dear Sirs

The Black Horse has been a major concern for residence and local businesses for a long time now.

I would like to point out that for every incident that the police are called to the pub there are literally dozens of other incidents that go unreported that affect the local area.

The pub is the centre of anti social behaviour with open drug dealing and acts of violence , it is almost a weekly occurrence to see people coming out of the venue covered in blood. I honestly feel it is only a matter of time until someone is seriously injured or even killed.

The staff and management have actually been involved in the drinking and drug taking and were involved in a recent violent assault on a customer who was taken to hospital.

I personally have been in on a number of occasions to speak with staff about the behaviour of their customers outside and the staff have actually been in a worse condition than the customers themselves.

I am in no doubt that the owners will blame the management for what has been going on but I don't believe they are fit to run this establishment, they know what has been going on but have ignored the situation as the pub has been making money.

The set up of the pub, weak management, playing sport, loud music and ridiculously cheap drinks is a recipe for disaster, only a few weeks ago on a busy weekend everyone was coming out of the pub to urinate in the street as they had no toilets in use, the manager had apparently rang Head Office but was told they were not allowed to close.

The area the pub is in, New Road, has a high street drinking and anti social behaviour problem, the change for the better has already been dramatic since the closure of the pub.

I just hope this venue remains closed as local residents and businesses are already under a lot of pressure.

I could honestly write a lot more but am aware it needs to be kept brief but if you need any further details please do not hesitate to contact me

With kind regards
REDACTED

REP C

Donna Lynsdale
Licensing Authority
Brighton & Hove City Council
Bartholomew House
Bartholomew Square
Brighton
BNI IJP

Date: 27th January 2023
Our Ref: 2023/00215/LICREP/EH
Phone: 01273 292143
e-mail: Emily.fountain@brighton-hove.gov.uk

DL CON ENDS 01.02.2023 VALID PCD (C)

Dear Donna Lynsdale

Licensing Act 2003

Representation in support of an application by Sussex Police seeking a review of the Premises Licence - 2023/00193/LAREV

Black Horse Inn - 112 Church Street, Brighton, BNI IUD

I write to make a representation on behalf of the Council's Licensing Team, in their capacity as a responsible authority, in relation to the above application made by Sussex Police seeking to review the Premises Licence for the Black Horse Inn, 112 Church Street, Brighton, BNI IUD.

This representation is made as the Licensing Team have concerns that the licensing objective of the Prevention of Crime and Disorder is not being upheld.

The history of this matter is explained in more detail in the application of Sussex Police.

Due to complaints in July 2022 regarding anti-social behaviour, drug use and staff intoxication a joint licensing inspection with Sussex Police Licensing was carried out on the 1st August 2022. Drug swabs were also taken. Post inspection an action plan was agreed between PC Kate Hancox from Sussex Police and the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) at the time REDACTED to address the issues. I followed up this inspection with an email 12th August 2022 at Appendix A with the measures discussed to reduce the issues.

I received a further complaint on 17th September 2022 that issues at the Premises around anti-social behaviour, drug use and staff intoxication persisted. I advised the Police of the further complaint, and I understand an Operation Marble licensing check was done on the 24th September 2022. As problems were persisting at the premises a virtual Teams meeting was arranged on the 28th September 2022 with PC Hancox, myself, the existing DPS and REDACTED, Area Manager. The ongoing issues were discussed as well as measures to mitigate problems, including door staff, mobile support unit and BCRP membership. REDACTED said he would support the DPS to address the problems.

Following further drug swab readings, a meeting was arranged at the Police Station on 19th October 2022. Myself, REDACTED, Sergeant Redbourn and Claire Abdelkader were present and discussion around the seriousness of the issues at the Premises and the possibility of the removal of the DPS took place.

Following the meeting at the Police Station a new temporary DPS REDACTED was appointed. On 25th October 2022 myself, PC Hancox, the new DPS and the Operations Manager, REDACTED, met at the Premises where again previous issues and control measures were discussed.

It is clear from the history above that despite numerous attempts to work with the Premises Licence Holder and various DPS's that there has been little lasting impact and it is clear that the Licensing Objective of the prevention of crime and disorder continues to be undermined.

Therefore I support the review application of Sussex Police and consider this necessary to ensure the Licensing Objective of the prevention of crime and disorder is met.

Yours sincerely,



Emily Fountain
Licensing Officer
Licensing Team
Safer Communities

Appendix A

From: Emily Fountain <Emily.Fountain@brighton-hove.gov.uk>

Sent: 12 August 2022 17:00

To: REDACTED

Cc: REDACTED Kate Hancox REDACTED

Subject: Appendix A -Black Horse Licensing Inspection 1.8.22 - 1445/3/2019/05389/LAPRET

Dear REDACTED

Licensing Act 2003

Black Horse Inn – 112 Church Street, Brighton, BN1 1UD

Premises Licence Number: 1445/3/2019/05389/LAPRET

I refer to my visit on Monday 1st August 2022 with my colleague Donna Lynsdale Licensing Officer and PC Kate Hancox Police Licensing Officer to carry out a licensing inspection to ensure compliance with your premises licence and conditions.

This inspection was prompted by allegations of anti-social behaviour in and around the Premises and these allegations were discussed with yourself at the inspection. You acknowledged that there have been some challenging incidents at or outside the Premises in recent weeks and that you would welcome ways to address these challenges and allegations. You also agreed to submitting an action plan to address these issues to my colleagues in Police Licensing.

With regard to your licence conditions, we discussed the following:

For the Prevention of Public Nuisance:

1. Windows and doors will be closed when live music is being played.

You advised that you have karaoke on Sundays and a DJ once a month and would ensure the above is complied with.

2. Signs will be displayed asking customers to leave the premises quietly.

We could only find one sign in relation to the above condition on the back gate and agreed that we would provide you with more signage to display at all exits and outside.

3. The maximum capacity of persons allowed in the beer garden at any one time will not exceed 25.

4. There will be no music in the beer garden.

With regard to the above conditions you confirmed that staff regularly monitor the number of people in the garden and monitor the CCTV to ensure the 25 capacity is not exceeded. You also confirmed that you don't have music in the garden, but were at one point still measuring the noise via an app on your phone. Whilst not a condition of your licence we agreed that this would be a good practice to continue and that you would re-start and keep a record of these checks. You also said that you had instated a no one in the garden after 1 pm policy.

We also discussed other measures that may help to reduce the anti-social behaviour incidents. As follows:

Security staff – You currently have 2 SIAs working on the door Friday and Saturday nights. PC Hancox discussed the importance of their vigilance and asked you to provide an action plan for improvement i.e. consideration of more training for them in relation to your specific premises and possibly more or different security staff.

Staff training – You acknowledged that there has been some staff turnover recently and as a result new staff may need re-enforced alcohol sales training around intoxication and refusals. We offered you the BHC Council's training which you were keen to engage with details attached. We have also sent you an alcohol training manual which has some useful guidance and a log for you to complete as staff have undergone training and received refreshers. You do keep a log of training but it was agreed this needed updating.

Last Thursday 4th August you submitted an action plan to Police Licensing which was shared with myself with many positive actions you intend to take regarding many of the issues above.

However my colleague Donna Lynsdale visited the Premises on Saturday night as part of our regular visits during Pride and as I understand it, the situation at the Premises was rather chaotic. Donna will be addressing these issues in a separate email.

Therefore I must remind you that irrespective of the permissions and restrictions attached to any premises licence, all licensed premises are required to operate with regard to the 4 licensing objectives, which are.

- o The Prevention of Crime and Disorder
- o Public Safety
- o Prevention of Public Nuisance
- o Protection of Children from Harm

At any stage following the grant of a premises licence, a responsible authority, such as the Environmental Health, Police or persons such as a business or a resident living in the vicinity of the premises, may ask the Licensing Authority to review the licence because of a matter arising at the premises in connection with any of the four licensing objectives.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this email. Please note I am on leave for the next two weeks, but will pick up any messages on my return.

I have copied my colleague in Police Licensing Kate Hancox into this email and also REDACTED

Kind regards

Emily Fountain | Licensing Officer, Safer Communities | Brighton & Hove City Council

2nd Floor, Barts House, Barts Square, BN1 1JP

REDACTED

REP D

Sent: 29 January 2023 19:57

To: EHL Safety <EHL.Safety@brighton-hove.gov.uk>

Subject: The Black Horse Church Street Brighton

DL CON ENDS 01.02.2023 VALID PCD, PPN (D)

Jo Player Head of Safer Communities,

We are REDACTED and share a REDACTED with the Black Horse pub.

In the 13 years preceding the pandemic we'd only had reason to speak with the management of the premises on 3 occasions, with music at levels which were keeping us awake. The pub was well managed with thoughtful and reasonable staff and attracted a sensible and responsible client base.

The management of these premises since the relaxation of Covid restrictions to the licensed trade has been an absolute nightmare for us, residents of the mews and other local businesses.

The business model employed by the pub of selling really cheap alcohol and placing no visible restrictions or guidelines on their clients' behaviour, either inside or outside the premises, has meant two years of nightly disturbances with music being played at night club levels with both the front and rear doors propped wide open. The beer garden at the rear was remodelled from a smoking area into an entertainment area with a large TV screen (not sure if it is licensed) and a polycarbon roof placed over, without I suspect any planning approval, which sits directly beneath our bedrooms.

Tables and chairs outside the front of the premises with the associated noise of rowdy punters has been a constant problem. We have had to deal with glasses, bottles and refuse from the Black Horse's clients in the REDACTED entrance along with urinating and vomit on a regular basis! The owner of REDACTED next to our gate literally has to clean up outside his premises on a daily basis as the pub makes no effort to deal with this.

I had spoken with the long-time manager REDACTED on a number of occasions in the early months following the relaxation of lock down. He was often under the influence of alcohol and I suspect other substances as he would repeatedly greet my complaints as if we had never spoken before and appear manic to say the least.

We know from discussions with the landlord at the REDACTED that many of the clients served by the Black Horse are banned from all other pubs in Brighton and Hove. The business model they employ attracts a colourful and demanding type of client, which requires really strong management to have any hope of working. We know that the company that owns the pub and employs the managers have no interest in being good neighbours but are only concerned with turnover and profit.

It is only in more recent times that there has been any security on duty at the premises and then only at the weekend; and frankly one guy trying to deal with the customers attracted to these premises has proved to be an absolute waste of time. The music is played too loud, too often and well after their license allows on a far too regular basis. We have witnessed and heard some horrific fights and altercations. I have seen drugs being dealt at the front door and we also had through our REDACTED the smell of cannabis being smoked in the beer garden at the rear of the premises on a number of occasions.

REDACTED departure has not improved the situation and whilst the interim manager is trying, he is clearly hindered by the company that employ him and a very young team of staff who cannot manage their customers.

I have many, many videos of the noise and disruption we've had to put up with and many SMS messages to both REDACTED and the new relief manager REDACTED asking them to turn down the music levels and close doors in order that we can sleep many of which have been ignored. We have provided Environmental Health and Licensing with our complaints and a noise diary, but have been frustrated with the lack of enforcement of any restrictions placed on the premises and any adherence to their license.

We've struggled to understand how this Public House with its owners and management hasn't been closed down a long time ago. It attracts and encourages the worst types of individuals and its team have proved consistently unable to manage the clients they attract or provide suitable levels of security..

We can only hope that common sense will prevail and the license will not be renewed without a massive change in the way these premises are run and managed. If that can't be guaranteed and demonstrated, then we would vigorously oppose its reopening in its current format.

This is our home and these people have made our lives really miserable at times. They don't care about anything other than their profits and have a complete disregard for any of their neighbours, residential and commercial.

Yours Faithfully,

REDACTED

REP E

From: REDACTED

Sent: 31 January 2023 14:09

To: EHL Safety <EHL.Safety@brighton-hove.gov.uk>

Subject: The Black Horse, Church Street Brighton - Objection to Licence

DL CON ENDS 01.02.2023 VALID PCD, PS and PPN (E)

FAO Jo Player Head of safer Communities - Brighton Council

Dear Jo,

I am the owner of REDACTED, a residential house REDACTED to The Black Horse Pub. I am also the landlord of REDACTED which is currently occupied by REDACTED.

The REDACTED of my residential property REDACTED the outside drinking area of the Black Horse pub. REDACTED is immediately next door.

I am writing to object to the license and raise awareness regarding dangerous, antisocial and illegal activities that have taken place immediately outside of my REDACTED specifically relating to the Black Horse pub.

I am objecting to both the premises licence and personal liquor licenses based on the following:

- I have been subjected to abuse and intimidation by intoxicated customers of the Black Horse, when seeking to gain access to my house
- There have been numerous and regular fights, arguments, excessive noise and antisocial behaviour outside my house, from the pub, making it unsafe to get in or out of my own premises
- I believe customers continue to be served with alcohol when intoxicated, creating risk to health and personal safety
- There is evidence of drug taking
- There is ongoing nuisance caused by mismanagement of the premises
- The number of occupants within the Black Horse at peak periods is excessive and puts safety at significant risk
- Noise pollution outside of (and within) licensing hours is unreasonable and substantially interferes with the use and enjoyment of my home as detailed within the Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Damage has been caused to my premises

I believe there to be a significant inconsistency with Brighton and Hove licensing objectives and that The Black Horse premises are unsuitable for high capacity, high volume, cheaply priced alcohol sales. The current business model is unsafe and puts local residents and customers at risk. There is also an overprovision of pubs in the immediate area which is having an adverse effect on the conservation area and safety of people.

I object to the licence and would be grateful if you'll consider my objections in full.

Yours sincerely,

REDACTED

REP F

From: REDACTED

Sent: 31 January 2023 14:39

To: EHL Safety <EHL.Safety@brighton-hove.gov.uk>

Cc: REDACTED

Subject: Black Horse, Church Street Statement.

DL CON ENDS 01.02.2023 VALID PCD (F)

Dear Jo Player,

We have run our REDACTED and have watched the decline in the area since The Black Horse was taken over by Craft Union Pubs.

Unfortunately the discounted price of the alcohol on sale has attracted serious trouble at all times of the day and the total lack of management and security has only made the problem worse.

Whilst working we have witnessed constant day time drug dealing, violence, urinating, blatant drink driving and much more.

We have tried on many occasions to speak to the management and the pub regulars regarding the antisocial behaviour, and have been met with verbal abuse and intimidation.

We are not prepared to return to having to clear up vomit, cigarette butts, empty glasses on a daily basis from outside our REDACTED, when The Black Horse who is responsible and profiting does nothing.

In our opinion no establishment anywhere in the city should be permitted to sell alcohol at this price point and hope this out of control situation is not allowed to continue.

Thank you,

REDACTED

REP G

From: REDACTED

Sent: 01 February 2023 12:46

To: EHL Safety <EHL.Safety@brighton-hove.gov.uk>

Subject: REDACTED and Black Horse Public House

DL CON ENDS 01.02.2023 VALID PPN (G)

FAO: Jo Player – Head of Safer Communities

My REDACTED Black Horse Public House.

We have seen the correspondence sent to you on 29 January by REDACTED who resides with REDACTED. The REDACTED for many years until the current Pub manager took over control of the premises post COVID with the resultant disturbance and lack of consideration for their neighbours.

We wholeheartedly support the Residents objection to the renewal of the license in respect of these premises and trust our representations will be taken into account by the Licensing Committee.

Kind regards

REDACTED

