



Alistair Mackinnon-Musson's Witness Statement

Appendix 2

Excerpts from Representations submitted to B&HCC in support of The Paris House

- These excerpts are all taken, verbatim, from some of the 130 Statements submitted to the Panel in our support.
- These are ***not our words***; these are the words from the community who support us and who are concerned about what may happen to The Paris House and who have taken the opportunity and time to make their voices heard.
- A brief read-through these Representations will quickly give a very strong feel as to what The Paris House means to the Community of Brighton & Hove.
- They have been categorised, to an extent – although there are always overlaps between the comments and the categories.
- This list is not exhaustive – far from it.
- The number at the end of each quote refers to the Representation as submitted to B&HCC. Within each topic, the quotes are in numerical order.

Part 1 – Comments of people living closer to The Paris Huse than the Applicants

“I can hear the music, yet this causes me and my family no nuisance. It cannot be said to unreasonably or substantially interfere with the use or enjoyment of my home. I do not believe that the complainants could be reasonably impacted by the noise if I am so close and am not”.

“Thousands of people move to our wonderful city because of its vibrant nightlife and excellent live music scene. The noise from the pub is never excessive and stops early during the week and a little later at weekends. Is this not reasonable for a pub located in the heart of the city?”

“The enjoyment of the many should take precedence over the few that may be disturbed for such short periods of time”.

“I understand when people are really caused nuisance by music played regularly late into the night but this is not the case here. This is a well-run establishment that provides a service to the community through the provision of live music as entertainment. It actively encourages everyone to leave quietly.

Please consider this when making a decision as everyone I know values The Paris House hugely’.

A001. Mile Pickering, V close neighbour on Upper Market St.

“I wanted to give my views as a local neighbour.

Before the current owners took over this establishment the pub was run down and a troubled meeting place for people with various social problems It never felt quite safe walking past. Under current management it has become a much loved, vibrant local venue with excellent live music and a wonderfully mixed clientele of different ages and backgrounds. I visit the Paris House quite regularly and have never witnessed any problems or troubled behaviours of any kind. On the contrary, it is a safe space that women and people of different ages meet and relax without the hassle experienced on some Western Road venues.



The staff are respectful and responsible and the mood in the venue is unerringly positive – attracting a wide variety of people who enjoy alternative music. It's a very sociable place and I think the current licensing works very well. As a matter of fact it is drawing in clientele from all over the city who enjoy its relaxed inclusive atmosphere. It is most certainly a net contributor to the local economy. It is a safe space for older customers and for people of varied backgrounds. I believe it has brought a very welcome positive influence to this neighbourhood.

This is a lively neighbourhood with many pubs and cafes and it is a place people enjoy visiting in the evenings. This area is rather unique and the Paris House has brought a wonderful, artistic, friendly space to our neighbourhood. I hope it continues exactly as it is.

I am a neighbour with no personal association with the management of the pub. I just know how much better it has been in recent years under current management and licensing.

A017 Peter Watkin. Upper Market Street.

"I speak on behalf of 4 residents living at 20a Western Road, which is next door to The Paris House. We are geographically the closest property to the PH and have never considered noise or disruption to be an issue. Its existence as a music venue is important for local musicians, locals and visitors. The Paris House losing its licence would be an immeasurable loss to the community."

A064. Nick Roberts on behalf of 4 residents who live next-door to The Paris House.

"I am a GP at the WellBNsurgery 2 doors from The Paris House and a frequent attender at this pub. I know for a fact that there is a huge community who really benefit from live music performances. There is a mental health crisis and to put a stop to this for the sake of only 4 complaints is really not a sensible move"

A084. Dr Rita Ronan – GP at Jac Kirby's Doctors Surgery.

Part 2 – Contribution of The Paris House to the Brighton & Hove Community

Cultural Contribution

*"Thousands of people move to our wonderful city because of its vibrant nightlife and excellent live music scene". A001. **V close neighbour on Upper Market St.***

"This is a wonderful venue in a city which has always prided itself on supporting the arts and music". A003.

"The PH bar is a tremendous asset to the city. It champions a diverse programme of live music and provides a welcoming and charming atmosphere. It is of great cultural value to our city. I hope it will continue as a premier live music venue for our city". A006.

"It has brought a very welcome and positive influence to this neighbourhood". The Paris House has brought a wonderful, inclusive, artistic, friendly space to our neighbourhood. I hope it continues exactly as it is". A015.

"As a long-standing resident of Brighton I would like to convey how important the PH is for our local community" A020.

"It is very much a part of the culture of our wonderful city, we'd all be living in a poorer place without it". A023.

"The Paris House is a hub of culture that attracts both young and old and a wonderful mix of local residents and newbies. It has become a centre point of community spirit and brings joy to so many people". A032.

"It would represent a big cultural tragedy to the music ecosystem in the city if the licensing laws negatively impact it". A033.



"The Paris House holds significant cultural value to our city as one of the most established and musically diverse live music venues in town" A037.

"I always recommend [visiting clients] to the PH as it is welcoming, friendly, safe and interesting." A042.

"The Paris House - 'a hub of culture, community and creativity for over a decade. A positive asset to the community and a safe and enjoyable place to visit." A045.

"Please don't take this fantastic cultural hub away" A049. **Councillor Nick Evans.**

"I wish to register my strong support for The Paris House which has been a fantastic hub of culture, community, creativity and camaraderie for over a decade." A050.

"We are fighting for our culture. I believe it would be detrimental and uncultured for the area to remove the licence." A067.

"It's a brilliant venue that brings a lot to the community". A068.

"Art and culture is so important to the majority of Brighton and Hove residents and I hope you will consider this in your review." A073.

"I live close by and it only puts a smile on my face every time I pass and see happy people, enjoying themselves in a spirit of humanity" A104.

"Venues like Paris House are absolutely fundamental for grass roots music and the arts scene in general. These venues are a massive reason for me moving here in the first place". A114.

"Please engage with this popular venue, which contributes so much to so many people...and that [it] may continue to thrive as an essential part of our vibrant city" A118.

"What makes Brighton, Brighton"

"The pub is a fantastic example of what makes this a great city to live in". A012.

"I hope you will protect these little gems in Brighton". A018.

"Brighton & Hove would be a much less attractive and interesting place to live without it". A021.

"We understood when we moved into the area that we live in the centre of a vibrant, modern, multi-cultural city". A022.

"A great little venue and a real asset for the city as a whole". A023.

"It is a fun, eclectic, joyous, and really wonderful example of the very best that Brighton and Hove has to offer and indeed represents the best of what it is." A035.

"Venues like this are the heart and soul of the city". A039.

"It would be a great loss to Brighton and Hove if this could not continue". A055.

"Brings diverse cultures and backgrounds together which creates unity and understanding and a culture of openness and inclusivity which is what it means to be Brightonian" A056.

"More and more character is being wiped off the streets. It is becoming a landscape filled with just memories of former and happier and freer times. Long term residents do not want to live in the ghost of Brighton but to see some authenticity preserved. Leave us some of the real Brighton to enjoy." A059.

"Brighton and Hove will not be the same without The Paris House." A065.

"It is what makes Brighton such a great place to live." A068.



"I have been in this area for 44 years. This has always been a vibrant area, which is a boon to Brighton's entertainment service and tourist industries and an important part of what makes Brighton far more renowned in terms of art and culture than anywhere else in the country considering its population. It is down to small independent establishments like The Paris House to keep Brighton being like so much of the rest of the country - overrun by homogeneous chain bars with no character or sense of community." A069.

"Altogether The Paris House is Brighton and Hove at its very best - welcoming, inclusive and creative. Long may it continue". A075.

"I can safely say that this has been the best overall experience for us in the whole period that we have been residents in the city". A082.

"[I want to] express my staunch support for The Paris House ... a cherished venue. As a resident of Brighton and a passionate advocate of the arts I firmly believe that the PH is an indispensable cultural asset to our city and it deserves to continue thriving". A089.

"Brighton is a vibrant city and closing The Paris House would diminish the diversity of music and we would lose a venue that is filled with warmth and solidarity for all art forms". A091.

"The venue is an integral part of my community and my wonderful life here in Brighton". A093.

"It is one of the few pubs that gives gigs to a vibrant fantastic and talented range of black, brown and mixed race musicians - We're lucky to have it. Also for educating in all sorts of world music. Live! How valuable is this?" A095.

"This is exactly the kind of venue that the Council should be championing as it is representative of the kind of culture for which Brighton is nationally renowned" A106.

"You only have to go there yourself to see how good this place is" A109.

"This venue needs to be preserved and celebrated. Be proud of this venue and not negative about it. It would be a shame to lose something as precious as this" A110.

"This is one of the most genuinely diverse venues in Brighton. Surely this is exactly what the city is trying to achieve" A111.

"It is the beating heart of Brunswick Town and brings together people from all walks of life in the city. It represents everything I love about my home city and losing it would be a serious blow" A112 **Dr Tom Wright**.

"It's a breath of fresh air of how we can all mix and just live in the true ethos of the Brighton way of life." A119.

"Where people of 'a certain age' can relax and socialise alongside tourists who often comment it is the most fun they have had in Brighton." A120.

"The Paris House embodies the diversity of our city." A125.

Impact on Tourism / Local Economy

"Over the years we have lost so many venues -always due to licensing and noise complaints - which is leading to a less culturally rich environment. This will be to the detriment to tourism". A003.

"To revoke its licence or significantly disrupt its style would be a ridiculous own goal for the council." A012.

"We recommend [PH] to our guests as a great pub to spend an evening in. What a tragedy it would be to lose it." A018. **Business Owner in tourism sector**.

"These [music venues] are part of what makes Brighton and Hove special and attractive to visitors". A024.



"Let's not have another chicken shop in its place." A041.

"It's central location on a busy street provides easy access to those visiting the area to not only enjoy The Paris House but also surrounding restaurants etc" A054.

"I love The PH and value the diverse cultures and backgrounds which are brought together. The city would be losing such an iconic and valuable venue." A062.

"I really love live music and its one of the reasons I moved here". A077.

*"It is a meeting place for the varied members of the community - it provides a safe space for people who are disabled or from minority groups to come together and enjoy music, dancing, and conversation. Our city needs an evening economy - not just big clubs on the seafront for teenagers but mixed places where older and middle aged people can listen to and gather" A085 **Dr Gemma Eke.***

"Brighton and Hove prides itself on its entertainment offering and the city is a magnet for music lovers from all over the South East. The Paris House is one of the jewels in the crown of Brighton and Hove's entertainment offering - particularly jazz". A098.

"My partner and I live near Southampton and often make the journey by bus in order to experience the unique atmosphere of this pub. Please be proud of the fact that this venue is in your area" A110.

Importance to the Community

"The Paris House is a vibrant part of the community" A007.

"The Paris House is well known to be of significant cultural value to not only the small and emerging gig scene but also to the various small communities who benefit from niche music programming (not least the Latin-American community) young and old" – A008

"To lose such a hub of social wellbeing would be a tragic loss and I urge you to support its ongoing success". A009.

"I wholeheartedly support this venue for multiple reasons which I believe benefit the whole community". A011.

'Without the relevant licences [for The Paris House] Brighton and Hove would be very much the poorer artistically and socially. I myself am well into my seventies". A013.

"It is a social centre for people of all ages and nationalities" A015.

"The Paris House prides itself on the diversity of its clientele". A019.

"It is a positive asset to the community". A025.

"If it were to close it would leave a massive hole in peoples lives and greatly affect the music and cultural scene here". A029.

"The Paris House lights up Hove like no other". A030.

"It is always such a buzz and amazing experience to mingle with other music lovers in a beautiful pub like The Paris House. To lose the music here would be losing a real jewel in Brunswick" A030.

"I struggle to think of anywhere that compares with this unique venue in terms of bringing together diverse communities. This pub and its regular music bring great deal of joy. I experience nothing but a friendly welcoming community diverse in the extreme, happy and supportive of each other". A031.

"It fosters diversity and inclusivity by bringing together individuals from different cultural backgrounds - enriching the social fabric of Brighton". A037.



"I urge the Council to consider carefully the positive impact that The Paris House has on our city's cultural vitality, economic growth and social cohesion". A038.

"We can ensure that Brighton remains a thriving hub for live music and cultural exchange. I urge you to consider the invaluable contribution The Paris House makes to our city and support them in keeping their musical licence". A040.

"The Saturday music is one of the only places to hear the best quality jazz and blues in the city and it would be another act of cultural vandalism if we let residents stop this". A041.

"I do not believe that The Paris House is a problem - it is a positive asset to the community and a safe and enjoyable place to visit". A044.

"As a regular visitor I am devastated by this news. It is a wonderful venue, friendly and welcoming. We would hate to lose this wonderful place it is a Brighton iconic institution." A045.

*"A positive asset to the community and a safe and enjoyable place to visit".A046. **Lives in Cambridge Road.***

"Small, independent venues like The Paris House form a vital and vibrant part of their communities." A050.

"You can spend a little or a lot and you can go there on your own and know you will always have someone to talk to. I implore the council to review the licence on the grounds that it provides huge benefit to our community." A053.

"There are too few such establishments in Brighton and Hove where live music of all sorts can be enjoyed by a wide range of people in a friendly atmosphere." A057.

"I love The Paris House and value the diverse cultures and backgrounds which are brought together." A062.

"For the sake of mental health, culture and community spirit please consider protecting more Brighton venues from becoming bland drink-only cultures". A067.

"Preserving venues like The Paris House is paramount especially in these times when community connections and creative outlets are more essential than ever." A070.

*"This venue contributes massively to the artistic and creative energy of our city as well as to the mental and emotional well being of so many people." A074. **Resident of Upper Market St.***

"It's a lifeline to the audience that wouldn't necessarily go out and meet up with like minded friends". A077.

"It is a very welcoming place and an asset to Brighton. This place needs supporting". A081.

"It would be an enormous loss to the community and the city in that area if there was nowhere else to go and just become another barbers shop". A083.

*"Preserving this beloved venue is not only essential for our cultural heritage but also for our community as a whole". A089. **Resident on Brunswick St East.***

"If you live alone it is a real life enhancer to pop along in the early evenings or Saturday afternoon to hear great music and catch up with new friends and make new acquaintances. It truly does bring diverse, different cultures and backgrounds together for a much-needed sense of unity and a love of music and dancing.". A093.

"It's a home and a haven for many, many of us. It fills up for a reason. We desperately need this. I can't think of another venue like it. The cultural variety and richness this pub supports is an essential part of our community, one that Brighton is slowly losing. Your decisions will influence the direction of this city. Let's hope it doesn't become just like another grey concrete jungle. " A095.

"I genuinely consider The Paris House to be an exceptionally valuable asset to the city of Brighton & Hove and should be treasured". A098.



“Now is the time to be helping to build the music industry back up, not the opposite”. A103.

“It provides a community hub for the many denizens who regularly go there to lift their spirits, and enjoy performance arts. Far from being a nuisance The Paris House is a treasure and a joy to many in the local community”. A107. **Dr Ben Evans.**

“If it was to close down due to a handful of complaints it would not only be devastating to myself and friends it would be a massive impact to a lot of residents in this area that use this place to socialise and meet new friends and keep a social contact.” A109.

“Please allow it to continue to thrive and enrich the lives of all who discover it.” A111.

“It has been sheer joy to introduce [my children] to the sheer joy of being among other Brighton and Hove residents.” **A112 Dr Tom Wright.**

“As a local resident I believe that if anything these venues should be at the centre of the councils thinking and be given more support where possible to help preserve the culture and community which is the epitome of the city.” A114.

“The Paris House is a community and this community is based on the live music, because it is what brings these people together.” A116.

“I hope the council will see the value of iconic assets like the Paris House and take seriously its role in supporting a vibrant friendly Brighton for us all to enjoy.” A117.

“The Paris House will always be one of my go to places because of its friendliness and acceptance of all that enter.” A119.

“[The Paris House] is a place where conversations start with ease and music connects people. Despite being in a room of strangers I felt accepted and embraced there - a rare experience for me as a trans person. It has improved my work and social life. I can't imagine feeling at home in this city if I didn't have The Paris House and its music to dance to.” A121.

“To let such a great venue disappear would be a travesty for B&H. I vehemently urge the council to provide their continual support to what is an important and very well run establishment”. A122.

“It would be a huge loss to our community if the licence is taken away.” A124.

Age Diversity / Inclusive for old

“You will often find community members in their 60s and 70s enjoying jazz and Columbian music.” A008.

“It crosses the age groups and divides so is quite untypical (I am 68 so appreciate this)”. A012.

“I am well into my seventies”. A013.

“As a 64 yr. old woman it is one of the few bars, I not only feel comfortable going to alone but I am guaranteed a dance when appropriate”. “When I take friends who live elsewhere, they always comment on how lucky I am to live near such an eclectic pub with such high quality music”. A020.

“I know as a single older woman I can feel comfortable.” A021.

“As a 72 yr. old woman know of no other place which is so welcoming.” A021.

“As an older resident I have always felt safe both visiting the venue and passing by, whatever time of the day or night”. A024.

“I have always found The Paris House to be a safe and enjoyable environment where people of all ages can mix and listen to jazz.” A025.



“Don’t take this away from us. It gets us pensioners out, plus all age groups. We are able to meet up with younger generations and many friendships have been made.” A026.

“Everyone is courteous and show respect to our age group” A026.

“Not only is the demographic impressive I regularly see every age from young students to octogenarians enjoying all that it has to offer” A035.

“I have always found The Paris House to be a safe and enjoyable environment where people of all ages can mix and listen to jazz”. A043.

“A positive asset to the community and a safe and enjoyable place to visit. Where people of all ages can mix and listen to jazz” A047.

“I am oap and couldn’t go if it was in any way rowdy or noisy. The friend I go with is of a similar age and she feels the same way” – A051.

“This social function is extremely important for many of our regulars without the Monday afternoons they would not get out so much.” A052.

“It will be a huge loss to Brighton and Hove if The Paris House were to close and I have no doubt that people in the community would feel this loss keenly”. A053.

“[It] appeals to people of all ages - not just young people but also people well into their 70s and 80s such as myself.” A057.

“The clientele are a diverse mix of ages and so inclusive to the many communities that live and work in the city.” A060.

“[It attracts] of all ages ...including young people right through to people in their seventies and eighties.” A066.

“Le Pub is a rare oasis of intergenerational community” A071.

“Different generations mostly locals are known and welcomed here. I have seen those of eighty plus who come here regularly. This place embraces all generations. It is also unusual in that it is a place one can come on your own and feel at ease.”. A076

“The atmosphere is always congenial and friendly with a wide range of customer ages which I think contributes to this situation [of being friendly and trouble free]”. A082.

“The Paris House attracts people of all ages who mix and listen to music in a perfectly safe and friendly environment - the atmosphere is always of joy and genuine friendship”. A098.

*“It really would be a travesty if it was lost” **A102 Old Age Pensioner.***

“I’ve seen students perform their own songs live and danced alongside a couple in their late 70s on a Saturday night. It’s quite special to me to see so many different groups of people enjoying an evening out together.” A115.

“The Paris House will always be one of my go to places because of its friendliness and acceptance of all that enter.” A118.

“It is the highlight of many people’s week who would otherwise have nowhere to go to enjoy music, meet up with friends and enjoy our city.” A120.

Monday Afternoons

The following quotes relate specifically to our Monday afternoon session. This is a jazz-focussed session aimed at the ‘less-young’ elements of our customer base and runs from 2-5pm every Monday:

“Monday afternoons - 'It's like an Age Concern event but with live music". A021.

“I don't think you actually get overly raucous jazz fans or musicians". A023.

“As a widow well past retirement age I find I can attend these sessions and feel completely safe. It is within walking distance of my home - most of the year it finishes in daylight so I can avoid walking home after dark". A034.

“This social function is extremely important for many of our regulars without the Monday afternoons they would not get out so much." A055.

“Monday sessions are a great example [of a community pub] - what other pub brings a community together these days? I am sure none of the large chains do and they are far noisier!" A065.

“The audience is in their 70s and 80s. It is a very friendly, inclusive atmosphere and, as visitors, we are always made to feel very welcome". A079.

“My friend and I regularly travel from Portsmouth to attend the Monday afternoon jazz gigs. We also eat and go around the shops. It would be an act of vandalism to outlaw this weekly delight". A080.

“I especially love the Monday afternoon live music sessions when people of my generation in their 70s can sit and enjoy live music. There is nowhere like it". A083.

“Many of the older people come to join us [on Mon pm] and really enjoy themselves - [it] is a source of great enjoyment for the older generation and a vehicle for their mental wellbeing". A090.

“[Mon afternoons] - The majority of the audience, who really appreciate the music, are mainly retired. [This] provides a great social service and is always enjoyed without offending volume or disorder and to terminate it would be a great loss to the local community". A096.

“The music on a Monday afternoon is not excessively loud...as the musicians are keen not to overpower the conversation". A097.

“For many older people the Monday afternoon gig is the high point of their week." A108.

“My absolute favourite is the Monday afternoon jazz. Who knew I'd be talking to a 75 yr. old painter or an 80 yr. old East End Madame or all the young Brighton students from the Brighton Music Academy". A119.

“Their Monday afternoon jazz sessions are attended by a large number of senior citizens, providing a safe, welcoming and stimulating environment for this demographic who are under provided for". A051.

“The Monday sessions contribute importantly to the well-being in the city. They provide employment opportunities for development, boost the city's cultural life and support diversity as well as having an important social function for older members of our community. For our relatively senior audience the PH is a place of safety - where they can come along and enjoy a convivial and relaxing afternoon meeting and making friends." A052.

Support for Live Music

“Please don't take away The Paris House's licence. It is a wonderful pub that supports live music and is very popular with so many people who love music".

“This venue is often alive with people dancing in styles with cultural significance (swing, indy hop, balboa, salsa, tango,) - styles that would die out if we as a community and society don't nurture and encourage live music venues and live bands to play the kind of music that people will want to dance to". A 002



"It provides an unrivalled mix of eclectic entertainment enjoyed by a loyal and friendly clientele". A-009

"It is a great venue with some very good music and stands out as exceptional in the Brighton and Hove area." A-012

"I don't think a couple of residents should have the power to shut down one of the most vibrant, culturally and musically diverse, not to mention long standing venues in the city". A022

"A wonderful venue it would be a terrible shame if live music could no longer be played here". A024

"I meet up with likeminded friends where we are privileged to listen to some of the most talented musicians in an easily accessible venue. I hope it will be there for many years to come.". A025

"Venue has become a feature of 'local cultural sights' to my guests who marvel at the unique tradition, qualities, warmth and fun that this venue provides". A031

"I teach music at BIMM just around the corner and I cannot over emphasise how significant it is for the students to have a venue like The Paris House so close". A033

"Brighton's jazz and world music scenes are on a par with much bigger cities and much of that is to do with venues like The Paris House". A033

"The Paris House provides a much-needed space for local residents to enjoy some live music and dancing". A054

"It offers a range of music events including excellent jazz performances that bring joy and pleasure to many people." A042

"Some of these musicians play at Ronnie Scott's and are keen to also play at The Paris House where their music is much appreciated". A096

"Catalyst for instrumental lessons when less and less opportunities are provided elsewhere eg in schools" A106.

Part 3 Comments on how venue is run / attention to noise leakage

"The staff are always polite and attentive and they NEVER allow the music to go on later than 11pm". A - 005

"My experience is that it is run in an orderly fashion and that the clientele are certainly not the rowdy sort and represent a real cross-section of the local community". A013

"I attend the PH on a regular basis and know for a fact that they keep windows closed there. In short they are doing everything they can as a well-established and well loved music venue to respect local residents" A014

"Never rowdy or overly loud. It attracts a nice crowd of people". A023

"They are very respectful to their neighbours and insist on having all the windows closed, even in the summer". A029

"[DJs] are so considerate of volume levels ...staff are always proactive in closing doors and keeping outdoor activity to a minimum past 10.30pm". A030

"This well run pub is a source of pride for many musicians and residents". A042

"There was never any commotion or any noise past the time the music stopped." A047 Councillor Nick Evans



"The Paris House is well run and orderly - I have seen staff ensure that noise is minimised by keeping all windows closed and taking regular readings with a Db meter". A051

"The Paris House management has been extremely supportive of our gigs, they have a keen appreciation of its social value, Lock down closed a number of gigs in the city permanently. There was never any question that we would restart when it was safe to do so." A052

"The staff have always been so diligent in regards to ensuring that there is minimal / no noise (especially in the evening and I am shocked that there are any concerns at all". A065

"This is not a drum and base venue with unsavoury characters, this is your quite normal pub with a music interest in a busy town centre that's respectful of licensing laws". A067

"I have witnessed the DJ at weekends check the sound levels inside and outside the pub to ensure they are not over the limits". A072

"As a regular customer I know the venue is strict and upholds the commitment on ensuring that all windows and doors are kept closed when the bands are playing." A074 Resident of Upper Market St

"The Paris House makes a point of closing the windows and door to keep music at a low level (I'm sure the traffic is noisier)". A077

"We are older members of the community and particularly value the staff and management attitude towards the elderly members of the Brighton community." A082

"I have found it to be a well-run very pleasant, sociable place with friendly staff and a good mix of customers, both young and old. I have not witnessed any disturbances at the pub or excessive noise outside. In fact on music night there is minimal noise coming from the pub with doors and windows closed". A092

"I know for a fact that the venue is proactive in noise mitigation and acting as a responsible neighbour". A099

"It is hard to imagine a better managed and more valuable venue" – A102 Old Age Pensioner

"The staff are assiduous, even obsessive in keeping windows and the door closed to prevent the sound of the music straying outside" A108.

"Staff went over and beyond to help me through tough times during covid" A114.

"I can vouch for the great pains that are made to keep the door and windows closed to keep music within the establishment rather than allow it to drift into the wider neighbourhood." A118

"Music is definitely not intrusive to neighbours. I have never known rowdy or unnecessary behaviour. A120

"I have found owners and staff to be very respectful of local residents and keen to protect them from unnecessary noise and disturbance. All external doors and windows are always kept shut when music is being played." A125

Part 4 - Character of the immediate area

Not a residential area

"This is not a residential street - it is on a busy main street with buses going past all the time". A -016

"The venue is on a busy street". A024



"Its central location on the main high street, on the noisiest street, away from strictly residential areas, ensures it contributes to the city's vibrant atmosphere without causing further disturbance to residents who are already used to high traffic and nightlife in their vicinity". A037

"It is an established city centre venue. It's a high street not a residential block. Where else are music venues supposed to exist?" A039

"It is not in a primary residential area but rather in the main thoroughfare of Western Road where there are many other bars and restaurants." A057

"It is not in a residential area and is on a main road that has high traffic noise." A060

"The venue's central location situated away from residential areas {NB She lives in Brunswick St East itself} and nestled on the bustling main high street makes it easily accessible to residents and visitors alike". A098
– NB Resident on Brunswick St East

"The Paris House is on a busy high street, where you would expect a music venue to be (and its much more chilled than most)2. A093

"I have recently purchased a property in the close vicinity on the basis that this section of the Western Road is a diverse and vibrant area" A105.

"It is situated on one of the busiest commercial streets in the city, it is in an ideal location for live music events - occasions it handles extraordinary well careful not to allow noise to travel". A112 Dr Tom Wright

"It is not a backstreet venue that's difficult to access if you're older more vulnerable (as many of The Paris House' loyal patrons are, but on that sits in its beating heart on a busy road'." A118

"Surely if people want to live in a quiet part of town they should move to the suburbs?" A – 002

"If people chose to buy or rent near a venue then it should be acknowledged that it was their choice to do so and the venues should not suffer the consequences". A -003

"Let's not let another wonderful venue close because of some pompous fool who should live in Eastbourne". A-005

"It would be such a shame if a small number of people were able to effect the withdrawal of its licence". A -007

"As for the complainants they have all made their choices as to where to live". A014

"If you want to live somewhere quiet then the centre of a town like Brighton is the wrong place to live". A-022

"I have never been disturbed by the music {Lives v close by, Brunswick Sq}. I am likely to be disturbed by scaffolders, people arguing, kids playing, street drinkers in the square. It's city life. If you want stone silence then move out to the suburbs". A032

"If you move next to licensed premises then you really shouldn't have the right to shut the activities down" A041.

"It really is important that residents take into account that the nearby facilities are for everyone to enjoy". A049 Councillor Nick Evans

"Living in a city is just that - residents there should be give and take." A059

"I also think that it is shocking how easily it appears to be for a venue to have its licence taken away when people move in nearby, knowing that a place has a long and culturally significant history of providing live music, and then complain." A066



“Too many places have been silenced in the past because of just a few individuals and it would be a shame to lose the fantastic venue that The Paris House offers”. A072

“As much as it is a noisy area I also accept this because I enjoy being in a lively and very central city location, with all the convenience that offers. I believe some noise disturbance is par for the course.” A074 **Resident of Upper Market St**

“People who have now complained have deliberately moved into these lively areas and can't then destroy them for all of us”. A086

“When I purchased my flat in Landsdowne Street all those years ago I did so because I wanted to live in a busy part of Hove with easy access to all the amenities that this offered.” A089

“This is a city centre and people living in the central environment (as I did for many years) should expect living next to a venue to be lively”. A091

“If you move close to an airport you must expect some noise, and if you live close to a venue which has been providing music for some time then you expect to hear it”. A096

“If other people desire a quiet life then why on earth did they buy a property on or near Western Road?” A105

“Any idea that neighbours should be upset at sound levels on a busy and noisy road in a 'fun' town is ridiculous” A112.

Western Road is noisy area with homeless etc

“They are on a busy road where many people walk past all the time and they quite often have to deal with problems that are not of their own making involving people who are not customers but are rather people with mental health and addiction problems that are, alas, the hallmark of our society... the unfortunate people who cause the problem in the street”. A-007

*“In terms of noise the venue is located on a busy road with loads of hustle and bustle and barely any residents bar those above shops who must be used to busy traffic, bus routes, a wrath of noisy late night takeaway establishments with delivery drivers always stopping etc. The whole street is very noisy and busy - why is the pub being singled out?” A-008 – **who “used to live just behind” the pub.***

“You would not choose to live next to Western Road if you were expecting silence”. A015 – Resident of Upper Market St

“It is a beacon on a very busy noisy main street yet never seems to intrude or pollute the wider area” A031.

“The area is prone to anti-social behaviour from drug dealers and street people. The Paris House helps to discourage this activity by bringing art and music and respectful audiences that they attract to this area” A051.

“It is on a main High Street - one of the noisiest, high traffic streets of Brighton” A056

“I am deeply concerned ... particularly that the concerns seem to be isolated to only a few individuals. I believe that shutting down a valuable business based solely on the objections of three residents would be an overly harsh and unnecessary outcome.” A061

“Drunk homeless people shout down that road [Western Road] at all hours as I know as I used to live in that area.” A067

“[It is] Positioned on a challenging stretch of Western Road which is littered with late night convenience stores and takeaway outlets, Le Pub is a rare oasis of intergenerational community” A071.



“As far as noise goes the pub is situated on a noisy main road with regular buses and traffic that usually exceed the noise emanating from inside the pub.” A072

“I do empathise with the residents issues about noise disturbance as living in this area can be pretty noisy for different reasons eg noise from motor garages in Brinswick St East , from the Old Market Theatre which has events which go on till 2am, from scaffolding and building that is regularly taking place and just generally as these streets are a popular thoroughfare for people walking to and from other nearby pubs / cafes and the seafront”. A073

“It is common for local homeless persons to gather and congregate along Western Road and be equipped with 'boom boxes' and 'portable Bluetooth speakers’” A099.

“I find it remarkable that anyone living in this area would find The Paris House makes any contribution to the general noise and disorder in this area - [Western Road] is one of the busiest and noisiest in the city - teeming with yelling drinks from other establishments, speeding cars and music blaring”. A111

Part 5 – Crime & Disorder

Never witnessed any crime

“I have never witnessed anything other than an awesome, inclusive, well mannered, accepting, diverse and loving atmosphere in there. It isn't a pub or a congregation that even comes close to being unsafe or worrying or threatening like some pubs in town. If anything it is a safer place than some of the really shady areas that have gone to the dogs nearby (namely Norfolk Sq and Waterloo St zones – the community feel the venue adds safety to what is fast becoming a bit of a crimey and daunting area.”. A-008

“The Paris House is a the very best example of a well run, unique and joyful establishment”. A-009

“I've never seen any anti-social behaviour”. A015

*“I wanted to give my views as a local neighbour. Before the current owners took over this establishment the pub was run down and a troubled meeting place for people with various social problems It never felt quite safe walking past. Under current management it has become a much loved, vibrant local venue with excellent live music and a wonderfully mixed clientele of different ages and backgrounds. I visit the Paris House quite regularly and have never witnessed any problems or troubled behaviours of any kind. On the contrary, it is a safe space that women and people of different ages meet and relax without the hassle experienced on some Western Road venues.”. **A017 Resident of Upper Market Street***

“It is very civilised (the best expression I can muster is that it is not a place for yobbos and certainly not frequented by such people). One of the reasons for my surprise at reading of this review is the excellent conduct of people who frequent the PH)”. A019

“The majority of the people who attend [the Monday afternoon] sessions are well behaved - as am I” A034

“I have never witnessed a fight, an argument, drugs or any sort of anti-social behaviour” A035

“I have been going to The Paris House for years and have always found it to be safe and enjoyable venue where people of all ages can mix.” A063

“I am unaware of any anti-social issues which may have occurred at The Paris House. Reviewing the licence based on this is petty and unfair”. A073

“My partner and I have been regular customers for at least 5 years during that time we have never seen or heard any problems at or around the premises”. A082